



NEW AMERICA
FOUNDATION

Digital Future
**How Will the BBC and PBS Transform Themselves in the Emerging
Era of Online, On-Demand Media?**

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Panelist Bios

DAVID LEVY

Controller, Public Policy, BBC

Dr. David Levy is currently Controller, Public Policy within BBC Strategy where he is responsible for the BBC's Public Policy, Public Affairs & European Policy teams, and for developing Charter Review policy and representing the BBC in liaison with Government and regulators in what has been the most testing Charter Review debate to date.

He started his BBC career as a talks writer and current affairs producer in the BBC World Service and then moved to BBC News where he worked as a TV and radio reporter, producer, and programme editor, reporting for the Radio current affairs programme, *File on 4*, and for the BBC 2 *Newsnight* programme and editing *Analysis* the weekly public policy programme on Radio 4.

In recent years he has worked in various policy roles at the BBC, running the BBC's input to the 1996 Broadcasting Act and the 2003 Communications Act, leading the BBC's input to the European Communications Review Directives, and developing BBC policy on a variety of areas ranging from digital regulation, to media ownership, to Ofcom's review of Public Service TV.

He was educated at the Universities of York, London (LSE) and Nuffield College, Oxford, from where he holds a Doctorate in Twentieth Century French History. His personal account of national and EU approaches to broadcasting regulation and convergence, *Europe's Digital Revolution*, was published by Routledge in 2001. Other publications include 'The European information Society' in M. Rhodes, P. Heywood *et al*, *Developments in West European Politics*. He speaks regularly at on broadcasting policy in the UK and EU.

JOHN WILSON

Senior Vice President & Co-Chief Program Executive, PBS

Along with Co-Chief Jacoba Atlas, Mr. Wilson oversees all PBS Programming services. In the division of responsibilities, he oversees children's programming, fundraising and syndicated programming, and scheduling. Mr. Wilson is based at PBS headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. He joined PBS in 1994 as director of program scheduling. In 2005, Mr. Wilson participated in the launch of an innovative partnership between PBS and the Comcast Corporation. PBS Kids Sprout, a 24-hour digital cable channel and video-on-demand service, will bring together some of the best-known and well-respected shows in children's programming. His television career began at PBS member station KAET in Phoenix, where he held a variety of positions in production and programming, including program director. During that period, he produced programs that aired nationally on PBS as well as hundreds of hours of live, local programming.

DENNIS HAARSAGER

*General Manager, KWSU/KTNW Television and Northwest Public Radio
Chair, Public Service Publisher Initiative*

Dennis Haarsager is Associate Vice President & General Manager of Educational Telecommunications & Technology (ETT) at Washington State University, a job he has held in one form or another since 1978. ETT includes the 13-station Northwest Public Radio network, public TV stations KWSU and KTNW, the nation's largest traffic interactive video network, and on-campus instructional support services. He is also the *ad hoc* chair of the Public Service Publisher initiative in the U.S. (*see* pspblog.org). Mr. Haarsager serves on the boards of National Public Radio, the Association of Public Television Stations, and the Integrated Media Association, and has previously served on the boards of the Public Broadcasting Service, the Station Resource Group, the Pacific Mountain Network and other public broadcasting organizations. From 2001-03, he took a half-time leave of absence to head up the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's Digital Distribution Implementation Initiative and did occasional consulting for CPB, universities and public broadcasting organizations.

Prior to his work for WSU, Mr. Haarsager worked in public broadcasting in Idaho and South Dakota and served four years in USAF communications. His blog, a "rolling environmental scan for electronic media," can be accessed at <http://technology360.typepad.com/>.