



*"Serving Western Legislatures"*

**Western Legislative Service Agency and Research Directors Committee**

**Fall Training Seminar, September 24-26, 2014**

**Boise, Idaho**

Chair: **Mike Christensen**  
Director, Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel

Vice Chair: **Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi**  
Acting Director, Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau

**AGENDA (as of 09.15.14)**

**Wednesday, September 24**

Afternoon/Evening: Check in at the Grove Hotel  
*Check in 3pm* 245 S. Capitol Blvd.  
Boise, Idaho 83702  
208-333-8000  
<http://www.grovehotelboise.com>

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. **Welcome Gathering**  
Hosted by Idaho Legislative Services & CSG West  
Location: The Grove Hotel, Terrace, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

Hors d' Oeuvres and beverages will be served.

## **Thursday, September 25**

7:45 a.m.

### **Depart to Idaho Capitol Building**

*Note: Group to assemble in the lobby of The Grove at 7:45 a.m. to walk to Capitol Building, Lower Atrium West Wing, which is located two blocks away. Transportation will also be provided.*

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast in Capitol Dining Room

8:30 – 8:45 a.m.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

*Location: EW 42 Hearing Room*

- Mike Christensen  
Chair, LSA/RD Committee  
Director  
Utah Office of Legislative Research & General Counsel
- Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi  
Vice Chair, LSA/RD Committee  
Acting Director  
Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau

8:45 – 9:00 a.m.

### **Welcome to Idaho**

- Jeff Youtz  
Director  
Idaho Legislative Services
- Senator Brent Hill  
Senate President Pro Tem  
Idaho State Senate
- Representative Scott Bedke  
Speaker of the House  
Idaho House of Representatives

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

### **Tour of the Idaho Capitol Building**

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

### **Legislative Structures in the West**

*Location: EW 42 Hearing Room*

This session will look at the different legislative processes in the Western states, focusing on staff structures, committee processes, interim activities, partisan and nonpartisan issues, and working with leadership.

**Thursday, September 25 (Continued)**

- Jeff Youtz  
Director  
Idaho Legislative Services Office
- Pam Varni  
Executive Director  
Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency
- Mark Quiner  
Assistant Director  
Wyoming Legislative Service Office

11:30 -12:00 p.m.

**Travel to Boise State University (BSU)**

*Note: Vans will board attendees in front of the Capitol Building*

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

**Walk the Blue Turf and Lunch at the Sky Center, BSU**

<http://www.boisestatefootball.com/facilities/stueckle-sky-center>

Working Lunch: Western States Roundtable

Each state will be given five minutes to report on the following:

- Highlights of significant issues of the 2014 legislative session
- State economic and fiscal outlook
- Challenges ahead

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**CSG & Idaho Justice Reinvestment Project: Perspectives from Idaho Judiciary Committee Co-Chairs**

*Location: Stueckle Sky Center*

- Marshall Clement  
Division Director of State Initiatives  
CSG Justice Center
- Senator Patti Anne Lodge  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary & Rules Committee  
Idaho State Senate
- Representative Rich Wills  
Chairman, House Judiciary & Rules Committee  
Past Chair, CSG West  
Idaho House of Representatives

## **Thursday, September 25 (Continued)**

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

### **The Legacy of Alan Rosenthal; The ten most important lessons learned about state legislatures**

- Dr. Gary F. Moncrief  
University Distinguished Professor of Political Science  
Boise State University

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

### **The U.S. Constitution: A Living Document and its Application to Current Events**

- Dr. David Adler  
Director of the Cecil Andrus Center for Public Policy  
Boise State University

4:30 p.m.

### **Adjourn & Return to The Grove Hotel**

5:45 p.m.

Meet in the Lobby of the Grove Hotel & Walk to the Basque Museum for tour (optional) or to the restaurant

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

### **Reception and Dinner Hosted by Thomson Reuters**

*Location: Leku Ona Basque Restaurant*  
117 S. 6th Street  
Boise, ID 83702  
208-345-6665

## **Friday, September 26**

7:45 a.m.

Walk to the Idaho State Capitol Building

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

### **Breakfast in the Capitol Dining Room**

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

### **2014 Election Analysis for the U.S. and the States**

*Location: EW 42 Hearing Room*

This session will focus on national and state elections and what they may mean for Western state legislatures.

- Dr. Quin Monson  
Associate Professor of Political Science  
Brigham Young University

**Friday, September 26 (Continued)**

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

**Legislative Employee Compensation Issues**

This session will focus on several issues relative to legislative staff compensation, including how employee pay raises are appropriated or authorized, and what are the different approaches to employee performance measurement.

Discussion Leads:

- Jerry Howe  
Managing Policy Analyst  
Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- Susan Fox  
Executive Director  
Montana Legislative Services Division

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Break

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

**Case Studies in Legislative Management:**

Two legislative staff executives will challenge everyone with a hypothetical or real case study involving either an ethical situations, a partisan challenge, or a difficult personnel issue (or all of the above!) for a general roundtable discussion of “how would you handle it?”

Discussion Leads:

- Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi  
Vice Chair, CSG West LSA/RD Committee  
Acting Director  
Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau
- John Yaeger  
Assistant Director  
New Mexico Legislative Council Service

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**Working Lunch/ Business Meeting in the Capitol Dining Room**

- Election of 2015-16 LSA/RD Chair and Vice Chair  
Process to be led by Nominating Committee Chair,  
Pam Varni, Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency

**Friday, September 26 (Continued)**

- Selection of Venue and Date of Next LSA/RD Meeting
- Topics for Next Meeting
- CSG West Update
- Report on 2014 Joint CSG West & CSG National Annual Meeting

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**New Legislator Orientation Programs and Tips for Working with New Legislators**

Discussion Leads:

- Michael Stewart  
Chief Principal Research Analyst  
Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau
- Joe Kolman  
Director  
Montana Legislative Environmental Policy Office
- John Yaeger  
Assistant Director  
New Mexico Legislative Council Service

2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

**How Does Your State Address Ongoing Staff Development and Training?**

Discussion Leads:

- Jerry Howe  
Managing Policy Analyst  
Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- Rick Berkobien  
Manager Committee Services  
Oregon Legislative Administration
- Dave Bohyer  
Director  
Montana Office of Research and Policy Analysis

**Friday, September 26 (Continued)**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**Legislative Budgetary Review and Approval Processes**

Discussion Leads:

- Rick Combs  
Director  
Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau
- Cathy Holland-Smith  
Manager, Budget & Policy Analysis  
Idaho Legislative Services Office

4:00 p.m.

**Meeting Adjourn & Return to The Grove Hotel**

5:00 p.m.

Travel to the Idaho Shakespeare Festival Outdoor Amphitheater

Note: Attendees to assembly in The Grove Hotel Lobby

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

**Reception and Dinner at the Shakespeare Festival Patio  
Hosted by LexisNexis**

Location: Idaho Shakespeare Festival Amphitheater  
5657 Warm Springs Avenue  
Boise, Idaho  
208-336-9221

7:30 – 10:00 p.m.

**Shakespeare Festival Performance - Steel Magnolias  
Hosted by LexisNexis**

<http://www.idahoshakespeare.org/amphitheater>