FOCUS ON EDUCATION

This Week in Washington

MAY 8 – MAY 12, 2017
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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, May 8, 2017

Congressional Reform

Subject: The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) will hold an event, “Is Congress Broken?” Discussion will focus on reforms to increase the effectiveness of Congress and what should be done to reevaluate the standard for judging congressional reform.

Participants: Gary Schmitt, resident scholar, AEI; William F. Connelly, Jr, professor, Washington and Lee University; Kathryn L. Pearson, professor, University of Minnesota; Jonathan Rauch, senior fellow, Brookings Institution; and Donald Wolfensberger, former staff director, US House Committee on Rules.

Time and Location: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; AEI, 1789 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

National Science Board Meeting

Subject: The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Board of Directors will hold its quarterly two-day meeting from May 9-10. Meeting sessions are open to the public unless otherwise specified.

Time and Location: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. May 9-10; NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA.

Contact: RSVP to nationalsciencebrd@nsf.gov with your name and affiliation to secure a visitor’s badge. Access more information here.

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

None.

Thursday, May 11, 2017

None.
Perception of Higher Education

**Subject:** New America will hold an event, “Varying Degrees: How America Perceives Higher Education.” The event will focus on both perceptions of higher education in America, as well as the implications of these findings for students, institutional leaders and policymakers.

**Participants:** Rachel Fishman, senior policy analyst, New America; Jemiscoe Chambers-Black, student, Southern New Hampshire University; Lindsay Shurtleff, student, Northern Virginia Community College; Ariel Ventura-Lazo, student, Northern Virginia Community College; Danielle Douglas-Gabriel, reporter, *Washington Post*; José Luis Cruz, president, CUNY-Lehman; Cheryl Oldham, vice president of education policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Scott Ralls, president, Northern Virginia Community College; Deborah Santiago, chief operating officer and vice president for policy, Excelencia in Education; and Rob Nabors, director, U.S. Policy, Advocacy and Communications, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Time and Location:** 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.; New America, 740 15th Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC.

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

Faculty Diversity in Higher Education

**Subject:** The American Enterprise Institute (AEI) and the Pepperdine School of Public Policy will host an event, “Viewpoint Diversity in American Higher Education,” to discuss political partisanship in American higher education and faculty’s role in addressing these issues.

**Participants:** Samuel J. Abrams, research fellow, Hoover Institution and professor, Sarah Lawrence College; Gerard Alexander, associate professor, Woodrow Wilson Department of Politics, University of Virginia; Eliot Cohen, professor, School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University; James Gimpel, professor, Department of Government & Politics, University of Maryland, College Park; Samuel Goldman, assistant professor, George Washington University; Pete Peterson, professor, Pepperdine School of Public Policy; Jon Shields, associate professor of government, Claremont McKenna College; and Ryan Streeter, director of domestic policy studies, AEI.

**Time and Location:** 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; AEI, 1789 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

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

Friday, May 12, 2017

None.

Future Hearings and Events

**Monday, May 15, 2017**

**Predictive Analytics in Higher Education**

**Subject:** New America will hold an event, “Ethical Use of Predictive Analytics in Higher Education.” In light of two New America papers on the subject, the discussion will focus on how predictive analytics can be used in a way that does not curtail academic success, but rather helps to ensure it.

**Participants:** Manuela Ekowo, policy analyst, New America (Moderator); Bill Moses, managing director, Education Program, The Kresge Foundation; Iris Palmer, senior policy analyst, New America; Sylvia Cini, director of special projects, Central Piedmont Community College; Mark Milliron, co-founder and chief learning officer, Civitas Learning; and George Siemens, executive director, Link Research Lab, University of Texas at Arlington.

**Time and Location:** 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.; New America, 740 15th Street, NW, #900, Washington, DC.

**Contact:** [Register here](#). Lunch will be served.

**Friday, May 19, 2017**

**Future of Education Research**

**Subject:** The Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) will hold an education policy book talk to discuss *The Rising Price of Objectivity*. The book proposes a series of measures for countering the drift toward ideology over inquiry in education research.
Participants: Michael J. Feuer, author, dean, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, George Washington University.

Time and Location: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; IEL, 4301 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

On The Floor This Week

Senate Floor:
Consideration of the nomination of Heather Wilson to be Secretary of the Air Force.
Consideration of the nomination of Scott Gottlieb to serve as Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services

House Floor:
The House is in recess until Tuesday, May 16.

Bills to Watch

FY 2017 APPROPRIATIONS

H.R.244 – Consolidated Appropriations Act 2017 (5/5/17 Signed by the President; 5/4/17 Passed by the Senate; 5/3/17 Passed by the House)

H.J.Res.99 – Making Further Continuing Appropriations for FY2017 and for other purposes until May 5, 2017 (4/28/17 Signed by the President; Passed by the House; Passed by the Senate)

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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