

GENERAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Registration
Ballroom Level

April 27: 11:00 am – 6:00 pm
April 28: 7:30 am – 5:00 pm
April 29: 7:30 am – 11:00 am
April 30: 7:30 am – 11:00 am

Exhibits

Renaissance Foyer

April 28: 7:30 am – 5:30 pm
April 29: 7:30 am – 12:00 pm

See pg. 27 of the WPS Program Book for the Leadership Reflection Tool and pg. 28 for a hotel map.

Conference Attire

Dress is business casual. However, please remember that conference rooms are often kept cooler than normal room temperature.

Conference Facilities

Renaissance
Washington DC
Downtown Hotel
999 Ninth St. NW
202-898-9000

Check-out time for the Renaissance is 12:00 noon.

Celebrating 50 Years of Developing the Leaders We Need for Education!

2014 Washington Policy Seminar Agenda At-a-Glance

Sun., April 27

SEATING AT STATE TABLES

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Welcome & National Policy Overview

Martin J. Blank, President, Institute for Educational Leadership

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Advancing Equity: What Will It Take?

Michael T. Nettles, Senior Vice President & Edmund T. Gordon Chair, Policy Evaluation & Research Center, ETS

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

For Each & Every Child: A Strategy for Education Equity & Excellence

Moderator: Martin J. Blank, President, IEL

Jacquelyn Thompson (EPFP 92-93), Specialist, Office of K-12 Outreach, College of Education Michigan State University

Jose Torres (EPFP 97-98), Superintendent School District U-46 (Elgin, IL)

Doris Terry Williams, Executive Director, Rural School & Community Trust

3:45 pm – 4:00 pm

Move to Assigned Rooms

Seating at Cross-State Tables

4:00 pm – 4:45 pm

Cross-State Discussion

4:45 pm – 5:30 pm

EPFP Town Hall

Martin J. Blank, President, IEL

Robert Monson (EPFP 88-89), Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Education Policy & Social Analysis, Teachers College, Columbia University

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Reception

Mon., April 28

SEATING AT STATE TABLES

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

8:00 am – 8:30 am

Recap

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Who is Each & Every Child: A Demographic View

Linda Jacobsen, Vice President U.S. Programs, Population Reference Bureau

9:30 am – 10:45 am

50 Years of Federal Education Policy Reform: Shifting Theories of Action

Moderator: Brenda Welburn, Former Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of

Education

Michael Casserly, Executive Director, Council of the Great City Schools

Deb Delisle, Assistant Secretary Office of Elementary & Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

Michael J. Petrilli, Executive Vice President, Fordham Institute

10:45 am – 11:00 am

Break

11:00 am – 12:15 pm

Concurrent Conversations (See Reverse)

12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Danzberger Memorial Lecture “Fatal Attraction: America’s

Suicidal Quest for Educational Excellence”

Yong Zhao, Presidential Chair, College of Education, University of Oregon

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Move to Assigned Rooms

Seating at Cross-State Tables

2:30 pm – 5:45 pm

Congressional Insight Simulation

Tyson Elbert (EPFP 07-08), Research Associate, Stennis Institute of Government

Phil Hardwick, Project Manager, Stennis Institute of Government

LeeAnn Funderburg, Business Manager, Stennis Institute of Government

Tues., April 29

SEATING AT STATE TABLES

7:00 am – 8:00 am

Continental Breakfast

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Making Equity & Excellence A Reality for All Children

Honorable Chaka Fattah, U.S. House of Representatives (D-PA)

9:00 am – 10:00 am

The 113th Congress (2nd Session): What Can/Should We Expect?

Norm Ornstein, Resident Scholar, American Enterprise Institute

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Policy, Politics, & Procedures Inside Congress

Judy Schneider, Senior Analyst,

Congressional Research Service

11:00 am – 7:15 pm

State Site Hill Day Schedules

7:15 pm – 8:15 pm

IEL/EPFP 50th Anniversary Celebration

8:15 pm – 9:15 pm

The Capitol Steps

A Satirical Political Review

Institutional Advancement, IEL

Martens Roc (EPFP 10-11)

Policy & Advocacy Associate, Alliance for Excellent Education

10:45 am – 11:45 am

Beating The Odds: Increasing Minority Student Achievement

Freeman Hrabowski, President University of Maryland Baltimore County

Wed., April 30

SEATING AT STATE TABLES

7:30 am – 8:30 am

Continental Breakfast

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Ensuring Education Equity & Excellence: The Role of the State

Kristen Amundson, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education

9:30 am – 10:45 am

Closing Education Opportunity Gaps

Moderator: Sanjiv Rao, Program Officer, Ford Foundation

Noelle Ellerson (EPFP 09-10) Associate Executive Director, Policy and Advocacy, AASA

Rene Islas (EPFP 01-02), Director, Center for Results, Learning Forward

Helen Janc Malone, Director of

11:45 am – 12:00 pm

Wrap Up

2014 WASHINGTON POLICY SEMINAR SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

PLENARY SESSIONS

The 2014 WPS—The Challenge of Ensuring Education Equity and Excellence—will broaden your understanding of federal policies and programs designed to achieve the intertwined goals of equity and excellence in education. It also will help you develop a more nuanced understanding of equity issues—why they are so hard to address, and why it is so difficult to find and keep the common ground required to identify and resolve them. The presenters are experienced policy-makers and practitioners from many disciplines, and have experience in and with organizations (and people) working on the issues. You will hear from people on all sides of the issue(s). While you may not agree with them, you will be able to ask probing questions and engage in robust discussions about policies, programs and results.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Advancing Equity: What Will It Take?

Introduction: [Monique Felder](#) (EPFP 07-08), *DC EPFP Coordinator*

[Michael T. Nettles](#), *ETS*

Get answers to the major questions about equity and excellence in education: What are the big equity issues? What are the most significant roadblocks to closing achievement and opportunity gaps? Why is important for our nation to achieve these goals? What happens if we don't achieve these goals? What can I do? What can my organization do?

For Each & Every Child: A Strategy For Education Equity & Excellence

Moderator: [Martin J. Blank](#), *IEL*

[Jacquelyn Thompson](#) (EPFP 92-93), *Michigan State University*; [Jose Torres](#) (EPFP 97-98), *School District U-46 (Elgin, IL)*; [Doris Terry Williams](#), *Rural School & Community Trust*

The Equity and Excellence Commission was charged with advising the U.S. Secretary of Education on the disparities in meaningful educational opportunities that give rise to the achievement gap (with a focus on systems of finance) and to recommend ways in which federal and state policies could address such disparities. Three Commission members will offer an insider's perspective on their deliberations and the resulting recommendations. They will answer such questions as: Were all voices heard? Was any problem overlooked? Are the recommended strategies the right ones? Is there political will to do what needs to be done?

Cross-State Discussion

Fellows will meet in assigned groups to discuss their perspectives about equity and excellence in education. They will share their initial definition of equity and opportunity gaps, discuss changes based on new information presented, and highlight lingering questions. Each group will identify a spokesperson.

EPFP Town Hall

Facilitators: [Martin J. Blank](#), *IEL* & [Robert Monson](#) (EPFP 88-89), *Teachers College, Columbia University*
Spokespersons will share their group's lingering questions and overall reactions to the current state of equity and excellence in education. A list of EPFP questions and concerns about equity and excellence will be compiled and sent to the Commission Chairs for comment.

Reception

Relax and meet Fellows from other program sites and

or huddle with Fellows from your site. (Complimentary snacks and soft drinks; cash bar)

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Who is Each & Every Child: A Demographic View

Introduction: [Bruce Mosely](#) (EPFP 05-06), *SC EPFP Coordinator*

[Linda Jacobsen](#), *Population Reference Bureau*

The Commission on Equity and Excellence documents how our K-12 education system fails the nation and too many of our children, and does not distribute opportunity equitably. A noted demographer will describe the children in America and the conditions in which they live. She will make certain that we understand the populations being served – for good or for ill – by our education system.

50 Years of Federal Education Policy Reform: Shifting Theories of Action

Introduction: [Deborah Morrin](#) (EPFP 82-83), *OH EPFP Coordinator*

Moderator: [Brenda Welburn](#), *National Association of State Boards of Education (Formerly)*

[Michael Casserly](#), *Council of the Great City Schools*; [Deb Delisle](#), *U.S. Department of Education*; [Michael J. Petrilli](#), *Fordham Institute*

Fifty years later, our nation is still considering how best to reform public education to achieve equal educational opportunity and to identify the appropriate role for the federal government. The goals and strategies have changed. The panel of experts will discuss what we have learned and talk about if the lessons learned provide a framework for the future.

14th Annual Danzberger Memorial Lecture – “Fatal Attraction: America’s Suicidal Quest for Educational Excellence” – Luncheon & Book Signing

Introduction: [Dan Schultz](#) (EPFP 76-77), *MI EPFP Coordinator*

[Yong Zhao](#), *University of Oregon*

For at least over half a century, America has been misguided to emulate authoritarian education models in the world in its attempt to improve education at home. The idea of global benchmarking has become even more seductive in recent years, with the arrival of globalization and more powerful international assessments such as PISA. In this talk, Dr. Yong Zhao discusses the dangers of following the wrong model and suggests that America needs to invent for the future, instead of benchmarking to the past.

Congressional Insight-Stennis Institute

Introduction: [Tyson Elbert](#) (EPFP 07-08), *MS EPFP Coordinator*

Experience first-hand what it's like to be a member of the Congress through a fast-paced, performance-oriented simulation. It will immerse you in the real world of a federal legislator. You will work with a team of Fellows, make tough choices, and get instant feedback on how your decisions helped or hurt your chances for reelection—the ultimate goal/prize.

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Making Equity & Excellence a Reality for All Children

Introduction: [Ron Cowell](#), *PA EPFP Coordinator*

[Chaka Fattah](#), *U.S. House of Representatives (D-PA)*

The National Commission on Equity and Excellence in Education was sponsored by Congressmen Chaka

Fattah (D-PA) and Mike Honda (D-CA). Congressman Fattah will share his reasons for sponsoring the Commission and discuss how he is working with his colleagues to make equity and excellence a reality for every child. He will also address whether or not there is political will to do what needs to be done.

The 113th Congress (2nd Session): What Can/Should We Expect?

Introduction: [Leslie Abbatiello](#), *CT EPFP Coordinator*

[Norm Ornstein](#), *American Enterprise Institute*

Ornstein will give you a sense of the big issues on the agenda of the 2nd session of the 113th Congress and will assess the likelihood that this session will be more productive than the previous one. According to the Pew Research Center, the first session passed fewer substantive measures than any Congress in two decades—just 55 laws.

Policy, Politics, & Procedures Inside Congress

Introduction: [Dana Rickman](#), *GA EPFP Coordinator*

[Judy Schneider](#), *Congressional Research Service*

Take a “backstage tour” of the Congress. You will learn about the real interaction among policy, politics, and procedures in the House & Senate, and about the support provided by the Congressional Research Service. You will never again look at or think about Members of Congress in the same way.

IEL/EPFP 50th Anniversary Celebration

Celebrate our 50th anniversary with IEL staff, Fellows, EPFP Alumni and national education leaders.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Ensuring Education Equity & Excellence: The Role of the State

Introduction: [John Portz](#), *MA EPFP Coordinator*

[Kristen Amundson](#), *National Association of State Boards of Education*

State boards of education are pursuing aggressive agendas to ensure that all students achieve to high standards, and state legislatures are dealing with the complex problems of ensuring equity and adequacy of education funding. The head of NASBE will offer a first-hand perspective on who is responsible for what and share how NASBE is preparing state policymakers to be effective leaders, supporting equity and excellence.

Closing Education Opportunity Gaps

Introduction: [Mattie Robinson](#) (EPFP 10-11), *PA EPFP Coordinator*

Moderator: [Sanjiv Rao](#), *The Ford Foundation*

[Noelle Ellerson](#) (EPFP 09-10), *AASA*; [Rene Islas](#)

(EPFP 01-02), *Learning Forward*; [Helen Janc Malone](#),

IEL, [Martens Roc](#) (EPFP 10-11), *Alliance for Excellent Education*

This diverse panel of experienced leaders – individuals with more of their career in front of them than behind – will identify the most significant equity issue/opportunity gap and offer strategies for closing it.

Beating The Odds: Increasing Minority Student Achievement

Introduction: [Jo Ann Norris](#), *NC EPFP Coordinator*

[Freeman Hrabowski](#), *University of Maryland Baltimore County*

Hrabowski will discuss what it takes and the leadership needed to educate all children, and suggest strategies and best practices leaders for education can use to support the success of all students.

CONCURRENT CONVERSATIONS

Connecting Schools to Community & to Parents: Schools Cannot Do It Alone | Rm. 2

Facilitator: [Emma Lee](#) (EPFP 12-13), *NC EPFP Coordinator*; Resource: [Kwesi Rollins](#), *IEL*

A community school is both a place and a set of partnerships between a school and community resources. Most people think of schools as binary, analog systems; community schools are more like smart phones. Schools and communities connect, collaborate, and leverage their shared physical and human assets in support of closing opportunity gaps.

The Politics of the Common Core | Rm. 3

Facilitator: [Lisa Davis](#) (EPFP 10-11), *NY EPFP Coordinator*; Resources: [Michael D. Usdan](#), *IEL* & [Clifford Janey](#), *Boston University*

The Common Core aims to raise student achievement by standardizing what's taught in schools across the United States, but has sparked controversy among educators, parents, and politicians. The discussion will explore the controversies, as well as identify the political divide.

Connecting Education & Economic Development | Rm. 4

Facilitator: [Dahlia Shaewitz](#) (EPFP 09-10), *DC EPFP Coordinator*; Resource: [Anthony P. Carnevale](#) (EPFP 72-73), *Georgetown University*

Today, there is a strong relationship between educa-

tion and the labor market. What drives earnings and employment is the field of study pursued more than the degree. The session will explore the meaning of America's change from an economy that only required high school, at most, to one that requires some college; it is, at least, a story about technology and globalization.

School Choice: It's More than Charters | Rm. 5

Facilitator: [Chris Reimman](#) (EPFP 03-04), *MI EPFP Coordinator*; Resource: [Josh Cunningham](#), *National Conference of State Legislatures*

What works in public education is a growing concern. State legislatures have enacted various forms of school choice to improve student achievement, seek innovative instruction and school governance, and provide parents with alternatives. The session will explore policy issues related to school choice being considered at the national and state levels.

Quality Teachers & Quality Leaders: Preparing Them/Keeping Them | Rm. 12/13

Facilitator: [Sally Barefoot](#) (EPFP 03-04), *SC EPFP Coordinator*; Resources: [Angela Minnici](#), *American Institutes for Research* & [Lynda Tredway](#), *IEL*

Leadership has significant effects on student learning, second only to the effects of the quality of curriculum and teachers' instruction. This session will explore strategies to ensure that all students have access to

great teachers and great leaders, and identify tools and resources to help achieve these goals.

Reforming Postsecondary Education Policy/Jumpstarting Social Mobility | Rm. 15

Facilitator: [Chad d'Entremont](#) (EPFP 04-05), *MA EPFP Coordinator*; Resource: [Andrew Kelly](#), *American Enterprise Institute*

America has always been an innovator in higher education, redefining what college looks like and whom it serves. And, in the process, this innovation has increased social mobility. The session will explore why America has to embrace this innovative spirit anew if it wants to achieve this goal.

America's Early Learning Agenda: Pre-School for All | Rm. 16

Facilitator: [Peter Huidekoper](#), *CO EPFP Coordinator*

Resource: [Helen Blank](#), *National Women's Law Center*

The Commission report stated, “Nowhere is achieving educational equity more important than at the earliest stages of a child's physical and cognitive development. A reality: 40% of districts do not offer preschool; where available, it is mostly part-day; and, barely half are available to all students in the district.” This session will explore the status of early child care and learning in America today.

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