The Institute for Engineering in Medicine (IEM) is pleased to announce a seminar by Milan Yager, “The Science Behind Failed Public Policy.”

Today, federal funding for biomedical research, as a percentage of federal spending, has fallen to the lowest level in modern history. For far too many years NIH has been receiving increasing numbers of grant applications and funded fewer and fewer. What life saving idea was among the 41,000 grant applications that were not funded last year? The most powerful country in the world, with the strongest economy and the greatest wealth has made the spending decisions causing Federal research, and specifically, biomedical research, to be nearly flat for over a decade. If the American public recognizes and supports more funding for biomedical research why hasn’t Congress responded? If biomedical research has such a high ROI and significant financial return, why isn’t America investing more? The reasons behind the failed public policy not to invest in biomedical innovation is actually quite simple. It begins with a story. This discussion of policy and politics might not be what you are expecting. But it surely will impact your research, life, and wellbeing.

Milan P. Yager is a long-time Washington insider having served in senior association and government positions in the Administration and Congress, including Chief of Staff to now Senate Assistant Minority Leader Richard J. Durbin (D-IL). Most recently, Milan served as President and CEO of a national trade association where he delivered dramatic financial results, legislative achievements, and new programming resulting in record membership, a strong financial position, and passage of more than two dozen state statutes and several amendments to Federal law. His career also includes senior management and policy advocacy positions for the National Association of Home Builders and United Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Association, as well serving as Legislative Director for Congressman Berkley Bedell (D-IA).

He is a graduate of the University of Iowa and has a Masters in Public Administration from The American University.