



## ***The Federal Budget and Appropriations Process***

Thursday, January 25 - Friday, January 26

Hotel George  
Washington, DC

### **SEMINAR GOALS**

Participants can expect to:

- Increase participants' knowledge of the federal budget process including budget reconciliation;
- Increase participants' understanding of how the Congressional Budget Office is organized and works;
- Increase participants knowledge of how student loans are budgeted in the federal budget;
- Increase participants' understanding of the congressional appropriations process; and
- Expand participants' knowledge of the federal Pell Grant Program - the difference between mandatory and discretionary funding and the history of shortfalls and surpluses.

### **AGENDA**

***Thursday, January 25***

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**9:30am**                      **Registration and Breakfast**

**10:00-10:05am**           **Welcome & Introductions**

**SPEAKER:** MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI

**10:05-11:30am**           **The Federal Budget Process**

**SPEAKERS:** Nick Lee, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Robyn Hiestand, Independent Budget and Policy Consultant

*This session will provide an overview of the federal budget process; including how the federal budget process works, the roles of the executive and legislative branches in that process, what budget reconciliation is and the impacts that the budget and reconciliation have on higher education policy.*

**11:30-11:45am**                      **Break**

**11:45am-1:00pm**                      **The Congressional Budget Office & How the Government Budgets for Student Loans**

**SPEAKER:** Peter Fontaine, George Washington University and Justin Humphrey, Congressional Budget Office

*This session will provide an overview of the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), including how CBO is staffed, how CBO works and how CBO scores student loans.*

**1:00-2:30pm**                      **Lunch with Postsecondary Policy Professionals**

*During lunch, participants will participate in small group discussions with individuals currently working in one of two federal policy sectors: 1) Government (legislative and executive branches) or 2) Non-profit, Think Tank and Advocacy Groups.*

**2:30-3:45pm**                      **The Federal Appropriations Process**

**SPEAKER:** Robin Juliano, House Appropriations Committee and Jennifer Castagna, EducationCounsel

*This session will explore how the congressional appropriations process works and how it fits into the federal budget process.*

**3:45- 4:00pm**                      **Break**

**4:00-6:00pm**                      **Networking Reception**

*Participants will have the opportunity to interact with each other, speakers and PNPI staff over drinks and appetizers.*

***Friday, January 26***

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**9:30-10:00am                      Registration and Breakfast**

**10:00-10:10am                    Welcome Back**

**SPEAKERS:** Betsy Prueter, PNPI

**10:10-11:00am                    The Pell Grant: A Case Study**

**SPEAKERS:** Leah Koestner, Congressional Budget Office

*This session will cover the difference between mandatory and discretionary Pell and discuss how the Pell Grant program has evolved from shortfall to surplus.*

**11:00-11:15am                    Break**

**11:15am-12:45pm                Federal Budget/Appropriations Simulation**

**FACILITATORS:** MaryEllen McGuire, PNPI; Jason Delisle, American Enterprise Institute; and Robyn Hiestand, Independent Budget and Policy Consultant

*Attendees will participate in an interactive appropriations simulation facilitated by former Hill staff.*

**12:45-1:00pm                    Break**

**1:00-2:00pm                      Networking Lunch**

**2:00-3:30pm                      Ask an Expert: From Ceilings to Cliffs**

**SPEAKERS:** Farouk Ophoso, House Budget Committee; Sharon Parrott, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; and Jason Delisle, American Enterprise Institute

*This session will allow participants to ask postsecondary experts questions about the federal budget and appropriations process.*

**3:30-4:00pm                      Close & Evaluation**