

Preserving the Public Trust

Conference Format

The 2007 Fall Conference has three educational tracks that are designed to: 1) enhance evaluation skills; 2) examine important issues facing state government; and 3) explore ways to improve the internal process of conducting performance evaluations. A special feature of the conference is that the skills enhancement track will be conducted by the **Graduate School of the United States Department of Agriculture**. The Graduate School has a respected reputation for providing quality training to evaluators of all levels of government and the private sector. The other two tracks will be conducted through a combination of expert workshops, group panels and roundtable discussions.

Plenary Speakers

Our keynote address will be presented by **William H. Leighty**, Chief of Staff to the governor of the State of Virginia. Mr. Leighty will share his insights in how Virginia earned the honor of "Best Managed State in the Nation" in 2005. **George F. Grob**, president of the Center for Public Program Evaluation, and former Deputy Inspector General of Evaluation and Inspections for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, will address the conference on Thursday. On Friday, **Jack Canfield**, a former state legislator, press spokesman for three West Virginia governors and current owner of Jack Canfield LLC - a company specializing in health care marketing, advertising, research and public relations - will address the conference on the pitfalls of "government speak."

Other Attractions

A reception will be held at the **Clay Center**, a unique Arts and Science Museum. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to meet West Virginia's Governor, **Joe Manchin**, during a reception at the Governor's



Mansion, followed by dinner in the rotunda of the State Capitol building. Optional activities include white water rafting and a tour of the **Blenko Glass Factory**. The city of Charleston hosts a variety of restaurants, and is in close proximity to a greyhound racing and gaming facility.

Who Should Attend

The conference will be a benefit to all levels of evaluation staff. The USDA Graduate School track will offer excellent training for evaluators of state and local governments, as well as for private sector evaluators.

CPE Credit

Several sessions may qualify for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit. Application materials will be available for those sessions.

Conference Agenda

Tuesday, September 18

Noon - 5:00 p.m.	Registration Marriott Hotel
1:30- 2:45 p.m.	Optional Special Hearing Review & Discussion of Recommended Changes to the Red Book
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA Graduate School: Creative Thinking for Evaluators• Dr Kenna Seal: Evaluating Education In West Virginia• Roundtable Discussion on Report Design/Publishing & Mapping Software
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Opening Reception at the Clay Center (With Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar)

Wednesday, September 19

7:30- 8:30 a.m.	Registration & Continental Breakfast
8:30- 10:15 a.m.	Plenary Session: Keynote Speaker: William Leighty, Chief of Staff to Current Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, and Former Governor Mark Warner.
10:15- 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 - Noon	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA Graduate School: Scoping to Reduce Evaluation Cycle-Time• Fraud Investigations: Gary Slater, WV Commission on Special Investigations• Evaluation Standards: Rakesh Mohan & Jeanette Franzel
Noon- 1:30 p.m.	Lunch NLPES General Overview of Membership & Host State 2008 Presentation

1:30- 3:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA Graduate School: Scoping to Reduce Evaluation Cycle-Time• Accessing Difficult Information (HIPAA, Tax, FERPA)• Skills Workshop on How to Improve Editing Evaluation Reports
3:00- 3:15 p.m.	Break
3:15- 4:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA Graduate School: Scoping to Reduce Evaluation Cycle-Time• The Challenges of Evaluating Agency Information Technology Systems• Roundtable Discussion on Management of Work Papers
6:00- 7:00 p.m.	Reception at Governor's Mansion
7:00- 9:00 p.m.	Dinner at Capitol Rotunda (Featuring Traditional Mountain Music)

Thursday, September 20

7:30- 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:30- 10:15 a.m.	Plenary Session: George Grob, Retired Assistant Inspector General with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
10:15- 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30-11:45 a.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• USDA Graduate School: An Evaluation Message Policymakers Will Listen To• Approaches to Evaluating Economic Development Agencies• The Use of Program Evaluation for Policy Making
Noon- 7:00 p.m.	Optional Networking Activities
Evening	On Your Own

Friday, September 21

7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:30-10:15 a.m.	Plenary Session: Jack Canfield, Former State Legislator and Press Spokesman for Three West Virginia Governors.
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Breakout Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The State of Performance Evaluation in State Government• Roundtable Discussion on Performance Evaluation of Evaluators• Roundtable Discussion on Hiring the Right Evaluator
Noon	Conclusion of Conference



Optional Networking Activities

Opening Night Reception

An opening night reception will be held at the unique **Clay Center** for the Arts and Sciences. Greet colleagues from across the nation while enjoying the art museum, science centers and music provided by several members of the **West Virginia Symphony Orchestra**.

An Evening With West Virginia's Governor



Meet **Governor Joe Manchin** during a reception at the Governor's Mansion. Following the reception, a dinner will be held in the Capitol Rotunda, with traditional mountain music played by **Jenny Allinder**.

Wet 'n Wild White Water Rafting Excursion

Travel to scenic Fayetteville for outdoor fun! In addition to white water and float rafting on the **New River** rapids, there are also biking and rock climbing activities available (additional fee required). View the world's longest single arch steel span bridge. End with a meal at **Smokey's** on the Gorge.



Explore Regional History

If white water rafting seems too adventuresome, step back in time and learn of the region's history. Tour **Booker T. Washington's** boyhood cabin and church. Visit **Port Amherst River Museum** to view navigation and mining artifacts used in coal mining and river transportation on the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers. Finish at the restored 19th century **Craik-Patton House**.

Blenko Glass Center and Museum

Observe artisans hand blowing glass during a visit to the world-famous **Blenko** glass center. Tour the glass museum and enjoy wonderful bargains from the factory outlet store. The rich colors and wonderful shapes of **Blenko** glass create an enjoyable experience.



Registration Information

Registration Information

Four Ways to Register

Online: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/seminars/nlpes2007.htm>

On Site: Charleston Marriott Town Center

Fax: (303) 364-7811

Mail: NCSL Registration/ Accounting

7700 E. First Place

Denver, CO 80230

Hotel Reservations

A block of rooms has been reserved at:

Charleston Marriott Town Center

200 Lee Street East

Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Phone: (304) 345-6500 or 1-800-228-9290

Rate: \$109 single/double plus tax

Hotel Reservation Deadline: August 27, 2007

Please make your hotel reservations directly with the Charleston Marriott Town Center by calling (304) 345-6500 or 1-800-228-9290 and indicate that you are attending the "NCSL NLPES Conference" to receive a room rate of \$109 single or double, plus tax. Reservations must be held by a credit card. The deadline for making hotel reservations is August 27, 2007. After that date, reservations will be accepted based on room availability.

NCSL Airfare

Airline discounts are available through Andavo Travel, NCSL's official travel headquarters, by calling (800) 825-3283. Andavo Travel maintains a 24-hour toll-free line for changes and emergencies.

Ground Transportation

The Charleston Marriott Town Center is located 7 miles from Charleston's Yeager Airport. Taxi fare is approximately \$8 one way. The Marriott provides free shuttle service between the airport and hotel. Courtesy phones are located at the luggage carousel.

General Information

Casual attire is appropriate for all seminar events, but please do not wear shorts to the conference sessions. Be sure to bring a sweater or light jacket, evenings and meeting rooms may be cool.

For More Information

Visit: <http://www.ncsl.org/programs/seminars/nlpes2007.htm>

Registration: registration@ncsl.org or call (303) 856-1445

Program: Bob Boerner (303) 856-1353 or bob.boerner@ncsl.org

West Virginia/General Info: John Sylvia or Michael Midkiff,

email: jsylvia@mail.wvnet.edu or micmdkff@mail.wvnet.edu

NLPES Registration Form

Fall Conference

September 18-21, 2007 - Charleston, West Virginia

NAME _____

TITLE _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE (WORK) _____

FAX _____

E-MAIL _____

Handicap Accessibility

Other (please specify e.g., special dietary needs)

Please Indicate if you plan to attend the following:

Opening Reception at the Clay Center

Reception at the Governor's Mansion & dinner in the Capitol Rotunda

Optional Networking Activities: (please select only 1)

Whitewater - Lower New Express (\$90.84)

Hawks Nest Lake Senior Float Trip (\$78.09)

New River Bike Half Day (\$114.24)

Hard Rock Climbing Half Day (\$110.24)

Explore Regional History (\$12.00)

Blenko Glass Center & Museum (Free)

Note: prices include activity, meal & transportation - see website for details

Registration Fee: (includes 6% WV state sales tax)

\$350 Legislators/ Legislative Staff

\$160 Spouse/ Guest Name: _____

\$370 All Others

Registration Payment Method:

Payment enclosed, Ck.# _____

Bill to state legislature, Voucher/PO# _____

Will pay onsite

Please charge my: AmEx () MC () Visa ()

Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Amt. \$ _____

Signature: _____

Please mail/ fax this form by **September 5, 2007** to:

NCSL Registration/ Accounting

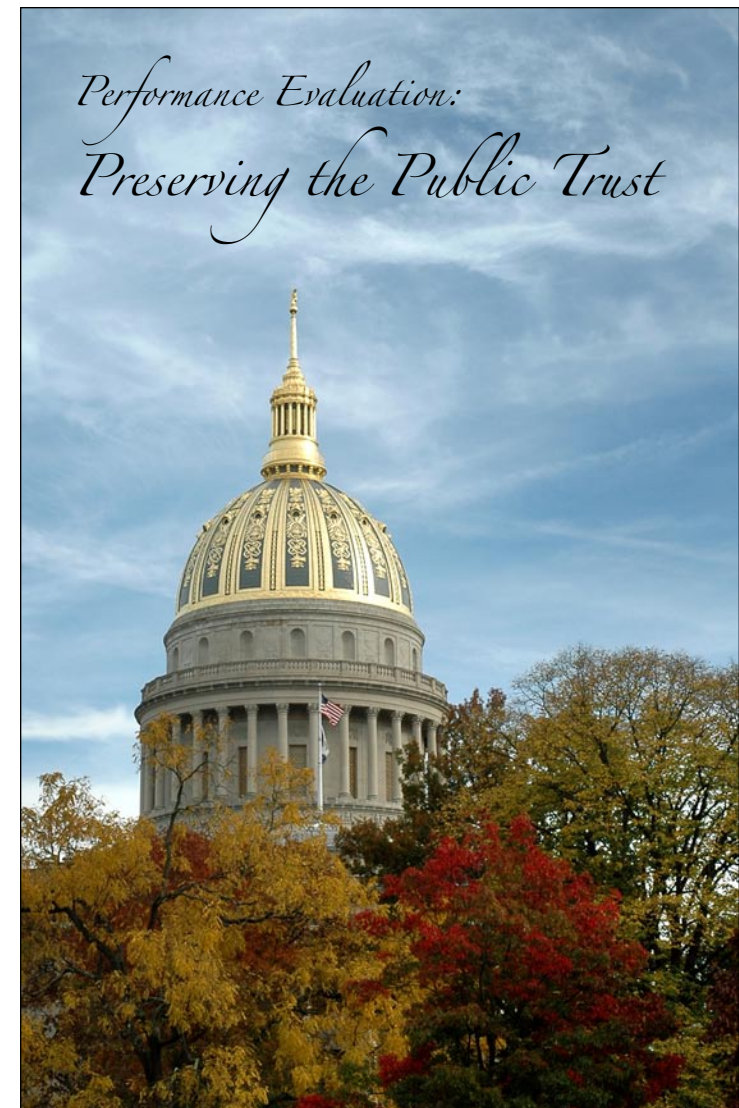
7700 East First Place, Denver, Colorado 80230

Fax: (303) 364-7811

National Conference of State Legislatures
7700 East First Place
Denver, CO 80230



2007 NLPES
Fall Training Conference
Registration Materials Enclosed



West Virginia 2007

NLPES Fall Training Conference

September 18-21, 2007

Charleston Marriott

Charleston, West Virginia

Sponsored by The National Legislative Program Evaluation Society
Hosted by The West Virginia Performance Evaluation & Research Division



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas