2010 Year in Review

Best of all he loved the Fall. The leaves yellow on the cottonwoods. Leaves floating on the trout streams and above the hills, the high blue windless skies... Now he will be a part of them forever.

- Ernest Hemingway, Idaho, 1939 in a eulogy for a friend
The Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG-WEST) is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization that serves western state legislatures. Legislators and key legislative staff come together to share good ideas across state borders. Meetings and policy events offer lawmakers an opportunity to network with each other and to work with other elected leaders in the West on common policy goals.

CSG-WEST and its sister region in the South partner with states on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border to work on key issues affecting the security and prosperity of the border region. Associate members from the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia as well as the Pacific islands of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam are also valued participants in CSG-WEST.
A Message from the 2011 CSG-WEST Officers

The 2000-2010 decade began with a bang for The Council of State Governments-WEST (CSG-WEST). In 2000, the Western Legislative Academy welcomed its first class to the El Pomar Foundation’s Penrose House in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In 2001, the CSG-WEST office relocated from San Francisco where it was founded in 1947 to Sacramento, and, in 2001, the Border Legislative Conference held its first meeting in San Diego with legislators from the ten states along the U.S.-Mexico border. Later that year, CSG-WEST held its first annual conference outside of the United States in Whistler, B.C., hosted by the Province of British Columbia.

Building on this momentum, CSG-WEST has finished the decade strong in our service to western state legislatures. Working with western governors through the Western Governors’ Association, we are participating in a Department of Energy grant to modernize and expand the capacity of the western electrical grid in eleven western states and two Canadian provinces. We are in discussions with western county commissioners on how CSG-WEST can assist the efforts of western counties to secure critical financial support from the federal government through renewal of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act. The unstated premise behind these initiatives is a growing awareness of the need for western state and local political leaders to work together in the pursuit of shared regional objectives.

And as always, we recognize and appreciate the involvement of the CSG-WEST Executive Committee, comprised of the leaders of the legislative chambers in the thirteen western states. Their continuing support and involvement in the core programs and the governance of CSG-WEST make possible the rich mix of programs and activities that are presented in the following pages of our 2010 Year in Review.

As we celebrate the accomplishments of the past decade, we look forward to 2011 and the beginning of what we hope will be a new era in intergovernmental cooperation among the western states.

Sincerely,

Representative Rosie Berger, Wyoming
CSG-WEST Chair-Elect

Representative Marcus Oshiro, Hawaii
CSG-WEST Chair

Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson, Nevada
CSG-WEST Vice Chair

Representative Rich Wills, Idaho
CSG-WEST Immediate Past Chair
Summary of CSG-WEST Programs and Projects

Programs

- The Western Legislative Conference annually brings together legislators from western states to learn from each other and collaborate on issues of regional concern such as energy, education, environment, fiscal affairs, public lands, trade and water.

- The Western Legislative Academy is an intensive professional development program designed to help newer western state legislators become more effective leaders and to strengthen legislative institutions.

- WESTRENDS is a thirteen member board comprised of one legislator from each western state that examines demographic, economic and cultural trends shaping the West.

- The Legislative Service Agency and Research Directors Committee provides nonpartisan western staff leaders management training and opportunities to share best practices.

Projects

- The U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership is a collaborative, multi-branch program aimed at strengthening cooperation among state officials and institutions of both countries. The Partnership promotes and convenes binational exchanges among border legislators, attorneys general, treasurers, lieutenant governors and other officials to enhance the role of state officials to address shared public policy concerns that transcend international borders.

- Pursuing cooperative solutions to issues that arise along the 2000-mile U.S.-Mexican border is the focus of the Border Legislative Conference, which is comprised of state legislators from California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas and the six Mexican border states of Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas.

- CSG-WEST acts as a convener for the Legislative Council on River Governance, a cooperative association of legislators from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana focused on water, environment and energy issues along the Columbia River Basin.

- The Modernization of the Western Electrical Grid is a project in cooperation with the Western Governors’ Association and the U.S. Department of Energy that supports western legislative involvement in the policy decisions affecting transmission of electrical power in eleven western states and two Canadian provinces.
### CSG-WEST 2010 Executive Committee

**Rep. Rich Wills**  
Idaho  
CSG-WEST Chair

**Rep. Marcus R. Oshiro**  
Hawaii  
CSG-WEST Chair-Elect

**Rep. Rosie Berger**  
Wyoming  
CSG-WEST Vice Chair

**Rep. Jose A. Campos**  
New Mexico  
CSG-WEST Immediate Past Chair

### ALASKA
Gary Stevens, President of the Senate  
Con Bunde, Senate Minority Leader  
Lesil McGuire, Senator  
Mike Chenault, Speaker of the House  
Kyle Johansen, House Majority Leader  
Beth Kerttula, House Minority Leader  
David Guttenburg, Representative  
Craig Johnson, Representative

### IDAHO
Robert L. Geddes, President Pro Tempore  
Bart M. Davis, Senate Majority Leader  
Kate Kelly, Senate Minority Leader  
Lawrence E. Denney, Speaker of the House  
John Rusche, House Majority Leader  
Maxine T. Bell, Representative  
Thomas Loertscher, Representative  
Dell Raybould, Representative  
Rich Wills, Representative

### MONTANA
Robert Story, President of the Senate  
Carol Williams, Senate Minority Leader  
Kim Gillan, Senate Minority Whip  
Jim Keane, Senator  
Bob Bergren, Speaker of the House  
Scott Sales, House Majority Leader  
Betsy Hands, Representative

### NEVADA
Steven A. Horsford  
Senate Majority Floor Leader  
Terry Care  
Senate Assistant Majority Floor Leader  
John Lee, Senate Assistant Majority Whip  
William J. Raggio  
Senate Minority Floor Leader  
Barbara E. Buckley, Speaker of the Assembly  
John Oceguera  
Assembly Member  
Hedi S. Gansert  
Assembly Minority Floor Leader  
Kelvin D. Atkinson, Assembly Member

### NEW MEXICO
Timothy Z. Jennings, President Pro Tempore  
Michael Sanchez, Senate Majority Floor Leader  
Stuart Ingle, Senate Minority Floor Leader  
Gay G. Kernan, Senator  
Tim Eichengberg, Senator  
John Sapien, Senator  
Ben Lujan, Speaker of the House  
Thomas C. Taylor  
House Minority Floor Leader  
Janice Arnold-Jones, Representative  
Jose Campos, Representative  
Brian Egolf, Representative  
Thomas Garcia, Representative  
Danice Picraux, Representative  
Jeannette Wallace, Representative

### OREGON
Peter Courtney, President of the Senate  
Ted Ferrioli, Senate Republican Leader  
Jackie Dingfelder, Senator  
Martha Schrader, Senator  
Dave Hunt, Speaker of the House  
Arnie Roblan, House Speaker Pro Tem  
Bruce Hanna, House Republican Leader  
George Gilman, Representative

### UTAH
Michael Waddoups, President of the Senate  
Patricia W. Jones, Senate Minority Leader  
Steve Urquhart, Senator  
David Clark, Speaker of the House  
David Litvak, House Minority Leader  
Roger Barrus, Representative  
Mel R. Brown, Representative  
Ronda Rudd Menlove, Representative

### WASHINGTON
Lisa Brown, Senate Majority Leader  
Rosa Franklin, President Pro Tempore  
Mike Hewitt, Senate Republican Leader  
Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House  
Jeff Morris, Speaker Pro Tempore  
Richard DeBolt, House Minority Leader  
Sam Hunt, Representative

### WYOMING
John Hines, President of the Senate  
Kathryn Sessions, Senate Minority Floor Leader  
Grant Larson, Senator  
Drew Perkins, Senator  
John Schiffer, Senator  
Colin Simpson, Speaker of the House  
W. Patrick Goggles  
House Minority Floor Leader  
Rosie Berger, Representative

### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS
Pamela Varni, Executive Director  
Legislative Affairs Agency, Alaska  
Mike Christensen, Director  
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, Utah

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**CSG-WEST**  
“Serving Western Legislators”
The Executive Committee serves as the Board of Directors of CSG-WEST reviewing the work and activities of policy committees, adopting policy positions, selecting participants for the Western Legislative Academy and approving the slate of CSG-WEST officers.

The committee is comprised of four CSG-WEST officers, the presiding legislative officers and ranking minority leaders of both chambers of each western state, the chair and vice chair of CSG and CSG-WEST committees and legislators appointed by the presiding legislative officers of member states.

The Executive Committee of CSG-WEST works with staff and officers of the Western Governors’ Association, Western Municipal Conference and Western Interstate Region of the National Association of Counties as an advocate for western interests at the state and local level.

**Executive Committee Program Presenters**

Richard **Ruda**, Chief Counsel at the State & Local Legal Center in Washington, D.C., spoke about recent trends in American federalism found in Supreme Court cases.

Chris **Whatley**, Director of the CSG Washington D.C. office, encouraged members to use the resources and services of the CSG D.C. office.

Legislative Director **Michael Kerr** and Legislative Clinic Director **Steven Huefer** of the Uniform Law Commission spoke to the merits of the Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act.

Oregon Secretary of State **Kate Brown** introduced **Jack Ohman**, The Oregonian award-winning political cartoonist, who sketched and talked about the humor of politics.

USAF Ret. **General Chuck Wald** spoke on the need for energy independence and security.

**Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney** welcomed his western state colleagues to Portland for an eventful weekend of meetings.

Chris **Whatley** of the Western Governors’ Association (WGA) updated members on an initiative to increase the capacity of the western electrical grid.

**Western Rural Development Center (WRDC) Director Don E. Albrecht** provided an overview of WRDC programming.

**Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney** welcomed his western state colleagues to Portland for an eventful weekend of meetings.

**Meetings-at-a-Glance**

**March 19 – Portland, Oregon**
- Selection of Western Legislative Academy Class of 2010
- Western Legislative Conference Policy Agenda Setting Sessions
- Energy Independence and Security
- Increasing Capacity of Western Electrical Grid
- Interstate Compacts

**September 14 – Sun Valley, Idaho**
- 2009-2010 Important U.S. Supreme Court Cases to the States
- Rural Connections with the Western Rural Development Center
- CSG Washington D.C. Office Membership Services
- Update on CSG-WEST Programs and Projects
- Election of CSG-WEST 2011 Officers
CSG-WEST 2010 Executive Committee

Member Participation

Left to right: Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger, Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro and Idaho Representative Rich Wills

Alaska House Minority Leader Beth Kerttula

Oregon Speaker Pro Tempore Arnie Roblan

Arizona Representative Russ Jones

Montana Representative Betsy Hands

Colorado Senator Gail Schwartz

Utah House Minority Leader David Litvack

Montana Senator Kim Gillan

Oregon Senator Martha Schrader

Utah Representative Jim Gowans

Left to right: Idaho Representatives Tom Loertscher and Dell Raybould

Pam Varni, Executive Director of Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency

Left to right: Utah Representatives Mel Brown and Ronda Rudd Menlove, Hawaii Representative Kyle Yamashita, New Mexico Senator John Sapien, Nevada Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson and Wyoming Senator John Schiffer
CSG-WEST 2010 Executive Committee

Member Participation

Nevada Speaker Barbara Buckley

Oregon Senator Jackie Dingfelder and California Senator Curren Price

Wyoming Senator Drew Perkins

New Mexico Representative Jeannette Wallace

Left to right: Washington Representative Sam Hunt and Alaska Senate President Gary Stevens

Left to right: Idaho Senate President Pro Tempore Robert L. Geddes and Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis

Left to right: Idaho Senate President Pro Tempore Robert L. Geddes and Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis

Left to right: Colorado Representative Nancy Todd, Arizona Senator Carolyn Allen and Montana Senator Jim Keane

Nevada Assembly Majority Floor Leader John Oceguera

Left to right: Nevada Senator John Lee

Utah Representative Roger Barrus

Left to right: Nevada Assembly Majority Floor Leader John Oceguera and Oregon Representative George Gilman

Nevada Assembly Majority Floor Leader John Oceguera

Left to right: Nevada Senator John Lee

Wyoming Senator Grant Larson

Left to right: Alaska Representative Craig Johnson and Oregon Representative George Gilman

Idaho Representative Maxine Bell

Left to right: Washington Representative Sam Hunt and Alaska Senate President Gary Stevens
Idaho Representative Rich Wills, Chair of CSG-WEST, presided over the 63rd annual meeting.

The Honorable C. L. “Butch” Otter, Governor of Idaho, (top right) moderated the opening session with Tom Sanderson of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Sanderson led policymakers through the seven policy revolutions that will transform our world between now and 2025.

Idaho Senator Pro Tempore Robert L. Geddes (top left) introduced Frank Luntz, pollster and author of “What Americans Really Want ... Really.”

Economist and Futurist Jeff Thredgold of Thredgold Economic Associates in Salt Lake City offered an optimistic economic outlook for the Western states.

Idaho Speaker of the House Lawerence Denney introduced Mara Liasson, award-winning political correspondent for National Public Radio (NPR). Liasson tackled the topic of midterm elections and what it meant to both states and the nation.
Lawmakers from the 13 western state legislatures assembled in policy forums at the CSG-WEST annual meeting to learn from one another and share ideas about regional strategies and solutions to mutual concerns.

**Overview of 2010 Policy Committees**

**Education Committee**

Legislators attending the Education Committee session took a look at innovative technological ways to prepare today’s youth for a globalized economy. Experts from government, academia and the private sector gave interactive and insightful perspectives on futuristic solutions for the schools of today.

**Energy and Environment Committee**

The Energy and Environment Committee convened two sessions. Session one focused on environmental issues surrounding the pine beetle, sage grouse and the quagga mussel, while Session two explored transmission planning efforts underway in the West and the siting challenges of new electrical transmission development.
Fiscal Affairs Committee

Legislative fiscal leaders reviewed challenges that state budgets continue to face in turbulent economic times. They discussed the impacts of budget cuts, furloughs, taxes and reserves and explored how to save money by ending and consolidating programs.

Future of Western Legislatures Committee

The Future of Western Legislatures Committee worked on a project to find legislative branch innovations in the 13 states of the West. The project culminated in the 2010 Western Legislative Innovations fair and report. For dozens of creative ways to make legislatures more efficient and more transparent, check out the “Western Legislative Innovations” report at www.csgwest.org.

Trade and Transportation Committee

The Trade and Transportation Committee took a comprehensive look at the impact of international trade on state economies and what can be done to increase exports. The Committee heard presentations on state and federal trade programs and reviewed the National Export Initiative designed to increase US exports.

Water and Public Lands Committee

Legislators participating in the Water and Public Lands Committee session heard a compelling presentation from Patricia Mulroy, the General Manager of the Southern Nevada Water Authority, on the challenges and opportunities for managing water in the West. The session provided lawmakers an opportunity to discuss the linkages between water and energy resources, and the challenges to controlling aquatic invasive species in public lands. Committee members received an update from the Western States Water Council and passed a resolution regarding proposed amendments to the Clean Water Act by the U.S. Congress. The resolution was adopted by the CSG-WEST Executive Committee.
Environment and Transmission Planning: What Does it Mean for the West?

With wind turbines, wave energy and solar energy ramping up in the West, lawmakers explored how to connect renewable energy sources to the electric grid. Environmental issues surrounding the pine beetle, sage grouse and the quagga mussel were also addressed.

Exploring Education Budget Solutions through Technology

Lawmakers, educators and technology innovators shared best practices to bring today’s schools into a new age of education.
Policy Sessions

Education Funding: Are Short-Term Fixes Leading Closer to the Cliff?

Because education is one of the biggest items in western state budgets, the Education and Fiscal Affairs committees met together to explore how K-12 and higher education are funded in each western state. A very lively conversation on how to deliver first-rate education in tough economic times ensued.

Program Presenters (left to right): Michael Griffith (Senior School Finance Policy Analyst with Education Commission of the States), Dr. Daniel Domenech (Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators) and Dr. James Rogers (Former University System Chancellor in Nevada)

Fiscal Affairs Forum: Death by a Thousand Cuts

Executive Director of the National Association of State Budget Officers Scott Pattison and Governing magazine’s Richard Greene and Katherine Barrett discussed the difficult decisions states are forced to make in tough budget times.

At the end of the day, the arithmetic wins. It wins, no matter what you want to do.

- Idaho Representative Maxine Bell, CSG-WEST Fiscal Affairs Committee Chair

Left to right: Idaho Representative Wendy Jaquet and Utah Legislative Research Council Director Mike Christensen

Left to right: Idaho Representative Sharon Block and Montana Senator Minority Leader Carol Williams

Left to right: Alaska Representative Carl Gatto and Senate President Gary Stevens

Left to right: Colorado Senator Linda Newell and Idaho Representative Maxine Bell, Chair of CSG-WEST Fiscal Affairs Committee

Left to right: Utah Representative David Litvack and Arizona Representative Russ Jones

Left to right: Idaho Senator Brent Hill and Representative Elaine Smith

Hawaii Representative Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair of CSG-WEST Fiscal Affairs Committee, and Utah Representative Jennifer Seelig

Scott Pattison, Executive Director, National Association of Budget Officers
Policy Sessions

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I cannot teach anybody anything. I can only make them think.
- Socrates

Exporting: What Does it Mean for Western State Economies?
Lawmakers learned about the innovative state and federal programs states are using to increase state exports. Trade experts discussed how exporting can lead to economic diversification and growth in state economies.

Challenges to Managing Water and Public Lands in the West
Lawmakers engaged in robust dialogue regarding the challenges to managing water resources in an era of increased demands and of available tools and approaches to controlling aquatic invasive species in public lands.
Mental Health Courts Address Underlying Issues

Idaho state court officials shared innovative approaches aimed at addressing mental illness as an underlying issue that can land people in drug court. The Idaho Mental Health Courts are seeing success by connecting people with the treatment they need.
Western Legislative Innovations Fair

CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting • September 14 • Sun Valley, Idaho

Western Lawmakers Swap New Ideas at the Innovations Fair

Senator Bruce Burns, along with Legislative Information Officer Wendy Madsen, shared Wyoming’s model civic education project, which includes lesson plans to increase student appreciation of representative democracy. Wyoming also highlighted its real-time Internet posting of recorded votes and an on-line hotline for public comment on legislation.

Representatives Sam Hunt and Sherry Appleton described how partnership with TV Washington increases public participation in the legislative process and how Washington’s electronic bill books ensure that each member’s laptop has the latest bills and amendments.

Utah House Minority Leader David Litvack, along with Utah Legal Counsel Mike Christensen (seated), illustrated how their remodeled fiscal note process brings lawmakers better information in less time. They also showcased the legislature’s detailed demographic profiles of each member’s district.

According to Senator Ginny Burdick, Oregon’s new “Legislative Days” interim committee program is saving time and money and increasing camaraderie by scheduling 25 committees over a three-day period instead of each committee working its own schedule.

Senator John Sapien reported how the New Mexico state capitol serves as a modern art gallery featuring New Mexico artists with a collection of 600 pieces valued in the millions.

Assemblyman Kelvin Atkinson described Nevada’s in-house, electronic bill processing program and highlighted Nevada’s special constituent services unit. He also shared information about the legislature’s electronic gift shop and discussed on-line opinion polls during sessions.

The member states of CSG-WEST teamed up with the Idaho Legislature and Idaho Public TV to produce a Western Legislative Innovations Fair complete with hot cider and cookies at this year’s annual meeting in Sun Valley. Participants strolled among Western booths to find a smorgasbord of new ways
A single courageous state may, if its citizens choose, serve as a laboratory.
- U.S. Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis, 1932

Senators Linda Menard and John Coghill shared information about Alaska’s childcare program for children of lawmakers and staff.

Senator Curren Price showcased California’s leading edge human resources policies that include zero-tolerance and training on harassment, discrimination and workplace violence.

Arizona Senator Carolyn Allen provided insights into her state’s paperless Senate and live webcasts of proceedings.

Representatives Marilyn Lee and Kyle Yamashita were pleased to promote Hawaii’s year-round Public Access Room, which gives citizens greater input into the legislative process, including e-mail, testimony, tutorials and workshops on how to testify and track bills.

Senator Joe Stegner and Legislative Service Director Jeff Youtz shared how Idaho redesigned its Capitol building to add more space for public participation. The Legislature now offers live broadcasts of floor action, along with a new system for digital management of legislative research, bill drafting and public information.

Montana Senate Minority Leader Carol Williams told how their new Legislative Messaging System is helping lawmakers manage constituent communications.

Western Legislatures Committee

to run legislatures with greater efficiency and transparency.

Boise State University political science Professor Gary Moncrief kicked off the fair with an overview of western legislative innovations, and Idaho Public TV reporter/producer Joan Cartan-Hansen quizzed lawmakers about best practices.

Representatives Nancy Todd (left) and Beth McCann addressed how Colorado streamlined legislative management and enhanced computerized access to bills and proceedings for legislators and the public.
CSG-WEST 2010 Year in Review

CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting • September 11 • Sun Valley, Idaho

Western Legislators Participate in Full Day of Effectiveness Training

CSG-WEST offered a full day of training for lawmakers and guests at all stages of their careers. The training is known as ALTA - Annual Legislative Training Assembly.

An effective speaker talks less about themselves and more about the audience.
~ Deb Sofield, Executive Speech Coach, September 11, 2010

Pam Vaccaro, president of Designs on Time, coached participants on ways to get legislative work done without sacrificing the rest of their lives.

James Cathcart, FranklinCovey trainer, taught 13 trust behaviors key to successful leadership from the book “The Speed of Trust.”

Deb Sofield, executive speech coach and president of the Women’s Campaign School at Yale, demonstrated the secrets of giving great speeches.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Representative Edmund Villagomez (left) and Alaska Representative Carl Gatto

Washington Representatives Sam Hunt and Sherry Appleton

Hawaii Representative Kyle Yamashita

Idaho Representative Brian Cronin (left) and California Senator Curren Price

Idaho Senator Brent Hill and Idaho Representative Marjorie Chadderon

Nevada Senator John Lee and Idaho Senator Diane Bilyeu
North America Summit

CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting • September 11 • Sun Valley, Idaho

Strengthening North America

While improvements have been made to enhance trade through existing border crossings along the U.S.-Mexico and U.S.-Canada borders, we still have not reached the potential of operating smart, fast and secure borders for a 21st Century economy.

- California Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, Chair, Border Legislative Conference

The 63rd CSG-WEST annual meeting included an all-day Third North America Summit. Discussions focused on enhancing North America competitiveness, creating 21st century border crossings, and addressing regional energy possibilities. At the end of the day, the Government of Canada and Province of Alberta hosted participants to an evening reception, where tri-national issues discussions continued.

Left to right: Ricardo Pineda (Consul General of Mexico in Idaho), California Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny (Chair, Border Legislative Conference) and Idaho Representative Rich Wills (Chair, CSG-WEST)

The Honorable Iris Evans, Minister of Alberta, International & Intergovernmental Relations

Sukumar Periwal, Executive Director, Strategic Policy and Planning, Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat, British Columbia

Denis Stevens, Consul General of Canada in Seattle, Washington

Left to right: Sean Carlos Cázares Ahearne, General Director of Border Affairs for Mexico Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Erik Lee, Associate Director of the North American Center for Transborder Studies at Arizona State University; and Robert Fosco, Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner for the Consulate General of Canada in Seattle, Washington
The Women in Politics event at the CSG-WEST annual meeting has become an event for men and women alike to enjoy. The 2010 forum launched its discussions by reviewing key facts from The Center for American Women and Politics at the Eagleton Institute of Politics. Participants learned that of those serving in state legislatures across America in 2010, women accounted for 24.5 percent.

Five of the top 10 states with the highest percentage of women in state legislatures are in the West—Colorado, Hawaii, Washington, Nevada and Arizona. Trainer Carol Vernon from the D.C. firm Communication Matters worked with co-moderators Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger and Idaho Representative Wendy Jaquet to lead the evening conversations.

The difference between great women leaders and those who aspire to greatness ... can be summed up in two words: executive presence.

~ Carol Vernon, Communication Matters, 2010

Idaho Representative Wendy Jaquet (top) co-chaired the Women in Politics session with Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger.

Mary Sue Jones, Administrative and Fiscal Assistant to the Idaho President Pro Tempore.

Idaho Representative Phylis King and Mark San Souci of U.S. Dept of Defense.

Left to right: Alaska Representative Lindsey Holmes and Alaska Senator Linda Menard.

Trainer Carol Vernon from Communications Matters.

Utah Representative Jennifer Seelig.
Acknowledging Leadership

CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting • September 11-14 • Sun Valley, Idaho

In recognition of his leadership as Chair of CSG-WEST, Idaho Representative Rich Wills was presented the prestigious State Government Affairs Council (SGAC) Shooting Star award by Elisabeth Loudy, SGAC Executive Director.

CSG-WEST Chair, Idaho Representative Rich Wills, honored California Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny upon her legislative retirement for her tireless public policy work, which has contributed to effective bi-national cooperation along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Idaho Representative Rich Wills and Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro exchange the CSG-WEST gavel, confirming Representative Oshiro’s new role as 2011 Chair of CSG-WEST, while Representative Wills becomes Immediate Past Chair.

CSG Executive Director and CEO David Adkins (right) congratulated Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis for his outstanding leadership as CSG’s 2009 Chair.

Daniel Kemmis of Missoula, Montana-known well as a Western Author, state and local political leader and advocate for the West - received the Bettye Fahrenkamp Award for Distinguished Legislative Leadership on Behalf of Western States.

In recognition of the Idaho Legislature’s hosting of the 63rd CSG-WEST annual meeting in Sun Valley, Idaho Senate President Pro Tempore Robert L. Geddes and Representative Rich Wills are honored by CSG-WEST Chair-Elect, Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro.

CSG-WEST Nominating Committee interviewed executive committee applicants for the 2011 CSG-WEST Chair position and the 2011 CSG national Vice Chair position. Members included (back row, left to right): Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis (committee chair), California Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, Arizona Representative Russ Jones, Utah Representative Mel Brown, Wyoming Senator John Schiffer, Alaska Representative Craig Johnson, Washington Representative Sam Hunt, Nevada Assembly Majority Floor Leader John Oceguera, New Mexico Representative Jose Campos, Oregon Representative George Gilman. Front row, left to right: Hawaii Representative Kyle Yamashita, Colorado Senator Linda Newell and Montana Senator Kim Gillan.
2010 CSG Western Innovations Awards Selection

CSG began presenting Innovations Awards in 1986 to bring greater visibility to exemplary state programs and to facilitate the transfer of those successful experiences to other states. Under the leadership of Idaho Senator Joe Stegner, CSG Toll Fellows met during the CSG-WEST 2010 annual meeting to select two regional winners from among nine western finalists. The two winning programs come from the State of Washington.

**Washington’s Career Bridge:** Career Bridge provides information to Washington residents about hot jobs for the future, what they need to learn to get those jobs and detailed information about which programs and institutions offer the best path to those jobs.

**Washington’s Health Technology Assessment:** The Washington Health Care Authority set up this assessment process in 2007 to help determine which treatments and services the state will offer in its state sponsored health insurance plans and Medicaid. The purpose is to ensure the state pays for what works in health care.

CSG Western Innovations Awards Selection Member Participation

- **Washington Representatives** Sam Hunt and Sherry Appleton
- **Alaska Senator** John Coghill
- **Utah Representative** Jennifer Seelig
- **Colorado Representative** Nancy Todd
- **Hawaii Representative** Marcus Oshiro
- **Idaho Senator** Joe Stegner, CSG Western Innovations Selection Chair
- **California Senator** Curren Price
- **Idaho Representative Maxine Bell, Alaska Senate President Gary Stevens and Idaho Representative Rich Wills
- **Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis
- **Alaska Representative Kevin Meyer and Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger**
CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting

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Wyoming Senator Drew Perkins, Western Legislative Academy (WLA) 2010 Class President welcomes WLA Alumni and guests to annual Champagne and Cider reception.

Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro (right) who emceed WLA2010 and WLA alumnus Idaho Senator Dean Martimer enjoyed the WLA alumni reception.

Enjoying things Idaho style with Junior Jammer Fiddlers and Muzzie Braun Trio’s country music at the River Run Lodge.

The grand finale was a hilarious mystery dinner theatre with CSG-WEST’s own – Idaho Representative Rich Wills (in chair) and Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro (in plaid jacket) - in starring roles.

CSG-WEST Chair Elect, Representative Marcus Oshiro and wife Lauzanne welcome CSG-WEST to Hawaii for the 2011 annual meeting. Hula danced by Hawaii House Clerk Pat Mau-Shimizu (left) and Lauzanne Oshiro.
WESTRENDS

CSG-WEST 2010 Annual Meeting • September 12, 2010 • Sun Valley, Idaho

Perhaps the time has come to lift our gaze to the far horizons, to open up the boundaries of politics, to begin the hard but endlessly rewarding job of creating, here, in the native home of hope, a politics to match our vistas. We need to begin to imagine what a politics of possibility might look like.

~ Daniel Kemmis, 2010 recipient of the CSG-WEST Bettye Fahrenkamp Award for Distinguished Legislative Leadership on Behalf of Western States

Dealing with New Normal in the Once and Future West

WESTRENDS provides a forum for legislators to examine the consequences of demographic, economic and cultural trends shaping the West. Each western state is represented on the WESTRENDS Board by a legislator with an interest in issues and forces changing our region. With this purpose in mind, the WESTRENDS Board engaged in lively conversations with three experts on trends forecasting. The WESTRENDS Board participated in a conversation led by two westerners with enormous depth and insight about the West.

Jeremy Aguero, founder of a Las Vegas, Nevada research firm works on the nexus between public and private sectors in this trend analyses. He examined the current political and economic situation both globally and locally and its impact on the economies of western states.

Daniel Kemmis, a former Speaker of the Montana House, drew from his rich experiences as a state legislator, author of several books on the West, and director of a University of Montana research center that examines the politics of place in the West.

Both thoughtful leaders led a colloquy with the WESTRENDS Board on the western region’s unique geographical and cultural position in the America of the 21st century.

2010 WESTRENDS Board

| Senator Kim Gillan, Montana |
| Senate Minority Whip |
| WESTRENDS Chair |
| Representative Russ Jones, Arizona |
| Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, California |
| Senator Gail Schwartz, Colorado |
| Senator Brian Taniguchi, Hawaii |
| Representative Maxine Bell, Idaho |
| Assemblyman John Oceguera, Nevada |
| Assembly Majority Floor Leader |
| Representative Beth Kerttula, Alaska |
| House Minority Leader |
| WESTRENDS Vice Chair |
| Representative Ben Lujan, New Mexico |
| Speaker of the House |
| Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Oregon |
| Representative Ronda Rudd Menlove, Utah |
| Senator Linda Evans Parlette, Washington |
| Republican Caucus Chair |
| Representative Thomas Lockhart, Wyoming |
2010 Forum Participants

Idaho Representative Maxine Bell and Wyoming Representative Thomas Lockhart

Oregon Senator Jackie Dingfelder

Washington Republican Caucus Chair Linda Evans Parlette

Arizona Representative Russ Jones

Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro

California Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny (left) and Montana Senator Kim Gillan

Utah Representative Ronda Rudd Menlove

Nevada Assembly Majority Floor Leader John Oceguera

New Mexico Representative Jose Campos

Colorado Senator Linda Newell

Alaska Representative Lindsey Holmes
From the minute they boarded the bus for the opening of the 11th annual Western Legislative Academy (WLA), the talkative Class of 2010 demonstrated its readiness for a fast-paced, “learning by doing” training experience. CSG-WEST chair-elect Hawaii Representative Marcus Oshiro presided and kept lawmakers on task and on target.

Selected in a highly competitive process, 39 newer state legislators from around the West spent three days in classes designed to improve legislative effectiveness and promote state legislatures as pillars of representative democracy.

A national faculty of experts from academia, journalism, corporate and public sectors worked with lawmakers on negotiations, governance, ethics, communications, time management and media relations. Legislators spent a half day at the U.S. Air Force Academy engaged in personal assessments and team building.

Since its creation in 2000, the WLA has graduated 412 legislative “students,” many of whom now serve as leaders in their chambers and caucuses. A handful of graduates has been elected to the U.S. Congress.

*The WLA is funded by state legislative dues, the El Pomar Foundation and private sector contributions. Lawmakers in their first four years of legislative service who wish to apply to the October 3-6, 2011 Western Legislative Academy should visit www.csgwest.org for an application. Deadline to apply is April 29, 2011.*
Western Legislative Academy

Class of 2010

Front row (left to right): Michelle Kidani (HI Sen), Allison Copening (NV Sen), George Muñoz (NM Sen), Glenn Moniz (WY Rep), Scott Kawasaki (AK Rep), Sue Malek (MT Rep), Dean Mortimer (ID Sen), Terry Nealey (WA Rep), John M. Kefalas (CO Rep)

Second row: Marilyn Dondero Loop (NV Asmbr), Chuck Hunter (MT Rep), Tina Orwall (WA Rep), Kraig Powell (UT Rep), Evie Hudak (CO Sen), Dan Dockstader (WY Sen), Chuck Winder (ID Sen)

Third row: Lynne Pancrazi (AZ Rep), Bob Herron (AK Rep), Ellen Spiegel (NV Asmbr), F. Jay Seegmiller (UT Rep), Drew Perkins (WY Sen)

Fourth row: Faye Hanohano (HI Rep), Dan Liljenquist (UT Sen), Richard McArthur (NV Asmbr), Randi Becker (WA Sen), Matt Wingard (OR Rep), Bruce Tutvedt (MT Sen), Judy Warnick (WA Rep)

Fifth row (partial row that starts in the middle): Brickwood Galuteria (HI Sen), Scott Reichner (MT Rep), Bryce Edgmon (AK Rep)

Last row: Jeff Steinborn (NM Rep), Daniel Patterson (AZ Rep), Sander Rue (NM Sen), Stephen Hartgen (ID Rep), Tim Freeman (OR Rep), Chris Edwards (OR Sen), Jim Roscoe (WY Rep), Matt Heinz (AZ Rep)

Photo courtesy of Lynn Boutte Photography

WLA 2010 Class President
Senator Drew Perkins, Wyoming
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*Western Legislative Academy Alumni 2000-2010*
Nonpartisan western legislative service agency directors and managers participated in professional development training at the annual CSG-WEST Fall Training Seminar. These western legislative staff leaders worked with faculty from the Daniels College of Business at the University of Denver on team building and creating a positive work environment. Staff also shared best practices in legislative management.

Executive Director of the Alaska Legislative Affairs Agency Pam Varni was re-elected chair of the Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Committee for 2011-2012.

Left to right: Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi (Hawaii Legislative Reference Bureau Acting Director), Jeff Youtz (Idaho Legislative Service Office Director) and Dan Pauli (Wyoming Legislative Service Office Director) ... (back of Judy Hall, Oregon Secretary of the Senate)

Left to right: Lorne Malkiewich (Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau Director) and Raul Burciaga (New Mexico Legislative Council Service Director)

Left to right: Mike Mauer (Colorado Legislative Council Director) and Don Williams (Research Director at the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau) (back of Todd Herreid of the Colorado Legislative Council)

Left to right: Director of the Utah Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel Mike Christensen, seen here talking with John Cannon Managing Policy Analyst of the Utah Office of Legislative Research, was re-elected vice chair of the Legislative Service Agency/Research Directors Committee for 2011-2012.

Program presenter Scott Pattison, Executive Director of National Association of Status Budget Officers

Todd Herreid (left) of the Colorado Legislative Council and Dave Thomas, Deputy Director of the Arizona Legislative Council

Trainer Stacey Plemmons of the Executive Programs Faculty, Institute for Leadership and Organizational Performance and the Daniels School of Business, University of Denver
The Legislative Council on River Governance (LCRG) is a cooperative association comprised of legislators from Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington that promotes the exchange of information regarding issues of mutual interest along the Columbia River Basin.

In 2010, the LCRG convened August 30-31 in Missoula, Montana. Participating legislators discussed a wide-array of policy issues, including water banking, groundwater and marketing strategies, fish and wildlife preservation, Columbia River Treaty, and water adjudications and litigation concerns, among others.
The U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership is a collaborative, multi-branch alliance administered by CSG in coordination with several partners aimed at strengthening binational cooperation among state officials of both countries.

These partners include the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), CSG’s Western and Southern regional offices and Washington DC office, Conference of Western Attorneys General (CWAG), National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG), National Association of State Treasurers (NAST), National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA), the Paso del Norte Group (PDN), the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and Arizona State University’s North American Center for Transborder Studies (NACTS).

In 2010, the partners of the Alliance Partnership convened numerous binational forums, capacity training exchanges and seminars among border legislators, attorneys general, treasurers, lt. governors, regional and local border officials, and other stakeholders that enhanced the role of state and local officials in addressing shared public policy concerns that transcend international borders. Moreover, through research and policy exchange opportunities offered through the Wilson International Center for Scholars and North American Center for Transborder Studies, the promotion of concrete policy proposals and recommendations were facilitated for the consideration of all Alliance Partners.

The Alliance Partnership promotes the integration of activities and outreach with other binational mechanisms so that concrete policy objectives and reforms can be achieved through a strategic, multi-branch and multi-jurisdictional approach. The Alliance partners, their respective members, networks and linkages comprise a broad and influential coalition that can affect change. The Alliance Partnership is an innovative mechanism of cooperation that enables dynamic synergies and cross-jurisdictional cooperation.

Financial support for the Alliance Partnership is provided by a grant from USAID, along with significant in-kind and direct support by participating partners and their respective member states, as well as financial contributions by private sector stakeholders. For more information about the Alliance Partnership, please visit www.statealliancepartnership.org.

Idaho Attorney General (AG) Lawrence Wasden and New Mexico AG Gary King participated in International Conference on Criminal Justice in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico.

Mexico state attorneys general participated at the Mexico in Transition Symposium hosted by Indiana State Attorney General (AG) Gregory Zoeller. Left to right: AG Pedro Pedro Flores Vasquez (Tlaxcala); AG Rafael Gonzalez Lastra (Tabasco), AG Alfredo Bernal Higuera (Sinaloa), AG Karim Martinez Lizarraga (Baja California Sur), AG Rommel Moreno Manjarrez (Baja California), and AG Carlos Zamarripa Aguirre (Guanajuato).

Stretching nearly 2,000-miles, the U.S.–Mexico border region is a major economic engine for both countries. The two countries share not only a common border, but also commercial, historic and cultural ties.
The Border Legislative Conference (BLC) serves as the legislative component of the U.S.-Mexico State Alliance Partnership. The BLC is a binational mechanism for dialogue and collaboration among state legislators of the 10 U.S. and Mexico border states. These include California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas in the U.S. and Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas in Mexico.

The BLC started the year conducting a visit to Mexico City to meet with key Mexico and U.S. federal officials. The topic of security was of significant focus in most meetings. Participating legislators also discussed binational federal strategies such as the Merida Initiative and renewable energy. During the visit, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Carlos Pascual informed the legislators about a new U.S.-Mexico security and economic strategy focused on four pillars: Disruption and Dismantling of Drug Cartels, Institutional Rule of Law, Development of 21st Century Borders and Focus on Strengthening Border Communities.

This year’s BLC forums were convened in Tempe, Arizona and San Carlos, Sonora. In Tempe, legislators had the opportunity to discuss issues such as sustainable energy, scrap tires recycling, and the need for cross-border legislation on juvenile issues. During the meeting in Sonora, participating legislators discussed planning and sustainable development along the U.S.-Mexico border and binational storm and waste water management efforts.

Partnering with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Southern Legislative Conference, the BLC co-hosted the 3rd Annual Americas 2020 Summit in Dallas, Texas. The summit gathered stakeholders from Canada, Mexico and the U.S. to discuss North America emerging trade corridors, enhancing mobility and security across international borders, and energy reliability and its linkage to regional competitiveness.

Information, declarations and recommendations from these events can be found at www.borderlegislators.org.
Members of the Border Legislative Conference with Mexico federal senate members and Deputy Consul General of Mexico in Phoenix, Alfonso Navarro Bernachi (far left), during the 21st BLC Forum held in Tempe, Arizona.
CSG is a regionally-based organization that promotes the exchange of ideas to help state elected officials better serve their constituents. CSG offers unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities to network, develop leaders and collaborate in problem-solving partnerships. At the national level, the Council of State Governments (CSG) is the only organization serving all three branches of state government.

CSG has four very diverse regions with distinct geographical, demographic and cultural characteristics. Each region elects its own officers who, in turn, serve on the CSG national Executive Committee and Governing Board. In this way, and through many other areas of collaboration, regional perspectives are brought to the forefront of national debates and program initiatives. Each region has its own staff who work with a variety of regional policy committees, research projects, initiatives and meetings. In the West, CSG-WEST serves western state legislatures exclusively.

The national office in Lexington, Kentucky provides policy analysis and tracks national issues facing state governments. The CSG Washington, D.C. office provides a voice for state leaders to Congress. The Washington office monitors federal developments and trends and evaluates the impact of federal activities, including U.S. Supreme Court decisions, on states.
Western Participation in CSG National

Legislatures are the key agencies of representative democracy in America.

~ Alan Rosenthal, Engines of Democracy, 2009

2010 Western Toll Fellows

CSG’s national Toll Fellowship program offers leadership and policy training sessions to emerging state leaders from throughout the nation.

Front row, left to right: Assemblywoman Debbie Smith (NV), Administrator of Division of Insurance Teresa Miller (OR), Senator Linda Menard (AK), Director of Courts Tracy Guerrero (CNMI), joined by Beth Percynski of Procter & Gamble, one of the many sponsors of the Toll Fellows program; back row, left to right: Representative Pono Chong (HI), Senator Jim Hammond (ID), Supreme Court Justice Mark Gibbons (NV), Representative Cliff Bayer (ID), Representative Jennifer Seelig (UT), Human Resources Executive Director Jeff Herring (UT)

CSG Convenes Western Meetings on Common Core Standards for K-12

On May 6-7, 2010, CSG and CSG-WEST collaborated on the first meeting in the Western United States in San Diego, California to enhance state legislators’ understanding about the Common Core Education Policy Initiative policies.

Left to right: Representative Jeff Thompson (ID), Senator Rosemary McAuliffe (WA), Representative Gregory Porter (IN), Ms. Mary Kenfield (WA), Representative Sara Gelser (OR), Representative Roy Takumi (HI), Representative Lindsey Holmes (AK), Representative Carl Gatto (AK), Senator Michelle Kidani (HI), Senator Elizabeth Schneider (ME), Representative Dave Quall (WA), Representative Marcie Maxwell (WA), Senator Curt Bramble (UT) and Senator Kathryn Sessions (WY)

CSG Convenes Education Fly-In

Western State Representatives Rosie Berger (WY), Nancy Todd (CO), and Arnie Roblan (OR) traveled to Washington, DC on April 29-30, 2010, to participate in meetings on Capitol Hill and at the Department of Education. These meetings took place at a critical time as states struggled to maintain and improve education programs and Congress prepared to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Left to right: Speaker Pro Tem Arnie Roblan (OR), Representative Helen Rankin (ME), Representative Nancy Todd (CO), Representative RaeAnn Keisch (ND) and Representative Rosie Berger (WY)
A Special Thanks to the 2010 CSG-WEST Sponsors

Thank you for your participation and investment in helping us strengthen state legislatures in the West!

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CSG-WEST is a region of The Council of State Governments (CSG), classified as a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization for the purpose of research and education. CSG’s Federal Tax Identification Number is 366000818.
Halawai* ~ Where Leaders Gather

Pupukahi i holomua is an Hawaiian phrase that means “unite to move forward.” This is the spirit - the strength of mind - advocated as western state leaders gather at CSG-WEST in Honolulu to share ideas and learn from one another, working together to address the challenges of our times.

*Halawai is Hawaiian for “Where Leaders Gather”

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Friday, July 29
• Registration Opens

Saturday, July 30
• Opening Plenary: Where Leaders Gather
• ALTA: Annual Legislative Training Assembly
• Policy Forum to be announced
• Afternoon Executive Committee Meeting: WLA2011 Class Selection
• Welcoming Reception: Sheraton Edge Pool, Sunset at the Beach
• Hospitality Suite

Sunday, July 31
• Western Legislative Conference Policy Forums
• Lunch Plenary Session
• Hawaii State Event at the Royal Hawaiian
• Hospitality Suite

Monday, August 1
• Western Legislative Conference Policy Forums
• Lunch Plenary Session
• Women in Politics Session
• Free Evening
• Hospitality Suite

Tuesday, August 2
• Western Legislative Conference Policy Forums
• Lunch Plenary Session
• Executive Committee Meeting
• Luau at the Royal Hawaiian Coconut Grove
• Hospitality Suite

Accommodations will be at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel.
The government guest room rate is $160* for run-of house or $200* to guarantee ocean front room. The non-government guest room rate is $235* for run-of house or $250* to guarantee ocean front room. *plus tax