FOCUS ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

This Week in Washington

OCTOBER 28 – NOVEMBER 1, 2013
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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
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Future Hearings & Events
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MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2013
Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution Mission
Subject: The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) holds a briefing on the upcoming launch of the agency’s next mission to Mars, the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) mission, scheduled to launch on November 18 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fl. The mission is the first devoted to understanding the upper atmosphere of the "Red Planet."
Participants: John Grunsfeld, Associate Administrator, Science Mission Directorate, NASA; Jim Green, Director, Planetary Science Division, NASA; Lisa May, MAVEN Program Executive, NASA; Kelly Fast, MAVEN Program Scientist, NASA; Bruce Jakosky, MAVEN Principal Investigator, Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics, University of Colorado Boulder; and David Mitchell, MAVEN Project Manager, Goddard Space Flight Center, NASA.
Time and Location: 2:00 p.m., NASA Headquarters, 300 E Street SW, Washington, D.C.
Contact: Dwayne Brown, 202-358-1726, dwayne.c.brown@nasa.gov. A webcast will be available at www.nasa.gov/nasatv.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2013
American Innovation and Competitiveness
Subject: The House Judiciary Committee holds a hearing on the "Innovation Act" - improving the patent system to promote American innovation and competitiveness.
Witness(es): TBA.
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m., 2141 Rayburn House Office Building.
Contact: 212-225-3951, judiciary.house.gov.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2013

Scientific Discovery and Basic Energy Research
Subject: Energy Subcommittee holds a hearing on “Providing the Tools for Scientific Discovery and Basic Energy Research: The Department of Energy Science Mission.”
Witness(es): Pat Dehmer, Deputy Director for Science Programs, Office of Science, Department of Energy; Horst Simon, Deputy Director, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab; and John Hemminger, Chairman, Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee, Department of Energy.
Time and Location: 9:30 a.m., 2318 Rayburn House Office Building.
Contact: 202-225-6371, science.house.gov.

Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering
Subject: The National Science Foundation (NSF) holds a meeting of the Committee on Equal Opportunities in Science and Engineering to study data, programs, policies, and other information pertinent to the National Science Foundation and to provide advice and recommendations concerning broadening participation in science and engineering.
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m., NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 1235, Arlington, Va.
Contact: Bernice Anderson, 703-292-5151, banderso@nsf.gov, RSVP to: vafung@nsf.gov.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2013

Attaining a Quality Degree
Subject: The Senate Healthcare, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds a hearing on “Attaining a Quality Degree: Innovations to Improve Student Success.”
Witness(es): TBA.
Time and Location: 10:00 a.m., 2318 Dirksen Senate Office Building.
Contact: 202-224-5375, help.senate.gov.

Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering
Subject: The National Science Foundation (NSF) holds a meeting of the Advisory Committee for Computer and Information Science and Engineering to advise the NSF on the impact of its policies, programs and activities on the CISE community, to provide advice to the Assistant Director for CISE on issues related to long-range planning, and to form ad hoc subcommittees and working groups to carry out needed studies and tasks, October 31-November 1.
Agenda: Overview of CISE FY2014 budget priorities and programmatic updates; Working group breakout sessions; Update from CISE Vision 2025 working group; Update from Mid-Scale Infrastructure subcommittee; Welcome from NSF Acting Director Dr. Cora Marrett; and Closing remarks and wrap up.
Time and Location: 12:30 p.m., NSF, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1235, Arlington, Va.
Contact: Carmen Whitson, 703-292-8900.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013
None.

On The Floor This Week
Senate
Judicial Nominations

House
H.R. 2374 – Retail Investor Protection Act
H.J.Res. – Relating to the disapproval of the President’s exercise of authority to suspend the debt limit, as submitted under section 1002(b) of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 on October 17, 2013

H.R. 992 – Swaps Regulatory Improvement Act

Bills to Watch

FY2014 Appropriations

H.R. 2775  Continuing Appropriations Act, 2014 (signed by President 10/17/13; passed by House of Representatives and Senate 10/16/13).

S.Con.Res. #  Sponsor: Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA)
Setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 (3/14/13 passed by Senate Budget Committee)

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014 (3/13/13 passed by House Budget Committee)

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

U.S. House of Representatives 2013 Schedule:
http://majorityleader.gov/calendar/113thCongressFirstSession.pdf

U.S. Senate 2013 Schedule:
http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/legislative/one_item_and_teasers/2013_schedule.htm


U.S. Senate Budget Committee: http://www.budget.senate.gov

U.S. House Budget Committee: http://www.house.gov/budget

Congressional Budget Office: http://www.cbo.gov

Federal legislative information: http://thomas.loc.gov

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