

## AAAS Panel Q&A for Susan Dio

### Approach:

- Acknowledge gravity of any tough / controversial issue.
- Reinforce Bernard's 2/12 messages at every opportunity.
- Where possible, share BP's relevant activity.
- Redirect to focus on the audience: "And that's why gatherings like AAAS are so important, because we all have a role to play."

**Note:** Below answers do not necessarily answer questions, but focus on key messages BP wants to deliver.

### Moderator Lead off questions (multiple speakers):

1. As you all have made clear, we have a great challenge ahead. One theme from Dr. Robinson's and Ms. Dio's talks were **the necessity of people-centered science and research. How do we accomplish this? Do you believe there may be a necessity to conduct joint social and physical science research?**
  - Let me give one example: BP supports the **Climate Policy Lab at Tufts University**:
    - Provide independent advice and international comparative policy analysis.
    - They look at policy as it's actually been applied in countries across the world to see which ones work and which don't.
    - ClimatePolicyLab.org
    - **Well-crafted research programs need participation of people from these countries, not just people who study from afar.** The human component is a big part of what works.
2. For climate justice the developing world needs the results of scientific research perhaps to a greater degree than the developed world. Yet most of the research funds are spent in highly developed countries. **How do we ensure a just distribution of research spending and research results?**
  - As I mentioned, energy poverty is linked to economic poverty.
  - BP Chief Economist **Spencer Dale** is leading a research program on energy poverty with the **Center for Strategic and International Studies**.
    - Focuses on three different regions: **India, Vietnam and Ethiopia**.
    - Explores more energy / fewer emissions through lens of urbanization.
    - Investigates challenges in the power, transport, building and industrial sectors.
    - **World Bank and International Energy Agency** are also involved.
  - Worth mentioning that BP has research institutes around the world.
    - **Tsinghua-BP Clean Energy Research and Education Center in China**.
    - **BP Center for International Advance Materials**: partnership with University of Manchester, Cambridge, Imperial College London, and University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
  - We also have the **Carbon Mitigation Initiative at Princeton**.
  - A science discovery in one place can – and should – be applied across the planet.

3. This is a question for both Ms Dio and Prof. Ferguson. In many parts of the world, research funded by industry is an important support for academia. However, many question if research supported by any industry can be fair or unbiased. Given the urgency of the climate crisis, and the real need for additional research, particularly in aspects of the social science of societal change, **can you suggest safeguards that might allow for unbiased industry-funded academic research?**
- **Honesty is the best policy** and **transparency** is key.
  - Our **research relationships are relationships – not transactions**. They are **distinct from consulting**.
  - We stay at arm’s length: the **academics are in charge**. Their research is in the public domain.
  - This is about **academic freedom**, informed by business challenges we need solved.
  - I’m not a social scientist, but this is why **the peer review process is so critical**.
  - **Accountability is everyone’s responsibility**.
  - We all have roles to play: companies, policymakers, individuals need to be engaged.
  - That’s why AAAS and all of you are so important.
4. Prof. Ferguson showed how Science Foundation Ireland harnesses industrial support to further research judged as nationally important. Ms. Dio demonstrated that R&D by industry can be a key component of finding solutions for climate change. Do you all think the Science Foundation Ireland’s model can be utilized more broadly to help tackle the climate problem and that such a model can ensure climate justice?
- We’re supportive of any model that has potential to the advance the energy transition.
5. For President Robinson and Ms. Dio – **does climate justice require that we in the developed world take more responsibility for producing natural resources that require some degree of environmental disturbance, such as critical metals, in our own backyards in Europe and North America rather than in developing countries?**
- Cite BP Values and Code of Conduct.
  - We wear our ID at work every day with HSSE goals of no accidents and no harm to people and no damage to the environment.
  - Doing business the right way is a deeply held tenet of our company.
  - That absolutely plays into how we approach exploration.
  - Before we do any development, we do a full environmental impact analysis.
  - **And BP works to bring benefits to the local community.**
    - **Tangguh, Indonesia** – Eradicated malaria. Improved education for local children. BP’s work has been held up as a sterling example of corporate social responsibility.
    - **Tangguh-BP Independent Advisory Board**: included US Sens. Daschle & Mitchell.
  - **One area where we responsibly develop natural resources “in our own back yard” is in natural gas here in the US.**
    - When used for power generation, **natgas has 50% fewer emissions than coal**.
    - BPX Energy has a **drone program** to reduce methane emissions.
    - The **drones can survey 1,500 wells a month**, saving emissions from technicians driving to each site.
    - We’ve built in **continuous methane monitoring** for all new major Upstream projects.

## Questions Specifically for Susan Dio

1. **You are President of BP America, clearly working in a developed nation. How do you foresee BP's focus on climate justice – both in the US and internationally? How important is it to the day to day work of BP?**
  - Look at what Bernard said this week:
  - **BP's new purpose puts climate change at the heart of what we do.**
  - Being purpose-led means every decision we take will be made in the context of our purpose and ambition.
  
2. **Global corporations like BP are having to address issues well beyond the strictly technical. Does this cultural change affect your hiring practices and what skillsets do you see as essential for the current and future workforce?**
  - It absolutely affects how we look at recruitment and retention.
  - BP is committed to diversity and inclusion.
  - We work to attract, develop and retain the best talent from all backgrounds.
  - It's the right thing to do; it's also a business imperative:
    - Our US headquarters are in Houston.
    - 87% of Houstonians under 19 are minorities.
  
3. **Many in society, including a number of scientists, see the petroleum industry as a large part of the climate problem. What are you doing at BP to demonstrate you are part of the solution and also communicate this message effectively**
  - Just look at what Bernard said this week: we're reimagining energy and reinventing BP to do that.
  - We're going to net-zero by 2050. That's the vision and there's no turning back.