This Week in Washington

JUNE 8 – JUNE 12, 2015
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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. that are relevant to CUR’s interests. Please use the bookmarks below to navigate to your area of interest.

Weekly Calendar

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Weekly Calendar

MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015

Women in Engineering and Computing

Subject: The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Google will host an event, “Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women’s Success in Engineering and Computing.”

Participants: Representative Donna Edwards (D-MD); Jo Handelsman, associate director for science, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Jennifer Kuhn, executive director of public affairs, AT&T; and Paige Smith, director, Women in Engineering Program, A. James Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland.

Time and Location: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, 9th Floor, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

National Board for Education Sciences Open Meeting

Subject: The National Board for Education Sciences (NBES) will hold an open meeting.

Time and Location: 9:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.; 80 F Street, NW, Large Board Room, Washington, DC.

Contact: Find more information here.
Undergraduate Instruction

Subject: The National Research Council of the National Academies will host a webinar to discuss the report, “Reaching Students: Putting the Book to Work to Improve Undergraduate Instruction.”

Participants: Susan Singer, National Science Foundation; Eric Brewe, professor of physics, Florida International University; Melanie Cooper, professor of science education, professor of chemistry, Michigan State University; and Kaatje Kraft, professor geology, Whatcom Community College, Bellingham, WA.

Time and Location: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Register here.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015

50 Years of HEA

Subject: National Journal will host an event, “The Next America: Taking Stock, 50 Years of the Higher Education Act.”

Participants: Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN); Ted Mitchell, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Education; Ron Brownstein, editorial director, Atlantic Media; Sophie Quinton, staff correspondent, National Journal; Sarita Brown, president, Excelencia in Education; Muriel Howard, president, American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU); Cheryl Hyman, chancellor, City Colleges of Chicago; Andrew Kelly, director, Center on Higher Education Reform, American Enterprise Institute (AEI); and Aaron Smith, senior strategic advisor, co-founder, Young Invincibles.

Time and Location: 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.; 555 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

College and Career Ready Policy

Subject: New America will host an event, “Making ‘College Ready’ Matter: College and Career Ready Policies in the States.”

Participants: Jack Markell, Governor, State of Delaware; Kevin Carey, director, education policy program, New America; Lindsey Tepe, policy analyst, education policy program, New America; Joel Vargas, vice president, School and Learning Designs, Jobs for the Future; Elizabeth Barnett, senior research associate, Community College Research Center; and Andrew Ujifusa, reporter, Education Week.

Time and Location: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 1899 L Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC.

Contact: Register here.

Committee on Education and Human Resources Teleconference

Subject: The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Committee on Education and Human Resources (CEH) will hold a teleconference.

Time: 4:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Contact: Register here.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2015

House Appropriations Subcommittee Markup

Subject: The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies will markup their FY 2016 appropriations bill.

Time and Location: 10:15 a.m.; B-308 Rayburn HOB.

Contact: For inquiries about the markup, call: 202.225.2771.

Senate CJS Subcommittee Appropriations Markup


Time and Location: 10:30 a.m.; 192 Dirksen SOB.
Contact: For inquiries on the hearing, contact: 202.224.7257.

**Federal Role in Education**
**Subject:** The Alliance for Excellent Education will host a webinar, “Political Education: Setting the Course for State and Federal Policy.”
**Participants:** Christopher Cross, chairman, Cross & Joftus, LLC; and Bob Wise, president, Alliance for Excellent Education.
**Time:** 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
**Contact:** Register here.

“Getting Education Bills to the Finish Line”
**Subject:** The Brookings Institution will host an event, “Getting Education Bills to the Finish Line.”
**Participants:** Matthew Chingos, senior fellow, governance studies, The Brookings Institution; Jason Delisle, director, Federal Education Budget Project, Education Policy Program, New America Foundation; Sarah Flanagan, vice president, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; Bethany Little, principal, EducationCounsel, LLC; and Martin West, associate professor of education, Harvard Graduate School of Education.
**Time and Location:** 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.; 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.
**Contact:** Register here.

**Competency Education**
**Subject:** iNACOL will host a webinar, “CompetencyWorks: Maximizing Competency Education and Blended Learning: Insights From Experts.”
**Participants:** Susan Patrick, president and CEO, iNACOL; and Christ Sturgis, principal, MetisNet.
**Time:** 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
**Contact:** Register here.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015**
**High Cost of Low Technology Skills**
**Subject:** Change the Equation and Information Technology Industry (ITI) Council will host an event, “Does Not Compute: The High Cost of Low Technology Skills in the U.S. – What We Can Do About It.”
**Participants:** Dean Garfield, president and CEO, ITI; Dr. Jo Handelsman, associate director for science, The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy; Meeta Sharma-Holt, executive director, Techbridge; Blair Blackwell, manager, education and corporate programs, Chevron; and Linda Rosen, CEO, Change the Equation.
**Time and Location:** 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.; 1101 K Street, NW, Suite 610, Washington, DC.
**Contact:** Register here.

**Senate Appropriations Committee Mark Up**
**Subject:** The Senate Committee on Appropriations will mark up the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2016.”
**Time and Location:** 10:30 a.m.; 106 Dirksen SOB.
**Contact:** For inquiries on the hearing contact: 202.224.7257.

**CISE Advisory Committee**
**Subject:** The National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering (CISE) will hold an Advisory Committee meeting on June 11 and 12.
**Time and Location:** 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd, Room 1235, Arlington, VA.
**Contact:** View the agenda here.

**Competency-Based Education**
**Subject:** The American Institutes for Research (AIR) will host a briefing, “Competency-Based Education: A Higher Return on Investment?”
Participants: Representative John Yarmuth (D-KY); Deb Bushway, Higher Education Consultant; William J. Ryan, executive director, Learn on Demand Program, Kentucky Community and Technical College System; Mark Schneider, vice president and institute fellow, AIR; and Thomas Weko, managing researcher, Education Program, AIR.

Time and Location: 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; H-137 U.S. Capitol Building.
Contact: Register here.

Grant Program Overview
Subject: The Institute of Education Sciences’ National Center for Education Research (NCER) will host a webinar, “Overview of the Research Networks Competition,” to discuss NCER’s new grant program, “Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Policy and Practice.”
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Contact: Register here.

Maker Faire
Subject: The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the Congressional Maker Caucus will hold an interactive event “Capitol Hill Maker Faire,” that explores the new movement driven by hobbyists, tinkerers, crafters, and innovators influencing community institutions and American manufacturing.
Time and Location: 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; 45 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC.
Contact: Register here.

FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2015

Geoscience Briefing
Subject: The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the American Geophysical Union, the American Geosciences Institute and others will hold a two briefings, “Energy from the Earth: Energy-Water-Land Connections Briefing, Part 2.”
Participants: Bridget Scanlon, senior research scientist, Bureau of Economic Geology, The University of Texas at Austin; Mike Smith, executive director, Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission; Richard Haut, program director of energy production, Houston Advanced Research Center; and P. Patrick Leahy, executive director, American Geosciences Institute.
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 2237 Rayburn HOB; and 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.; G-11 Dirksen SOB.
Contact: RSVP to Abby Seadler at: aseadler@agiweb.org.

On The Floor This Week

Senate Floor:

House Floor:
H.R. 2289 – Commodity End-User Relief Act
HR 2577 – Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2016
H.R. 2596 – Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (may consider)
Bills to Watch

EDUCATION SCIENCES REFORM ACT (ESRA)
S. 227 Sponsor: Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
Strengthening Education through Research Act (02/04/2015 Passed HELP Committee and moved to the Senate Legislative Calendar)

AMERICA COMPETES ACT
H.R. 1806 Sponsor: Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX)
America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2015 (05/20/2015 Passed the House, 04/22/2015 Passed the Science, Space and Technology Committee)

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- creating meaningful impact.

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