

Ms. Rachel Elizabeth Levinson

Executive Director, National Research Initiatives
Arizona State University

A twenty five-year veteran of science policy at the national level, Rachel Levinson is the Executive Director of National Research Initiatives for Arizona State University, operating in the university's Washington, D.C. office. She came to ASU in 2005 as the director of the Government and Industry Liaison Office for the Biodesign Institute at Arizona State University. Levinson heads an office responsible for developing policies and strategies that advance the University's research agenda.

Prior to coming to ASU, Levinson was with the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President of the United States, where she was the assistant director for life sciences, while on detail from the Office of the Director of the National Institutes of Health. In this capacity, she identified science and technology priorities, developed and advocated Administration objectives, and resolved policy issues in life sciences focusing on laboratory biosecurity, bioterrorism preparedness, biotechnology, biomedical research and technology development and transfer.

Levinson began her career as a biologist for the National Cancer Institute within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and later moved into the policy arena. She advanced to positions at NIH including deputy director of the NIH Office of Recombinant DNA and senior policy advisor in the Office of Technology Transfer.

Levinson earned her B.S in Zoology from the University of Maryland at College Park, and her M.A in Science, Technology and Public Policy from George Washington University, School of Public and International Affairs.