

SCIENCE IN THE K-12 SCHOOLS: Oh My...do we have it WRONG!

Join us!

Monday, October 1st, 2012

3:15 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Recital Hall (Cypress Hall)

Abstract

Although humans make the majority of the objects we interact with and use during our day-to-day lives, the current school curriculum focuses very little on how our human-made, or designed world, is made. Pens, cars, pills, buildings are all technologies and the results of the engineering design process. Most educators claim that science is the discipline that teaches children about the world around them. However science curricula focus only on the natural world which constitutes only a minor part of our day to day life. Children spend enormous amounts of time learning things that are totally irrelevant to their lives and become adults who are technologically illiterate. Ioannis (Yannis) Miaoulis, President and Director of the Museum of Science in Boston will discuss how our educational system has missed the point and talk about a major initiative to introduce the human made world and engineering in schools nationwide.



Speaker:

IOANNIS N. MIAOULIS
President and Director
Museum of Science
Boston

Ioannis (Yannis) N. Miaoulis became President and Director of the Museum of Science, Boston in January 2003. Originally from Greece, Dr. Miaoulis came to the Museum after a distinguished association with Tufts University, where he was Dean of the School of Engineering, Associate Provost, Interim Dean of the University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and Professor of Mechanical Engineering. An innovative educator with a passion for science and engineering, Miaoulis championed the introduction of engineering into the Massachusetts science and technology public school curriculum. This made the Commonwealth first in the nation in 2001 to develop a K-12 curriculum framework and assessments for technology/engineering.

His dream is scientific and technological literacy for everyone. Miaoulis has seized the opportunity as the Museum's president to achieve his vision, convinced science museums can bring government, industry, and education leaders together to foster a scientifically and technologically literate citizenry.

Miaoulis earned bachelor's and doctorate degrees in mechanical engineering and a master's in economics at Tufts, and received a master's degree in mechanical engineering from MIT.