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February 2013 Meeting Agenda

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COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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January 30, 2013

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WASHINGTON MARRIOTT HOTEL

February 21 and 22, 2013

Planning information for the upcoming meeting of the Council on Governmental Relations was sent to the COGR Listserve in December 2012. Those planning to attend should make hotel reservations at the Washington Marriott Hotel at 1221 22nd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. and should send registration notices along with registration fees to the COGR office. Those planning to attend will want to make their travel and hotel reservations. There is a block of rooms reserved for COGR participants. After this block fills, reservations will be accepted only on a space and rate available basis.

The hotel has established Tuesday; February 4, 2013 as the cut-off date for receipt of reservations. There may still be rooms available at the hotel, but these would not have the COGR rate. For reservations already made, changes should be made by telephone to the hotel (202-872-1500) and by FAX to the COGR office (202-289-6698). Cancellations must be received in writing, via fax or mail, no later than Thursday, February 14, 2013 to receive a refund of the registration fee.

Thursday, February 21, 2013

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. – **Thursday Morning Sessions** – There will be two concurrent sessions:
- **Negotiating Contracts with Intractable Partners** - Every institution has found itself confronting a contract negotiation with an industry or non-profit partner whose principles and priorities demand concessions that conflict with an academic-based research institution. Some Federal partners require reporting or documentation or impose restrictions that go beyond the usual and customary terms and conditions of an award. Call them troublesome, deal-breakers, or whatever idiom that fits, institutions find themselves caught between an eager investigator and potential sponsor trying to cling to principles and policies that often bend and occasionally break.

With a presentation of the troublesome clauses data collected by the Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) and a discussion of several recent agreement clashes including the agreement from the Patient-Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI) and continuing difficulties with parts of DOD, we'll conclude with a general discussion of when/how institutions can collaborate in negotiating terms and conditions that achieve an agreement that most (likely never all) institutions can accept.

- **A Close Look at OMB's Notice of Proposed Guidance** - After a number of false starts, the much anticipated Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Notice of Proposed Guidance is expected to be released prior to the February 2013 COGR Meeting. Members of the Costing Committee will facilitate a discussion covering what is included, initial perceptions, and the COGR approach for responding to OMB.
- 12:00 Noon – 1:15 p.m. – **Buffet Lunch**
- 1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – **Grants Reform 2013 and other COFAR Initiatives** - OMB Controller, Danny Werfel, has led the OMB / COFAR (Office of Management and Budget / Council on Financial Assistance Reform) efforts to implement Grants Reform and other financial reform initiatives over the past two years. Key to the OMB / COFAR endeavors has been the reform of the OMB Circulars. Mr. Werfel will provide a brief overview of the COFAR agenda for 2013, and then discuss OMB's Notice of Proposed Guidance that would reform Federal grant policies. After Mr. Werfel completes his presentation, he will open the floor to questions from the COGR membership.
- 2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. – **Break**
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. - **Sequestration, Debt Ceilings, Continuing Resolutions: Tight Budgets and Research University Strategies for the Future** - However Congress and the White House deal with budget sequestration and the deficit, it is clear that higher education and other segments of the federal budget will face continued pressures on spending for the foreseeable future. What are the short, medium, and long-term challenges we will see? What messages have we used over the past two years and do they still work in this climate of austerity? What are some strategies we might employ to deal with this new reality? Michael Ledford, Vice President for Client Management, Lewis-Burke Associates, Mike Waring, Executive Director of Federal Relations and Director of the Washington, DC Office, University of Michigan and Matthew Owens, Vice President for Federal Relations, Association of American Universities will address the membership on this topic.
- 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – **Break**
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. – **Guest Speaker - Doug Lederman is Editor and one of the three founders of Inside Higher Ed.** With Scott Jaschik, he leads the site's editorial operations, overseeing news content, opinion pieces, career advice, blogs and other features. Doug speaks widely about higher education, including on C-Span and National Public Radio and at meetings around the country, and his work has appeared in The New York Times, USA Today, the Nieman Foundation Journal, The Christian Science Monitor, and the Princeton Alumni Weekly. Doug was managing editor of The Chronicle of Higher Education from 1999 to 2003.

Doug will provide his broad perspective on the current climate for major research institutions, primarily in their relationship with Congress, the Administration, federal agencies, and the general public. What are our main challenges, how effective or ineffective are we in our messaging and positioning ourselves with respect to other sectors. Doug will also discuss the current political situation and whether there is any chance for reasonable solutions to the budget/debt/funding dilemma.

- 5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. - **Reception**
- 6:30 p.m. - **Dinner**

Friday, February 22, 2013

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. - **Buffet Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. - **Friday Morning Update** - Sally Rockey, Deputy Director for Extramural Research at NIH, will discuss how NIH intends to implement recent recommendations from the NIH Director's Advisory Committee around three important topics in science - harnessing the power of biomedical data and informatics, achieving diversity in the biomedical workforce, and developing a competitive and sustainable biomedical research workforce. These initiatives will require the close involvement and cooperation of NIH grantee institutions and researchers.
- 9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. – **Break**
- 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 Noon **COGR Committee Reports**

**Research Compliance and Administration
Contract and Intellectual Property
Costing Policies**

(Members are encouraged to submit advance questions and issues for Friday morning discussion to ataylor@cogr.edu)

- 12:00 Noon – **Adjournment**

Attendance at COGR meetings is limited to employees of member universities, their governing boards and research foundations, affiliated hospitals and affiliated research institutes.