

COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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February 1, 2012

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WASHINGTON MARRIOTT HOTEL

February 23 and 24, 2012

Planning information for the upcoming meeting of the Council on Governmental Relations was sent to the COGR Listserve in December 2011. 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 February 6, 2012 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 16, 2012 to receive a refund of the registration fee.

Thursday, February 23, 2012

- 8:30 a.m. **Registration**
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. – **Thursday Morning Sessions** – There will be two concurrent sessions:

Costing Policies Outlook for 2012: Will Implementation of A-21 Policy Changes Carry the Year? - Will 2012 be a productive year? This session will provide an overview of the hot topics on the plate of the Committee. Front and center are the outcomes from the A-21 Task Force, and possibly, implementation of A-21 policy changes. One of the afternoon sessions is a presentation by OMB Controller Danny Werfel to update the COGR membership on the status of the A-21 policy changes.

We will utilize the Thursday morning session to address the following:

- Status of the A-21 Task Force, from COGR's Perspective,
- Revisit the COGR July 2011 Recommendations to the Task Force, in preparation for Mr. Werfel's presentation in the afternoon,
- Effort Reporting special focus and recap of the November 9, 2011 letter to the Task Force,
- Identify primary concerns and questions that should be directed to Mr. Werfel in the afternoon session,

- Costing Policies 2012 – Speculation on the role COGR may play in implementation of A-21 policy changes,
- If applicable and time permits, other potential hot topics for Costing Policies in 2012.

The afternoon session with Mr. Werfel may be our best and last opportunity to share COGR membership questions and concerns directly with a Federal official who has a significant role in how the A-21 policy changes unfold. We encourage you to come to the morning session prepared with those issues that are of particular concern to your institution.

NOTE: Copies of the July 2011 COGR Recommendations and the November 9, 2011 COGR proposal on effort reporting are available at www.cogr.edu under Educational Materials / Financial Management.

Implementing PHS/NIH Conflicts of Interest Policy - Institutions applying to Public Health Service (PHS) agencies, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), must be in compliance with the new PHS/NIH financial conflicts of interest policy – *Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research* by August 24, 2012.

With the help of the membership, we will have a wide-ranging discussion of various strategies being proposed by the institutions to implement the regulations. Current discussion topics include: 1) making the determination that an interest is a conflict; 2) the meaning of “investigator” and “institutional responsibilities;” 3) the timing of disclosures and reports; and 4) the relationship of the PHS/NIH policy to other federal/state policies. We welcome the submission of additional topics before the meeting (send an email to cblum@cogr.edu) or during the discussion (be prepared to describe how you propose to address the question!). Our goal is to offer a model being considered by an institution to provoke discussion of that and other models or choices.

- 12:00 Noon – 1:00 p.m. – **Buffet Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – **Guest Speaker** – Christopher T. Hill, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Public Policy and Technology, School of Public Policy at George Mason University will give a presentation on the competitiveness, economic development and job creator role that is being thrust upon universities.
- 2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. – **Break**
- 2:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – **Status of the A-21 Policy Changes: Reduction of Cost and Burden Associated with A-21** - The A-21 Task Force has completed its work and has provided its recommendations to senior leadership at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). OMB Controller, Danny Werfel, will provide an update on how senior leadership at OMB and OSTP have addressed the recommendations from the A-21 Task Force and what the next steps will be for reducing the cost and burden associated with OMB Circular A-21. Mr. Werfel has indicated he will be able to be forthright on the status and respond to all questions from the COGR membership.

- 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – **Break**
- 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – **Data, Publications and Public Access** - Research institutions have traditionally relied on the principal investigators to manage the data and materials that are produced during their research activities. The effective stewardship of the data is critical to its contribution to scientific endeavor and as support for publications, patent applications, and the myriad other purposes key to the management of the research enterprise. The growing call for public access to both publications and research data – particularly digital data – has raised increasing concerns among the research community. How do investigators and institutions balance the call for access while ensuring the protection necessary for reasonable rights to exclusive first-use by the investigator? The recent recommendation to revise publications for national security purposes highlights the dilemma between access and securing the knowledge for legitimate public purposes.

As data resources and the call for sharing data among investigators to advance and enhance the science grows, increasing federal interest in establishing policies and regulations that ensure access and sharing has grown as well. We have invited representatives from lead federal agencies including the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health to discuss the challenge of data access, sharing and retention in the current environment. Copies of COGR's most recent contribution to the discussion, the revised *Access To, Sharing and Retention of Research Data: Rights and Responsibilities* will be available at the meeting and sent to member primary representatives following the meeting.

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

Friday, February 24, 2012

- 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. - **Buffet Breakfast**
- 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. - **Association Update** – Anthony Boccanfuso, Executive Director, University-Industry Demonstration Partnership
- 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. - **COGR Committee Reports**

Research Compliance and Administration
Contract and Intellectual Property
Costing Policies

- 10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. - **Break**
- 10:30 – Noon – **Continue Committee Reports** – Discussion of questions submitted by the membership (**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.