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This Week in Washington

**MARCH 27 – MARCH 31, 2017**

Kuna Tavalin, Editor  
[ktavalin@wpllc.net](mailto:ktavalin@wpllc.net)

*Prepared for the Council on Undergraduate Research*

*This Week in Washington*, a weekly publication of WPLLC, provides an overview of upcoming events in Washington, D.C. affecting American education. **Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest.**

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## Weekly Calendar

### Monday, March 27, 2017

None.

### Tuesday, March 28, 2017

#### **Strengthening the Teaching Workforce**

**Subject:** The Center for American Progress (CAP) will hold an event, “TeachStrong: States and Districts Leading the Way.” The panel will discuss how states, districts, and colleges of education are leading the way in improving the systems designed to support teachers at every stage of their careers.

**Participants:** Congresswoman Susan Davis (D-CA); Catherine Brown, vice president, Education Policy, CAP; Cheryl Holcomb-McCoy, dean, School of Education, American University; Tonia Holmes-Sutton, director, Network to Transform Teaching, Clark County, NV; Melody Schopp, South Dakota Secretary of Education; and Dyan Smiley, assistant director of educational issues, American Federation of Teachers (AFT).

**Time and Location:** 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; CAP, 1333 H Street, NW, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC.

**Contact:** [Register here.](#)

### Wednesday, March 29, 2017

#### **Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee Hearing**

**Subject:** The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation will hold a hearing, “Closing the Skills Gap and Boosting U.S. Competitiveness.”

**Witnesses:** John Ratzenberger, founder, American Museum of Manufacturing; Rory DeJohn, senior vice president, Turner Construction Company; Colonel Michael Cartney, president, Lake Area Technical Institute; Jay Neely, vice president of law and public affairs, Gulfstream Aerospace; and Judith Marks, CEO, Siemens USA.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m.; G50 Dirksen SOB.

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1101 Vermont Avenue, NW | Suite 400 | Washington, DC 20005-3521  
202.289.3900 | 202.371.0197 (fax)

**Contact:** For inquiries on the hearing, contact: 202.224.1251.

### **Thursday, March 30, 2017**

None.

### **Friday, March 31, 2017**

None.

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## **Future Hearings and Events**

### **Monday, April 3, 2017**

#### **Paying for College**

**Subject:** The Education Finance Council (EFC) will hold an event, “Helping Families Plan & Pay for College: Recommendations for Improving Higher Education Financing.” Panelists will share recommendations for improving higher education financing and the student loan program.

**Time and Location:** 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; CVC Congressional Meeting Room South.

**Contact:** RSVP to [barbarar@efc.org](mailto:barbarar@efc.org).

### **Tuesday, April 4, 2017**

#### **Careers in Technology**

**Subject:** Microsoft will hold an event, “Beyond Coding: Career Options in the Tech Community.” A panel will discuss how the Congressional App Challenge can continue to raise awareness around coding and computer science as well as highlight how skills gained from participants can open the door to a wide range of occupations and opportunities.

**Participants:** Congresswoman Suzan DelBene (D-WA); Austin Carson, executive director, TechFreedom; Rachel Bittner, music informatics engineer, Spotify; Matthew Lockwood, founder and CEO, LEGEND Digital + Communications; and Clara Tsao, presidential innovation fellow, White House.

**Time and Location:** 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; Microsoft Innovation & Policy Center, 901 K Street, NW, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC.

**Contact:** [Register here.](#)

### **Wednesday, April 5, 2017**

#### **STEM Persistence**

**Subject:** The National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine Board on Higher Education and Workforce (BHEW) and the Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF) will hold a summit on “Intersection of Higher Education and the Workforce: Broadening the Role of Business in STEM Transfer and Persistence.”

**Participants:** Brian Fitzgerald, CEO, BHEF; Tom Rudin, director, BHEW; Joan Ferrini-Mundy, acting chief operating officer, National Science Foundation; Kurt Thoroughman, associate professor of biomedical engineering, Washington University in St. Louis; Kevin L. Brown, senior research scientist, University of Chicago; Terrel L. Rhodes, vice president, Office of Quality, Curriculum and Assessment; and Sara L. Simmons, assistant director, Howard Hughes Medical Institute. [Access full agenda and speakers here.](#)

**Time and Location:** 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; NAS Lecture Room, 2101 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

**Contact:** [Register here.](#)

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## On The Floor This Week

### Senate Floor:

Executive Calendar #1 – The Montenegro Treaty.

### House Floor:

[H.R. 1117](#) – To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report regarding certain plans regarding assistance to applicants and grantees during the response to an emergency or disaster

[H.R. 1214](#) – Disaster SAVE Act, as amended

[H.R. 654](#) – Pacific Northwest Earthquake Preparedness Act of 2017

[S.J.Res. 34](#) – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to Protecting the Privacy of Customers of Broadband and Other Telecommunications Services

[H.R. 1430](#) – Honest and Open New EPA Science Treatment Act of 2017

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## *Bills to Watch*

### **FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS**

[S.Con.Res 3](#) – FY 2017 Concurrent Budget Resolution (1/13/17 Passed by the House; 1/12/17 Passed by the Senate)

[H.R.2028](#) - FY 2017 Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act (12/9/16 Signed by President and Passed by the Senate; 12/18/16 Passed by the House)

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## Links for Up-to-Date Information on Hearings, Legislation, and Events

[U.S. House of Representatives 2016 Schedule](#)

[U.S. Senate 2016 Schedule](#)

[U.S. Department of Education](#)

[U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions](#)

[U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce](#)

[U.S. Senate Budget Committee](#)

[U.S. House Budget Committee](#)

[Congressional Budget Office](#)

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- strategizing intelligent solutions; and,
- Creating meaningful impact.

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