

Federal STEM Policy & Advocacy: An Inside the Beltway Look

Hosted by the Vanderbilt University Office of Federal Relations
and Vanderbilt University Medical Center Office of Federal Relations
October 18-19, 2018

This two-day seminar will provide STEM students an opportunity to learn how federal STEM policy is made and the role of advocacy by various stakeholders in achieving policy goals. Participants will hear from officials in both the Executive and Legislative branches of government as well as scientific societies, associations and coalitions who are actively engaged in influencing and promoting federal investments in science and engineering. For STEM students thinking about careers in public policy, this behind-the-scenes look will provide insights to potential career opportunities.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Arrive in Washington, D.C. Travel via Metro to the conference hotel (see transportation and dining guide). Check-in after 4:00 pm. Dinner is on your own (see transportation and dining guide for suggestions).

Hyatt Place

33 New York Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-289-5599

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18

The Hyatt Place is a ~20- minute walk to the American Psychological Association building, which is the location of the program today. You will have to check in at reception for a name badge, so please allow time for that process.

American Psychological Association

9th floor Conference Room
750 First St, NE
Washington, DC 20002

8:30 am **Meet in the hotel lobby**

9:00 am **Welcome and Introductions**

Speaker: **Chris Rowe**, Associate Dean for External Relations, Vanderbilt University
School of Engineering
Christina West, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations,
Vanderbilt University

9:30 am **Introduction to U.S. Science & Technology Policy**

Moderator: **Chris Rowe**, Associate Dean for External Relations, Vanderbilt University
School of Engineering
Speaker: **Toby Smith**, Vice President for Policy, Association of American
Universities

* Vanderbilt alumni or affiliates.

- 10:30 am** **Break**
- 10:45 am** **Introduction to the Federal Budget Process & Federal R&D Budgets**
Moderator: **Chris Rowe**, Associate Dean for External Relations, Vanderbilt University
School of Engineering
Speaker: **Matt Hourihan**, Director of the R&D Budget and Policy Program, AAAS
- 12:00 pm** **Lunch** (lunches provided)
- 12:30 pm** **An Election Preview**
Moderator: **Christina West**, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations,
Vanderbilt University
Speaker: **Sam Feist***, Washington Bureau Chief and Senior Vice President, CNN
- 1:45 pm** **Break**
- 2:00 pm** **Science Policy and the Executive Branch**
Moderator: **Alex Currie**, Senior Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University
Medical Center
Speakers: **Elizabeth Goldbaum**, Congressional Liaison, U.S. Geological Survey
Amanda Hallberg Greenwell, Office Head, Office of Legislative and
Public Affairs, NSF
Kristofor Langlais, Program Lead - Genomics and Health, Office of
Science Policy, NIH
Kara Townsend, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation,
Office of Disability, Aging, and Long-Term Care Policy, HHS
- 3:15 pm** **Walk to Capitol for photo and Hill panel**
- 4:00 pm** **Capitol Hill Careers**
Location: Senate Appropriations Committee Room
124 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Moderator: **Christina West**, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations,
Vanderbilt University
Speakers: **Perry Finney Brody***, Chief of Staff, Rep. Filemon Vela (D-TX)
Bess McWherter*, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Jim Cooper (D-TN)
John Rivard, Oak Ridge Legislative Fellow, Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
Karen Summar*, Health Policy Director, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
- 5:00 pm** **Conclude**
- 6:00 pm** **Networking Reception**
Location: Hyatt Place
33 New York Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-289-5599

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

Friday sessions will be in the #233/235 Conference Room in the Hall of the States building. There will be a room available to store luggage for those leaving Friday evening. You will have to check in at reception for a name badge, so please allow time for that process.

Hall of the States office building

Room #233/235 (Second Floor)
444 North Capitol St NW
Washington, DC 20001

- 7:30 am** **Meet in the hotel lobby with your luggage and having checked out**
- 8:15 am** **Arrive at Hall of States no later than 8:15 am.**
- 8:30 am** **Case Study: Mock FY 19 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations conference committee**
Moderators: **Alex Currie**, Senior Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
 Heather Bloemhard, Assistant Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University
- 10:15 am** **Break**
- 10:30 am** **Science & Technology Policy Fellowship Programs**
Moderator: **Heather Bloemhard**, Assistant Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University
Speakers: **Andrew Hastings***, PhD, AAAS STP Fellow, NIH, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
 Loren LaPointe*, PhD, AAAS STP Fellow, USDA, Foreign Agriculture Service
 Joseph Rustick*, PhD, AAAS STP Fellow, EPA
- 11:30 am** **Lunch (on your own)**
- 12:30 pm** **Federal Careers in Science Policy**
Moderator: **Ashley Brady**, Director of Career Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Speaker: **Elizabeth Albro**, Associate Commissioner for Teaching and Learning and Acting Commissioner of Education Research, Institute of Education Sciences
- 1:30 pm** **Amplify Your Message: Exploring Advocacy Campaign Methods and Tools**
Moderator: **Heather Bloemhard**, Assistant Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University

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Speakers: **Alex Currie**, Senior Director of Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Collier Roberts, Communications Coordinator for Federal and State Relations, Vanderbilt University
Christina West, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Federal Relations, Vanderbilt University

2:30 pm Reflections & Conclusions

Moderator: **Ashley Brady**, Director of Career Engagement and Strategic Partnerships, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine

2:45 pm Return to airport (see transportation guide)