Gary J. Foley, Ph.D.

Dr. Foley currently is a Senior Advisor in the Immediate Office of the Assistant Administrator for Research and Development as of 2011. Prior to that, he served as EPA's Earth Observation Executive in the newly expanded Office of the Science Advisor. In these roles, he oversees a team that brings together expertise in measurements, observations, models and decision-support tools and how these bring science into decision-making. The ORD-Region1 Narragansett Bay Pilot Project that began in mid-2011is a new effort that he coleads for ORD. From 2005 to 2007, Dr. Foley was the Director of the National Center for Environmental Research, where he launched two new exploratory research programs including the innovative program in Biodiversity and Human Health. Before that he was the first Director of the National Exposure Research Laboratory beginning in April 30, 1995. Both the Center and the Laboratory are within the Office of Research and Development (ORD) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For almost two years in 1993-94, he served as the Acting Assistant Administrator for ORD. He has been in ORD for most of his 38 year career at EPA. working within different laboratories and offices on a broad set of environmental research areas focusing on engineering, monitoring, modeling, systems thinking and integrated analysis across the risk paradigm. He has continually been involved in promoting new research approaches, such as integrated modeling, air quality forecasting, sustainability and decision-making, and utilizing the ORD wind tunnel facility to understand complex urban environments. For three years in the late 70's, EPA loaned him to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to work on international air pollution, acid rain and energy-environment issues. As a leader of EPA research for over 30 years, he formed many interagency and international partnerships to enhance research success. Earlier in his career, he worked for Amoco for five years in the research and development department on chemical and petroleum process modeling and optimization.

Dr. Foley was appointed as the United States Co-Chair on the User Requirements and Outreach Sub-Group of the ad-hoc Group on Earth Observations (GEO) in 2003. Two years later when the Ministers launched GEO, this sub-group was replaced by the User Interface Committee which he co-chairs. Dr. Foley is the recipient of the Meritorious Executive Presidential Rank Award, four EPA Bronze Medals, and six Special Achievement Awards. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Manhattan College in New York. He holds Master and Doctoral of Science degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Wisconsin.