FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
This Week in Washington

JUNE 15 – JUNE 19, 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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Future Hearings & Events
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Weekly Calendar

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015
Maker Faire Briefing
Subject: The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) and SAE International will hold a congressional briefing, “Making a Maker,” to follow the Capitol Hill Maker Faire and the National Maker Faire.
Participants: Nathalia Peixoto, associate professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, George Mason University, Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR); Chris Ciuca, director of pre-professional education, SAE International; Neal Orringer, vice president of alliances and partnerships, 3D Systems; and Dr. Timothy Simpson, professor of mechanical and industrial engineering, director, The Learning Factory, Pennsylvania State University.
Time and Location: 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.; B340 Rayburn HOB.
Contact: Register here.

TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015
WIOA – Human Services Collaborations
Subject: The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) will hold a webinar, “WIOA-Human Services Collaborations: Opportunities and Challenges.”
Participants: Elizabeth Lower-Basch, director of income and work supports, CLASP; Louisa Erickson, project manager, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services; and

**Time:** 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Contact:** Register here.

**Geoscience Briefing**

**Subject:** The American Geophysical Union and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) will host a briefing, “Living at the Extremes: Geoscience Research at the Coolest Places on Earth.”

**Participants:** Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI); Jon Bowermaster, National Geographic Explorer; Brendan Kelly, chief scientist, Monterey Bay Aquarium, CA; Robin Bell, professor, Marine Geology and Geophysics, Columbia University, NY; Marcia McNutt, editor in chief, Science magazine, AAAS; and Kathryn Sullivan, Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and NOAA Administrator.

**Time and Location:** 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; G-50 Dirksen SOB.

**Contact:** Register here.

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**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2015**

**House LHHS Subcommittee Holds FY 2016 Appropriations Mark Up**

**Subject:** The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education will hold a markup of the FY 2016 Appropriations bill.

**Time and Location:** 9:00 a.m.; 2358-C Rayburn HOB.

**Contact:** For inquiries on the mark up, contact: 202.225.3508.

**House Budget Committee Hearing**

**Subject:** The House Committee on the Budget will hold a hearing, “Why Congress Must Balance the Budget.”

**Witnesses:** Ryan Silvey, Missouri State Senator; John B. Taylor, professor of economics, Stanford University; Chris Edwards, director of tax policy studies, Cato Institute; and Jared Bernstein, senior fellow, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP).

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m.; 210 Cannon HOB.

**Contact:** For inquiries on the hearing, 202.226.7270.

**Senate HELP Committee Hearing (H)**

**Subject:** The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) will hold a hearing, “Reauthorizing the Higher Education Act: Evaluating Accreditation’s Role in Ensuring Quality.”

**Witnesses:** Peter Ewell, vice president, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems; George A. Pruitt, president, Thomas Edison State College; Albert C. Gray, president and CEO, Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools; and Anne Neal, president, American Council of Trustees and Alumni.

**Time and Location:** 10:00 a.m.; 430 Dirksen SOB.

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

**House Science Subcommittee Hearing on Energy Innovation Hubs**

**Subject:** The House Committee on Science, Space and Technology’s Subcommittee on Energy will hold a hearing, “Department of Energy Oversight: Energy Innovation Hubs.”

**Witnesses:** Dr. Harry Atwater, director, Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis; Dr. Jess Gehin, director, Consortium for Advanced Simulation of Light Water Reactors; Dr. George Crabtree, director, Joint Center for Energy Storage Research; and Dr. Alex King, director, Critical Materials Institute.

**Time and Location:** 10:30 a.m.; 2318 Rayburn HOB.

**Contact:** For inquiries on the hearing, contact: 202.225.6371.
Innovation Challenge
Subject: The National Science Foundation and the American Association of Community Colleges will host a reception for the Community College Innovation Challenge.
Time and Location: 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.; Gold Room, Rayburn HOB.
Contact: RSVP to: klaryea@aacc.nche.edu.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2015
Transformation of Education Through Public Policy
Subject: The Mind Trust will host an event, “Celebrating the Transformation of Education through Public Policy: An Evening with Governor Mitch Daniels and Mayor Bart Peterson.”
Participants: Mitch Daniels, former governor of Indiana; and Bart Peterson, former mayor of Indianapolis, IN.
Time and Location: 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.; 140 West Washington Street, The Indiana Roof Ballroom, Washington, DC.
Contact: RSVP to shawns@themindtrust.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015
NONE.

On The Floor This Week

Senate Floor:

House Floor:
H.R.160 – Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2015

Possible Consideration of:
H.Con.Res55 – Directing the President, pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces deployed in Iraq or Syria on or after August 7, 2014, other than Armed Forces required to protect United States diplomatic facilities and personnel, from Iraq and Syria.

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)

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

U.S. House of Representatives 2015 Schedule  
U.S. Senate 2015 Schedule  
U.S. Department of Education  
U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions  
U.S. House Committee on Education and Labor  
U.S. Senate Budget Committee  
U.S. House Budget Committee  
Congressional Budget Office  
Federal legislative information

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