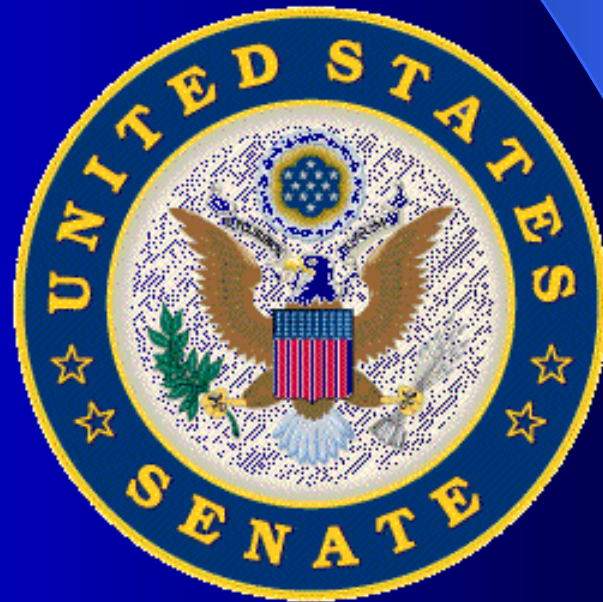


Final Report
of the
Blue Ribbon Panel
on
Forward Engagement



Joint Congressional Task Force on Responsiveness to Future Challenges



Future Contingencies of Interest (FCIs)

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- A. Issues that will have a profound effect upon human experience in the future
- B. Multivalence bespeak their importance
- C. Effects spread throughout the region, world
- D. Two types
 - i. Extrapolations of current trends
 - ii. Issues that fundamentally challenge powers of adjustment

Forward Engagement in the Legislative and Executive Branches

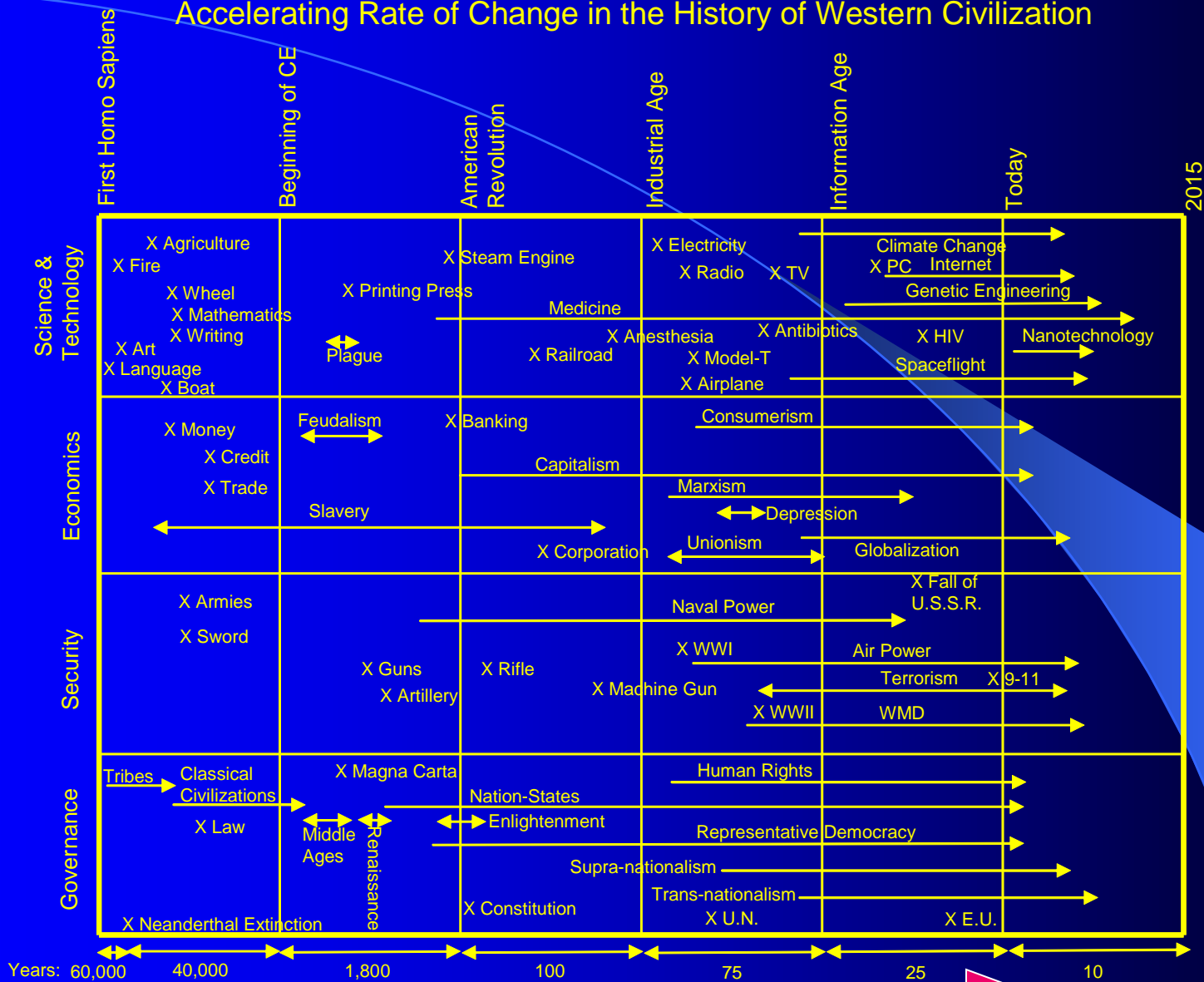
- A. Panels indicate lack of forward thinking in policymaking
 - i. Lack on interconnectivity
 - ii. Stovepiping

- B. New focus
 - i. Executive still plays prominent role in forward engagement
 - ii. Report makes recommendations for Congress



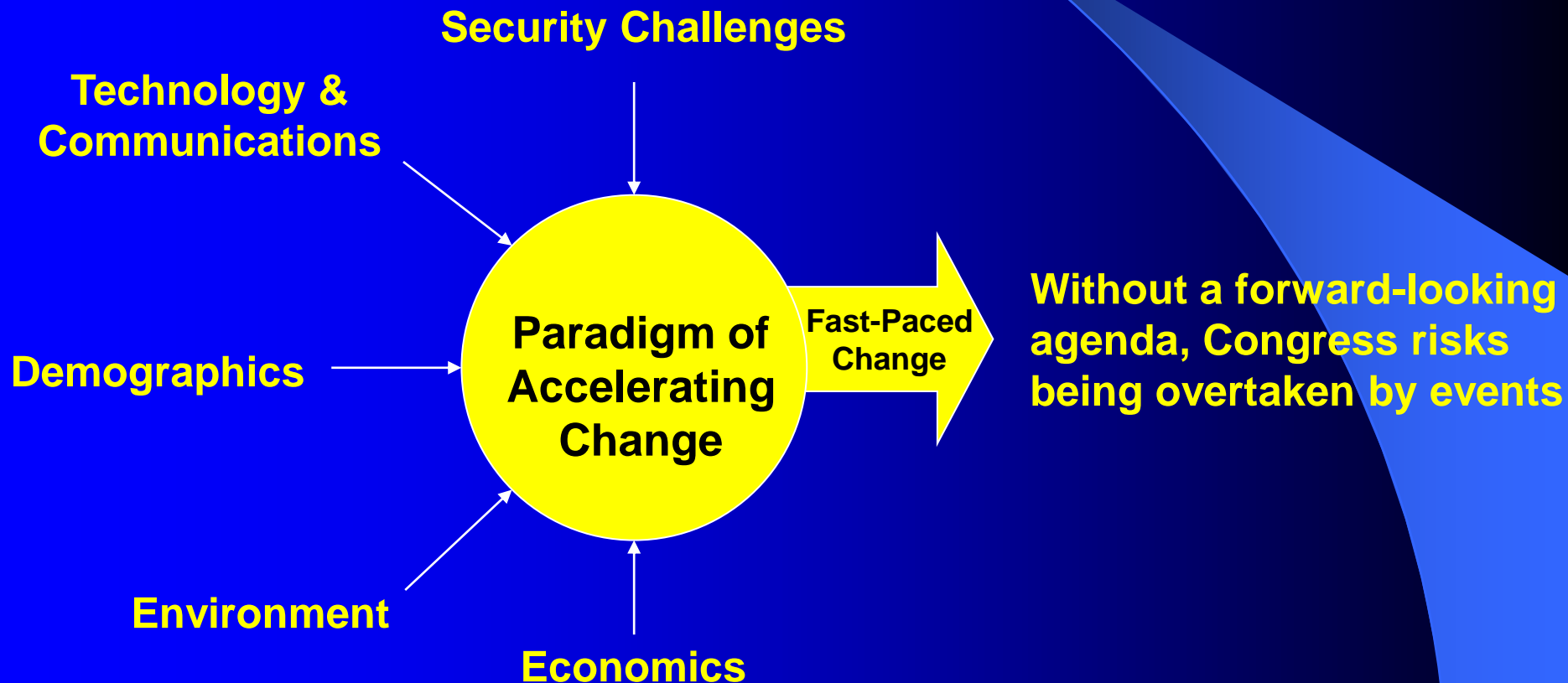
The Paradigm of Accelerating Change at Work in Human History

Accelerating Rate of Change in the History of Western Civilization



More & More Change, Less & Less Time

Our Institutions will be Challenged to Adapt in a Faster Pace Future

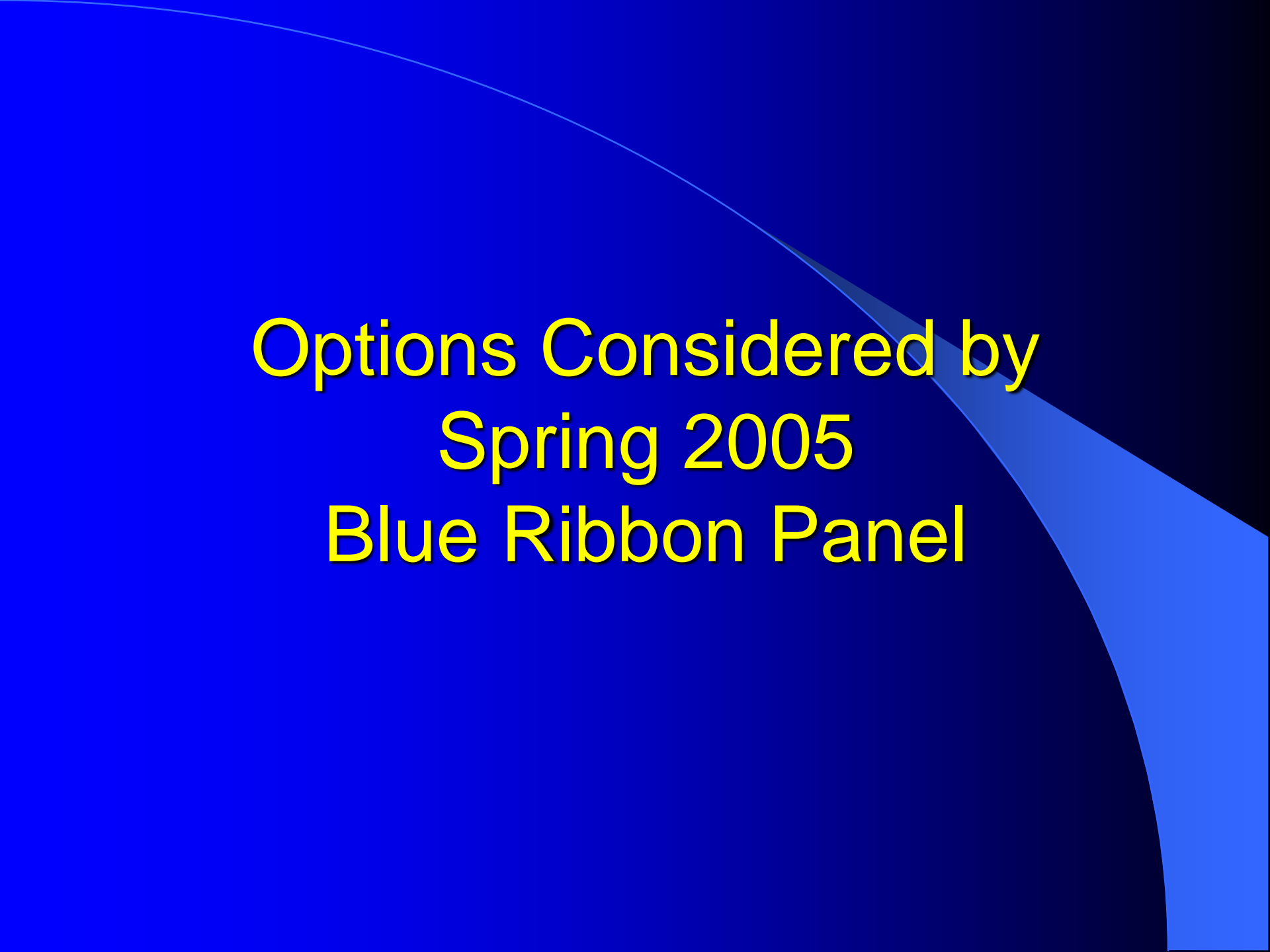




Changing the Interim Report

Challenges Identified by Fall 2004 Expert Panel

- Joint Committee structure unrealistic
- Staff had too much power, Members appeared to have secondary status
- Proposed Joint Committee did not have legislative authority

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**Options Considered by
Spring 2005
Blue Ribbon Panel**

Option 1: Standing Committees in House and Senate

A. Benefits

- i. Encourage multivalence
- ii. Permeate Congress with forward thinking

B. Obstacles

- i. Committee membership
- ii. Jurisdiction
- iii. Legislative authority

Option 2: Subcommittee of Forward Engagement on each Standing Committee

A. Benefits: Encourage Members of each standing committee to engage in forward thinking

B. Obstacles

- i. Too little interaction among subcommittees
- ii. Legislative authority
- iii. Jurisdictional issues

Option 3: Dedicated congressional season of Forward Engagement legislation

A. Benefits

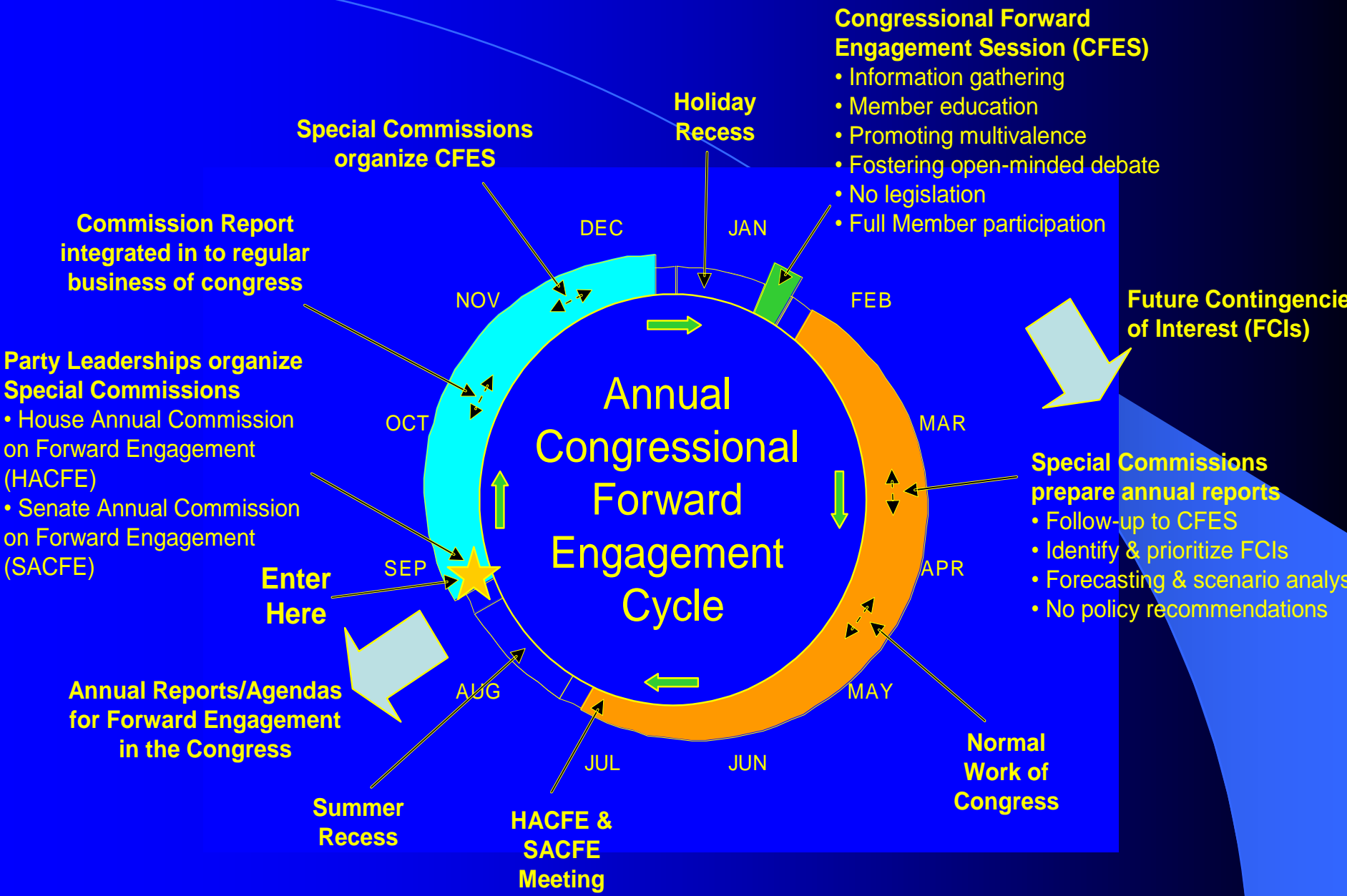
- i. Creates time for Members to address
issues**
- ii. Keeps traditional committee structure**
- iii. Does not infringe on jurisdictional
issues**

**B. Obstacle: Difficult to determine which
legislation constitutes “forward engagement”**

Institutional Recommendations

The Creation of Two Independent Commissions

- The House Annual Commission on Forward Engagement (HACFE)
- The Senate Annual Commission on Forward Engagement (SACFE)



Membership on the Special Commissions

- Eight Members of Congress for each Commission
- Four from each political party
- Members will be appointed by their party leadership
- Members will be appointed prior to the August Congressional recess

Staffing of the Special Commissions

- Each Commission will have permanent staff
- Commission Staff Directors (3-year term)
- Commission Staff Directors appointed by the Speaker of the appropriate body of Congress and confirmed by a 2/3rds majority vote
- Staff will consist of experts in relevant fields
- Congressional Fellows (at discretion of the Staff Directors)

The Human Dimension

FCIs' impact
on ordinary Americans

External Relations Office (ERO)

- Make Forward Engagement Commissions' work relevant to the lives of each American
- Guarantee that potential human impacts of FCIs will not be overlooked
- Actively engage & pique the public's interest & involvement, & to keep affected parties abreast of developments on Capitol Hill

ERO Import & Gravity

- Aspires to garner citizen involvement to underscore the interest of America in preparing for potential impacts of FCIs
- Seeks to establish a base constituency within American public as driver for forward-thinking legislation to create a self-perpetuating cycle
- Findings & recommendations are delegated to agency most capable of effectively responding

Outreach

- **To Public:** Gain support and involvement by increasing awareness & familiarity; create a network that facilitates FCI-related information exchange amongst & between the public & officials
- **To Private sector/Non-profit:** Enhance experts' willingness to participate in FE subcommittee legislation on a non-partisan basis that encourages pursuit of the best course of action
- **To Healthcare & Academia:** Medical doctors & academics' involvement enables, facilitates & inspires action by the average American citizen

Outreach (continued)

- **Additional Government Agencies:** Help streamline information exchange, widen government scope & encourage collaboration between Congress & additional agencies
- **Congressional Fellows:** Encourage private, nonprofit & academic sponsorship of select scholars to increase expertise of particular FCIs
- **Media Management:** Media outlets contacted to entice interest, serving as yet another method to inform the American public of dangers and benefits of FCIs



Challenges and Opportunities

Strategic Surprise & Missed Signals

- Pearl Harbor
- 9/11
- Lesser cases

Current Challenges & Signals

- Economic: Twin deficits
- Scientific: Reduction in S&T majors
- Political: Anti-Americanism, energy dependence
- Military: WMD proliferation, asymmetric threats
- Paradigmatic: Political Islam; rise of China/India; transnational threats

The Case for Forward Engagement

- Theoretical & empirical arguments, i.e. 'accelerating rate of change'
- Current problems / FCIs
- Congress has no long-term capabilities
- Congressional self-interest: institutional memory, continuity, and MC longevity

Opportunities

- NIC 2020: “The greatest benefits of globalization will accrue to countries and groups that can access and adopt new technologies”
- Hart-Rudman: “Second only to a WMD detonating in an American city, we can think of nothing more dangerous than a failure to manage properly science, technology, and education for the common good over the next quarter century.”

Ex) Antibiotic Resistance

S & T	Economics	Security	Governance
<p>Higher mortality shortens life expectancy</p> <p>Higher morbidity leads to serious injury and longer post-infection convalescence</p> <p>AIDS</p>	<p>Worker and student absenteeism decreases output and education</p> <p>Increased costs to employer regarding injury and health care, possible cost to government for public health care</p>	<p>Bio-terrorism leads to paranoia and sacrifice of individual liberties</p> <p>Bio-terrorism</p> <p>More severe injuries and increased sickness compromises military might</p>	<p>Increased public spending on medical research, enhanced dependence on alternative medicine</p> <p>Shortened life expectancy reduces political influence of seniors and improves solvency of social security</p>