This Week in Washington

DECEMBER 15 – DECEMBER 19, 2014
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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, DECEMBER 15, 2014
Federal Budget Outlook
Subject: The Brookings Institution will host an event, “The Long Run Outlook for the Federal Budget: Do We Know Enough to Worry?”
Participants: Louise Sheiner, senior fellow, Brookings Institution; Peter Diamond, institute professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); Charles Manski, professor of economics, Northwestern University; Robert Chote, chairman, UK Office of Budget Responsibility; and Douglas Elmendorf, director, Congressional Budget Office (CBO).
Time and Location: 9:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.; 1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Falk Auditorium, Washington, DC.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2014
Nanodegrees and Alternative Credentials
Subject: The Center for American Progress (CAP) will host an event, “Reimagining the Path to the Workforce: Nanodegrees and Other Flexible Workplace Credentials.”
Participants: Aneesh Chopra, senior fellow, CAP; Eugene Giovannini, president, Maricopa Corporate College; Clarissa Shen, vice president of business development, Udacity; Anne
Wintroub, director of social innovation, AT&T; and David Bergeron, vice president for postsecondary education, CAP.

**Time and Location:** 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; 1333 H Street, NW, 10th Floor, Washington, DC.

**Contact:** RSVP to apreiss@americanprogress.org.

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**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2014**

None.

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2014**

None.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2014**

None.

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**On The Floor This Week**

**Senate Floor:**
The Senate will vote on 24 nominations.

**House Floor:**
The House is adjourned until further notice.

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**Bills to Watch**

**ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA)**

**S. 1094**
Sponsor: Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)
Strengthening American Schools Act of 2013 to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (6/12/13 passed by Senate HELP Committee)

**H.R. 5**
Sponsor: Rep. John Kline (R-MN)
Student Success Act to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (6/19/13 passed by House Education and Workforce Committee)

**STRENGTHENING EDUCATION THROUGH RESEARCH ACT**

**H.R. 4366**
Sponsor: Rep. Todd Rokita (R-IN)
Strengthening Education through Research Act (09/17/14 passed by Senate HELP Committee; 05/08/14 passed by House Education and the Workforce Committee)

**SIMPLIFYING THE APPLICATION FOR STUDENT AID ACT**

**H.R. 4982**
Sponsor: Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-IN)
Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act (06/26/14 referred to House Committee on Education and the Workforce)
STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY IN HIGHER EDUCATION ACT
H.R. 4983  Sponsor: Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC)
Strengthening Transparency in Higher Education Act (06/26/14 referred to House Committee on Education and the Workforce)

EMPOWERING STUDENTS THROUGH ENHANCED FINANCIAL COUNSELING ACT
H.R. 4984  Sponsor: Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY)
Empowering Students Through Enhanced Financial Counseling Act (06/26/14 referred to House Committee on Education and the Workforce)

HIGHER EDUCATION AFFORDABILITY ACT
S. 2954  Sponsor: Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA)
Higher Education Affordability Act (discussion draft of the bill, comments due to HELP Committee by 08/29/14)

AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT
S. 2757  Sponsor: Sen. John Rockefeller (D-WV)
America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science Reauthorization Act of 2014 (07/31/14 referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation)
H.R. 4186  Sponsor: Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-IN)
Frontiers in Innovation, Research, Science and Technology Act of 2014 (03/10/14 reported out of committee by voice vote)

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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creating meaningful impact.

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