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www.ncuraregioniv.com

Region IV Preview of the 2007 Annual NCURA Meeting

Region IV is extremely excited about the National Meeting this November, which will offer sessions and workshops that are sure to inspire. This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Robert Bazell. If that name is familiar it's because, as chief science and health correspondent for NBC News, he appears frequently on NBC Nightly News, the Today Show, and Dateline NBC. Bazell has won the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award for distinguished achievement and meritorious service in broadcasting. He has reported on a wide range of scientific issues and is the author of "HER-2: The Making of Herceptin, a Revolutionary Treatment for Breast Cancer."

The conference agenda includes a smorgasbord of concurrent sessions and discussion groups, useful for neophytes as well as for senior-level research administrators. Perennially popular topics appear on this year's agenda –

compliance, OMB circulars, budgeting for sponsored programs, grants.gov. The agenda also reflects changing interests and priorities. Two new offerings reflect a trend toward larger, interdisciplinary and inter-institutional proposals: "Negotiating Multi-institutional, Complex Research Agreements" and "Facilitating Large and Complex Proposal Efforts."



Research administrators working in the trenches with faculty will not want to miss a concurrent session entitled, "Working with Difficult Faculty: Bridging the Great Divide" and another, "Communicating with Faculty: Do You Talk Whale Talk?" If "sub-recipient monitoring" has

cropped up in your conversations with colleagues lately, check out the concurrent session that addresses an area of increasing government scrutiny: "Subrecipients: Who are They, Why Do I Care and What Do I Have to Do?"

For those looking for a more intensive, in-depth experience, a variety of half- and full-day workshops are offered on Sunday, November 4, with topics targeted to individual expertise and experience level. Relax afterwards at the opening banquet on Sunday night. Entertainment will be provided by comedian Elayne Boosler.

The best thing about any NCURA conference, however, is the opportunity to get acquainted with colleagues and informally share expertise and war stories. The Board has created several networking opportunities for Region IV members to connect with each other. – *Continued on page 2*

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Today!

Volunteering is a great way to get more involved and help NCURA. Being a member-driven organization, NCURA relies on the time and commitment provided by the members who volunteer to successfully further the goals and the values of the organization. There are many opportunities to get involved in the organization!

What can you expect? Volunteering is a great opportunity to help guide NCURA, establish networks, gain new skills and experiences, and help advance the field of research administration. Additional personal benefits include career enhancement and advancement,

professional contacts, personal growth and achievement, recognition, and having fun!

Throughout the year, NCURA extends various calls for volunteers, including leadership positions; committee, subcommittee, and task force positions; speaker positions; and more. If you have a passion and a willingness to share, please visit www.ncura.edu and log in to update your Topics of Interests on your profile.

You can also actively seek volunteer opportunities on the regional level. A good way to learn what opportunities exist in the region is to check out the "Offices and

Committees" link on the Region IV website (<http://www.ncura-regioniv.com>) and see what kind of work is being done on the regional level. If you think you're interested in a committee, email the chair and offer your services!

Resolve to get involved for your colleagues and for your career today! – Aaron Crandall, University of Wisconsin – Madison



Region IV Preview of the 2007 Annual NCURA Meeting (cont.)

– Continued from page 1

We will be offering two tours of the monuments on Saturday and Sunday, a Monday night dinner group for our region, and the BEST hospitality suite (where **all** are welcome). Please also plan on attending the business meeting on Tuesday to hear about your region's operations. Jaynee Tolle will be sending out an email with more detailed information about the tour of the monuments.

If you are new to NCURA and this is your first meeting, we invite you to join us at the New Members

Orientation on either Saturday or Sunday. There will be over 2,100 attendees at the National Meeting and almost one quarter of them will be from our region. Each region has a color-coded badge. Region IV's color is green.

Take a look at the list of board members on the last page of this newsletter. You might even want to print this list and bring it with you to the meeting. Several of us will be at each of the events, so please don't hesitate to introduce yourself. If you can't find one of us, stop anyone wearing a green

badge and they should be able to help. Let us know if you want to get involved for an hour at the registration desk, as a committee member, or as a presenter.

We truly have a great region with exceptional members, and we look forward to meeting everyone at the National meeting. – Sara Streich, Northwestern University and Liz Gall, University of Wisconsin – Madison



Exclusive!

What's in Store for Region IV at the Annual Meeting?

A source close to the administration reports the Region IV Board is planning a surprise for the membership attending the National Meeting in November.

In response to FOIA (Free of Information Act) inquiries, Treasurer Robert Aull (Indiana University) confirmed "the allocation of certain funding for community-building efforts in Washington," but offered little more information than what the administration has previously admitted about these plans.

"I am not authorized to discuss the details of any new operations; however, I can confirm the return of two successful regional events from 2006: the DC bus tour and the Monday Night Dinner Group at Anna Maria's."

Internal emails leaked to the press indicate Jaynee Tolle (University of Cincinnati) will coordinate the charter of two free bus tours of the Washington area, one each Saturday and Sunday. An email announcement, including signup instructions, is scheduled for the weeks preceding the conference.

Regarding the Monday Night Dinner Group, Treasurer Aull stated, "We don't go as far as the bus tour, but last year enough of the Midwest region walked the two blocks down Connecticut Avenue to fill the whole upstairs of Anna Maria's Restaurant. This year we aim to fill the ground floor, too, so look for a signup sheet on the door of the Region IV hospitality suite."

Despite repeated requests for information, no further details of the DC plans were released. Aull downplayed a comparison to previous regional surprises:

"I have no doubt some suspect this is just another regional lanyard or tote bag, but nothing could be further from the truth. If this operation succeeds, our regional identity itself will be changed utterly." – Robert Aull, Indiana University



Mark Your Calendars!

The **NIH Regional Seminar** will be held June 19 – 20, 2008 at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. There will also be an eRA Commons Computer Lab Workshop on June 18, 2008 at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is hosting the June 2008 Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration on behalf of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Extramural Research. Additional information can be found at <http://tigger.uic.edu/depts/ovcr/research/seminar/NIH/>.
— Audra Rose, Ohio University



Hyatt Regency Chicago

Pre-Award Research Administration II Conference

The second pre-award conference took place in Los Angeles from July 12-14, 2007. We were located at the Universal City Hilton, which was within walking distance of Universal Studios and City Walk – an area rich in shopping, dining, and entertainment options.

Two Region IV members, Robert Holm from Butler University and Beth Seaton from Western Illinois University, served on the program committee for the conference. Bob and Beth coordinated the PUI track for the conference.

The conference opened with four workshops and two senior-level seminars held on Thursday afternoon. Friday morning began with a keynote speech by Judith Gasson, Director of the Jonsson

Comprehensive Cancer Center and Co-Director of the UCLA Institute for Stem Biology and Medicine and Professor of Hematopoietic Malignancies Program Area. Dr. Gasson spoke about her work and stressed the importance of collaborative efforts in cancer research.

The opening reception was held Thursday on the patio where participants were able to enjoy the sunshine and beautiful Southern California weather while networking.

After two and one half days of concurrent sessions, demonstrations sessions, and discussion groups the PRA meeting came to an end on Saturday, leaving a little time to see the sights. The meeting evaluations

Jerry Pogatshnik, Eastern Kentucky University and Christa Johnson, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville



were positive so we'll hope that NCURA decides to hold PRA III next year! – Beth Seaton, Western Illinois University



Upcoming NCURA Educational Programs

November 4 – 7, 2007

NCURA 49th Annual Meeting Unity Through Diversity

Washington, DC

For additional meeting information go to

<http://www.ncura.edu/content/educational%5Fprograms/sites/49/>

Continue to visit NCURA's Educational Program website at

<http://www.ncura.edu/content/calendar/>

to view new opportunities as they are released.

— Audra Rose, Ohio University

While You're in Washington DC....

Whether this is your first trip to Washington D.C. or your twentieth, there is always something interesting to see and do in our nation's capital. Here are some places to see that offer great historical or educational fun and intrigue and are located nearby or within just a few miles of Dupont Circle.

International Spy Museum

800 F Street, NW
Hours: 10:00 – 6:00
Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown

If you're a fan of the James Bond and Jason Bourne films, or just have a general interest in spy history, you'll love the International Spy Museum. It is the first and only public museum in the US solely dedicated to espionage. It features the largest collection of international spy-related artifacts ever placed on public display. The stories of individual spies, told through film, interactives, and state-of-the-art exhibits describe the art of espionage and its impact on current and historic events. The focus of the museum is on human intelligence, not political ideology. The gift shop is just as interesting and fun as the museum. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$15 for seniors. For more information, visit <http://www.spymuseum.org/index.php>

National Geographic Museum

1145 17th Street, NW
(corner of 17th and M Streets, NW)
Hours: Monday – Saturday: 9:00 – 5:00; Sunday 10:00 – 5:00
Metro: Farragut North

National Geographic is known for its amazing photography and journalism of life on our planet. Now you see it all in through a wide variety of exhibitions as well as permanent and interactive displays that reflect the richness and diversity of our world. Be sure to check out "Cittercam: The World Through Animal Eyes," in which cameras safely worn by various animals show amazing insights into their behaviors. There are also great products and gifts in the National Geographic Store. Admission is free. For more information, visit <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/museum/>



The Society of the Cincinnati at Anderson House

2118 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday 1:00 – 4:00
Metro: Dupont Circle

This exhibit, "Inheriting the Revolution: Loyalty, Brotherhood, and the Society of the Cincinnati during the Civil War," features paintings, photos, letters, weapons, and other artifacts of the Civil War. The exhibit examines how the ideals of the Revolutionary War generation helped to define the soldiers who fought in the Civil War, and how the ideology and people of the Society of the Cincinnati had an impact on this war. Admission is free. For more information, visit <http://www.thecincinnati.org/>

Art on Call in Dupont Circle

Location: On call boxes all around Dupont Circle

As you walk around Dupont Circle, be sure to view the artwork on the city's old public fire and police call boxes. Cultural Tourism DC recruited local artists to transform these antique call boxes located on street corners all over Dupont Circle into works of art. The call boxes range in style from traditional to avant-garde and give the city a unique artistic flair. For specific locations of the call boxes, visit the official Web site at <http://www.dupontcirclecallbox.com>

Woodrow Wilson House

2340 S Street, NW
Hours: Tuesday – Sunday 10:00 – 4:00
Metro: Dupont Circle (Q Street exit)

For those interested in presidential history, visit the Woodrow Wilson House, the home of Woodrow Wilson after his presidency. In addition to touring this beautiful home, you can visit the current exhibit, "The Presidential Dish: Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and the White House China Room." The Wilsons were the first to commission an American-manufactured State Dinner service and this exhibit provides a rare opportunity to revisit the original "Presidential Collection Room." More than 100 pieces of rare presidential china are on display. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults; \$6.50 for seniors; and \$3.00 for students. More information is available at <http://www.woodrowwilsonhouse.org/>

– Michelle Schoenecker, University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

**2007-2008 NCURA Region IV
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Treasurer
Robert Aull, Indiana
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Iowa State University



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Urbana – Champaign



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Illinois University
Edwardsville

Craig Reynolds,
Central Michigan
University



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Michelle Meeks,
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Jaynee Tolle,
University of Cincinnati