

Governmental Research Association 2012 Annual Policy Conference

Hosted by the Bureau of Governmental Research
and the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana
April 29 - May 2

Pan American Life Center
601 Poydras Street - Orleans Room
New Orleans, Louisiana

Sunday, April 29, 2012

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Reception
Location: Loa Bar, International House Hotel

Monday, April 30, 2012 - Location: Orleans Room

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. GRA Trustee Meeting & Registration

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Full Breakfast and Welcome

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. **GRA Member-Focused Roundup #1: The Year in Review**
GRA members will discuss major successes and challenges their organizations faced during the previous year.

10:30 - 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Session #1: Delivering Health Care in the Age of "Affordable Care"**
Moderator: Walter Lane, Chair of Economics & Finance, UNO
Panelists: Michael Widmer, President, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation
David Hood, Senior Healthcare Policy Analyst, PAR
Carol Steckel, Director, Center for Health Care Innovation & Tech., DHH, La

12:30 - 2:00 p.m. **Luncheon and Keynote Presentation**
Speaker: John Kennedy, Treasurer, State of Louisiana
Location: St. Charles Ballroom, Hilton New Orleans, St. Charles Avenue
This lunch will be sponsored by Lüke Restaurant and John Besh.

2:10 - 3:30 p.m. **Session # 2: Fighting Blight & Driving Redevelopment**
Moderator: Joseph Stefko, Vice President & Director of Public Finance, CGR
Panelists: Jeffrey Hebert, Director, Blight Policy and Neighborhood Revitalization
Oliver Wise, Director, Office of Performance and Accountability
Eric Lupher, Director of Local Affairs, Citizens Research Council of Michigan

3:30 - 3:45 p.m. Break

3:45 - 5:00 p.m. **Session #3: Cleaning Up State & Local Politics**
Moderator: Rafael Goyeneche, President, Metropolitan Crime Commission
Panelists: Jim Letten, United States Attorney, Eastern District of Louisiana
Edouard Quatrevaux, Inspector General, City of New Orleans
Scott Schneider, Board Member, Louisiana Board of Ethics

Tuesday, May 1, 2012 - Location: Orleans Room

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Presidents' Meeting
- 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Full Breakfast
- 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. **Session #4: The Great New Orleans Charter School Revolution**
Moderator: Michael Cowan, Executive Director, Common Good
Panelists: Leslie Jacobs, Founder, Educate Now!
 Patrick Dobard, Superintendent, Recovery School District
 Caroline Roemer Shirley, Executive Director, LAPCS
- 10:30 - 10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. **Session #5: Economic Development Incentives and Their Pitfalls**
Moderator/Speaker: Robert Scott, President, Public Affairs Research Council of LA
Panelists: Janet Howard, President & CEO, Bureau of Governmental Research
 Robert Henken, President, Public Policy Forum
 Michael Hecht, President & CEO, GNO Inc.
- 12:15 p.m. Adjourn for the Afternoon Activity
 French Quarter Tour
- 12:30 p.m. GASB Meeting and Lunch
- 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. French Quarter Tour
- 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Awards Dinner
Speaker: Jim Amoss, Editor, The Times-Picayune
Location: The Palace Café, 605 Canal Street

Wednesday, May 2, 2012- Location: Orleans Room

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. GRA Trustee Meeting

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

9:30 - 10:40 a.m. **Session #6: Water Resources**

Moderator: Mebane Rash, Attorney & Editor, N.C. Center for Public Policy Research

Panelists: Mark Davis, Director, Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy

Ryan Seidemann, Chief, Lands & Natural Resources Section, La. Dept. of Justice

10:40 - 10:45 a.m. Break

10:45 - 11:45 a.m. **Session #7: Presentations from Award Winners**

At this session, the 2012 GRA award winners will make short presentations about their winning projects and help others learn from their success.

Moderator: Kent Gardner

Panelists: Award Recipients (announced at Tuesday's Awards Dinner)

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Thank you & Adjournment

12:00 p.m. Hotel check-out time