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Pasteurs Quadrant Basic Science and Technological Innovation

By Donald E. Stokes

Brookings Inst Pr. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 196 pages. Dimensions: 8.9in. x 5.8in. x 0.6in. Over fifty years ago, Vannevar Bush released his enormously influential report, *Science, the Endless Frontier*, which asserted a dichotomy between basic and applied science. This view was at the core of the compact between government and science that led to the golden age of scientific research after World War II--a compact that is currently under severe stress. In this book, Donald Stokes challenges Bush's view and maintains that we can only rebuild the relationship between government and the scientific community when we understand what is wrong with that view. Stokes begins with an analysis of the goals of understanding and use in scientific research. He recasts the widely accepted view of the tension between understanding and use, citing as a model case the fundamental yet use-inspired studies by which Louis Pasteur laid the foundations of microbiology a century ago. Pasteur worked in the era of the second industrial revolution, when the relationship between basic science and technological change assumed its modern form. Over subsequent decades, technology has been increasingly science-based. But science has been increasingly technology-based--with the choice of problems and the conduct of research...



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