



Dr. Timothy M. Persons was appointed the Chief Scientist of the United States Government Accountability Office in July of 2008. As such, he is a member of the Senior Executive Service of the U.S. federal government. He is also the Co-Director of GAO's Center for Science, Technology, and Engineering (CSTE), a group of highly specialized scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and information technologists. In these roles he is an expert advisor and chief consultant to the GAO, Congress, and other federal agencies and government programs on cutting-edge science and technology (S&T), key highly-specialized national and international systems, engineering policies, best practices, and original research studies in the fields of engineering, computer, and the physical and biological sciences to ensure efficient, effective, and economical use of science and technology in government programs. He also works with GAO's Chief Technologist to lead the production of Technology Assessments for the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Persons is a 2012 recipient of the Arthur S. Flemming award in recognition of sustained outstanding and meritorious achievement within the U.S. federal government; and a 2012 recipient of GAO's Big Picture Award. In 2007, Dr. Persons was awarded a Science and Technology Fellowship focusing on computational imaging systems research. He was also selected as the James Madison University (JMU) Physics Alumnus of 2007. He has also served as a radiation physicist with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He received his B.Sc. (Physics) from JMU, a M.Sc. (Nuclear Physics) from Emory University, and a M.Sc. (Computer Science) and Ph.D. (Biomedical Engineering) degrees from Wake Forest University. He is a senior member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), serves on the World Future Society Global Advisory Council, and has authored or co-authored an array of journal, conference, and technical articles.