CTSC 5250
Science Beyond the Lab – Intersections of Science, Society, and Policy

Faculty: Ashok Kumbamu, Ph.D.
Credits: 1
Quarter: Summer
Prerequisites: None

Overview
This course is intended to provide an overview of science policy, knowledge production and translation processes, scientists’ engagement with society, policy makers and institutions (civic engagement), socioethical aspects in partnership and collaboration in science, and science communication by utilizing case studies and practical application of the skills gained in the classroom. Students will be introduced to various social and policy aspects that influence and are influenced by their research.

Objectives
- To critically analyze the relationship between public policy, science production, and knowledge translational processes
- To define scientists’ civic engagement and its importance in the development of science and technology for societal needs and in building legitimacy and trust with the public
- To understand socio-ethical aspects of partnership and collaboration in research and development
- To be introduced to some practical communication skills for engaging with the public and policy makers

Evaluation
This pass/fail course will be graded on three written assignments that apply the concepts learned in a realistic situation and on class attendance and discussion.

Students are expected to spend approximately two to four hours per week on this 1-credit course.

Additional online modules related to this topic are available through the Continuous Professional Development website.

For specific dates and times this course is provided, please see the quarterly detailed course schedule.