



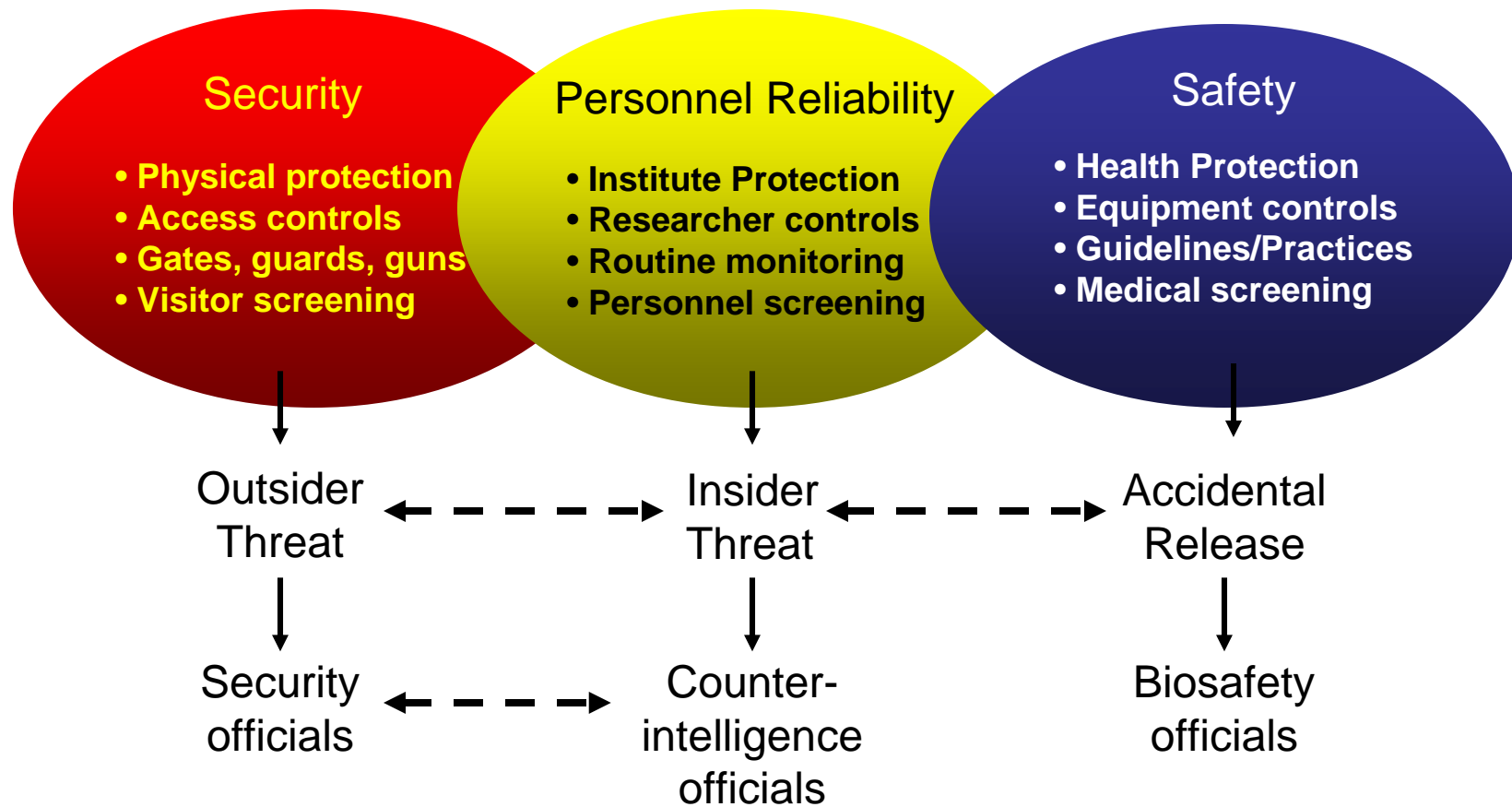
Understanding and Improving Laboratory Security, Personnel Reliability, and Safety

*NSABB Public Outreach Meeting
April 3, 2009*

Diane DiEuliis, Ph.D.
Office of Science and Technology Policy
Executive Office of the President



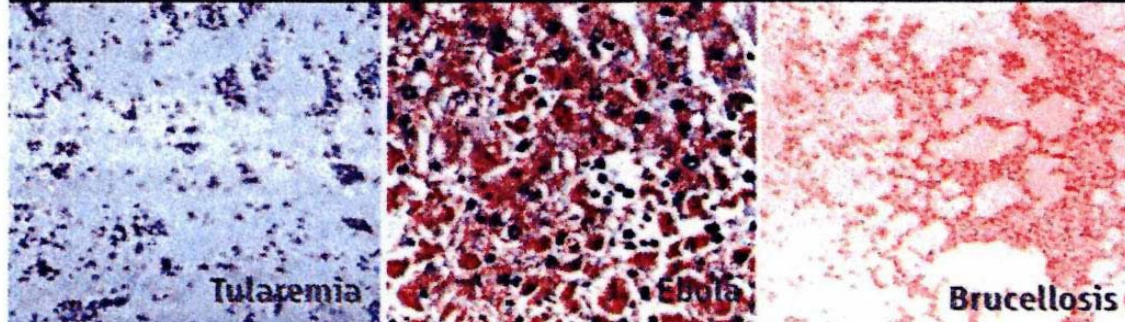
Biosecurity Framework





Incidents

Some Recent Exposures in U.S. Biodefense Labs



2002, 2003: *E. coli* 0157:H7 infections in two USDA labs

2004: Three workers infected with tularemia, Boston University

2004: Ebola needle stick (no infection), USAMRIID

2004: Anthrax exposure (no infection), Children's Hospital, Oakland, CA

2004: Valley fever (*C. immitis*) infection, Medical College of Ohio

2005: Potential Q fever exposure, Rocky Mountain Labs, Hamilton, MT

2006: Brucellosis infection, Texas A&M

28 SEPTEMBER 2007 VOL 317 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

Published by AAAS



Congressional Interest

GAO

United States Government Accountability Office

Testimony
Before the Subcommittee on Oversight
and Investigations, Committee on Energy
and Commerce, House of Representatives

For Release on Delivery
Expected at 10:00 a.m. EDT
Thursday, October 4, 2007

HIGH-CONTAINMENT BIOSAFETY LABORATORIES

Preliminary Observations
on the Oversight of the
Proliferation of BSL-3 and
BSL-4 Laboratories in the
United States

Statement of Keith Rhodes, Chief Technologist
Center for Technology and Engineering
Applied Research and Methods



GAO-08-108T

GAO

United States Government Accountability Office

Report to Congressional Committees

September 2008

BIOSAFETY LABORATORIES

Perimeter Security
Assessment of the
Nation's Five BSL-4
Laboratories



GAO-08-1092



Amerithrax Case

BBC NEWS WORLD EDITION



You are in: **Americas**

News Front
Page

Sunday, 18 August, 2002, 02:37 GMT 03:37 UK

Anthrax killer 'is US defence insider'



Africa

Americas

Asia-Pacific

Europe

Middle East

South Asia

UK

Business

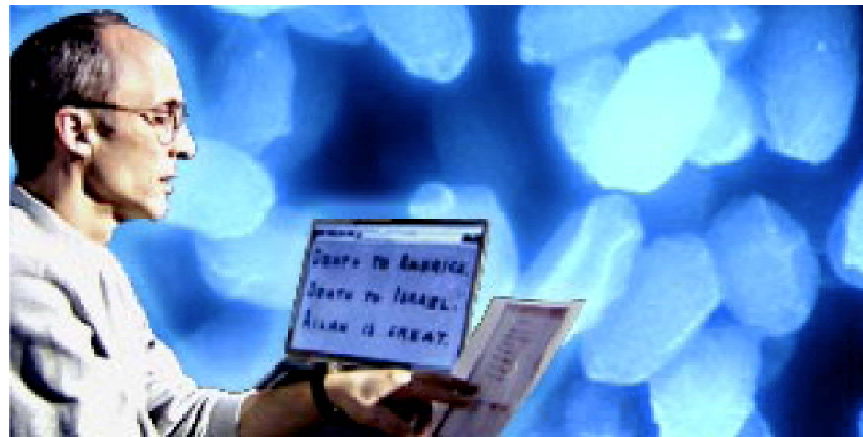
Entertainment

Science/

Nature

Technology

Health



Prof Don Foster analyses the anthrax letters

An FBI forensic linguistics expert believes the US anthrax attacks were carried out by a senior scientist from within America's biological-defence community.



Broader context:

guardian.co.uk [TheObserver](#)

Terrorists try to infiltrate UK's top labs

The security services have intercepted up to 100 suspects posing as postgraduate students who aim to acquire weapons material and expertise

Mark Townsend, defence correspondent

- guardian.co.uk, Sunday November 2 2008 00.01 GMT
- [The Observer](#), Sunday November 2 2008

Dozens of suspected terrorists have attempted to infiltrate Britain's top laboratories in order to develop weapons of mass destruction, such as biological and nuclear devices, during the past year.



A British scientist wears a protective suit in a laboratory. MI5 has warned that al-Qaida is seeking to recruit scientists who develop deadly viruses. Photograph: Alamy



Experts, think tanks...

WORLD AT RISK

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION
ON THE PREVENTION OF
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
PROLIFERATION AND TERRORISM

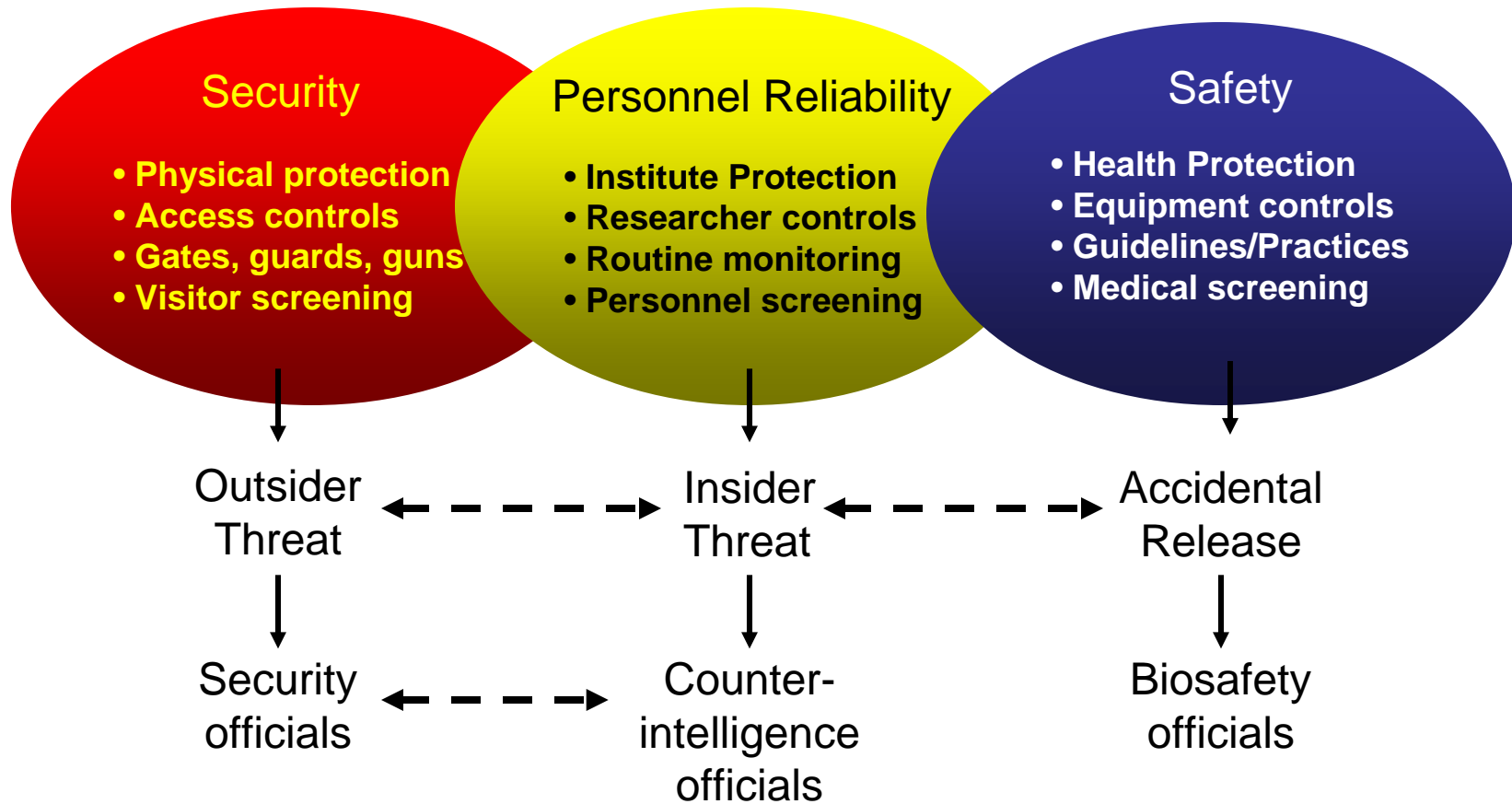
BOB GRAHAM, Chairman
JIM TALENT, Vice-Chairman

Graham Allison • Robin Cleveland • Steve Rademaker
Tim Roemer • Wendy Sherman • Henry Sokolski • Rich Verma

AUTHORIZED EDITION



Framework





HSC/OSTP analysis:

Data call and review led by OSTP working group:

Considered nearly 50 regulatory/policy documents from 7 Departments and Agencies

Information was gathered for nearly 40 general policy objectives in 5 thematic areas:

Registration

Personnel

Access Control and Security

Transfer of Biological Select Agents and Toxins

Inspections

Focused on *intent* of regulation/policy objectives rather than *implementation*



Executive Order 13486:

January 9, 2009:

Established a working group to review biosecurity at U.S. labs and issue a report to the President within 180 days with “recommendations for any new legislation, regulations, guidance, or practices for security and personnel assurance” and “options for establishing oversight mechanisms.”

The order covers federal and nonfederal facilities that conduct research on, manage clinical or environmental laboratory operations, or handle, store, or transport biological select agents and toxins.



Community input on policy:

Establish mechanisms for external evaluation of and input to improve existing laboratory security, personnel reliability, and safety policies and practices

National Academy of Sciences study

National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity tasking



Questions?