Spring Policy Conference
April 22-23, 2015
Willard Intercontinental Hotel
1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW - Washington, DC

Agenda

Wednesday, April 22nd

11:30am Conference Registration

12:00pm Lunch is Served

12:15pm Ensuring a Competitive Workforce for the Global Economy
U.S. companies face unprecedented competition from abroad and an economy that puts a growing premium on knowledge. In just four decades, the percentage of jobs requiring some form of postsecondary education has skyrocketed—from 28 to 59 percent. To succeed, employers must make a stronger commitment to ensure that employees are prepared and afforded the opportunity to learn key skills. The economy’s growing dependence on a highly skilled workforce raises a critical question: What is being done to improve the educational attainment of our workforce? How can business play a role?

12:15pm Introduction: Steve Odland, CEO, CED
Keynote Remarks: Ed Rust, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company

12:35pm Panel I: Business Strategies for Improving Educational Attainment
What must be done by the public and private sectors to ensure individuals are ready and can succeed in the 21st Century workplace?
Moderator: Jamie Merisotis, President, Lumina Foundation (invited)
Carl Camden, CEO, Kelly Services
Deb Elam, President and Chairman, GE Foundation
Byron Auguste, Deputy Director, National Economic Council

1:15pm Panel II: Innovative Company Policies and Programs
What are examples of leading companies who have successfully addressed this education and economic challenge, and what are the lessons learned?
Moderator: TBD
Potential Companies to feature:
1. Alcoa
2. Siemens
3. 3M
4. Xerox
5. JPMorgan Chase
6. Amazon.com
Income inequality and wealth inequality have been rising in the United States for the past 40 years and are now reaching levels last seen in the United States in the 1920s. Some in American business express concern about this trend and its potential ramifications for our capitalist system and society. Capitalism, as an imperfect system, has been threatened as long as it has been in existence; and business and government have responded to the challenges of the times to adapt and evolve. As CED’s founders did in 1942 and thereafter, CED intends to leave a legacy to future generations by offering reasoned solutions from business in the nation’s interest. How can capitalism evolve to preserve and strengthen freedom, economic opportunity, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all?

Keynote Remarks: Dominic Barton, Managing Director, McKinsey & Company (invited)

Panel Discussion
Moderator: David Brooks, Columnist, New York Times (invited)
Abby Joseph Cohen, President, Global Markets Institute, Goldman Sachs Group (invited)
W. Bowman Cutter, Senior Fellow and Director, Economic Policy Initiative, The Roosevelt Institute (confirmed)
Joseph Clayton, President and Chief Executive Officer, DISH (invited)

Federal budget deficits recently reached their highest levels since World War II, and the resulting accumulated public debt burden is rising rapidly toward the level reached at the end of World War II. Cost drivers within the budget, primarily health care and retirement programs, threaten to keep deficits high even with a full recovery from the recent recession. The costs of servicing the accumulated debt will aggravate the problem. How can we solve this problem to enable more robust growth for the future?

Moderator: Maria Bartiromo, Anchor and Global Markets Editor, Fox Business Network (invited)
Panel Discussion
Joseph Kasputys, Chief Executive Officer, Economic Ventures, LLC (confirmed)
Maya MacGuineas, President, Center for a Responsible Federal Budget (confirmed)
Diana Farrell, President and CEO, JPMorgan Chase Institute (invited)
Doug Holtz-Eakin, President, The American Action Forum (confirmed)
4:15-4:30 Break

4:30–5:30 Judicial Selection Reform

In the American system of justice, judges are expected to perform their role apart from the “political thicket,” free of political pressure and indifferent to public opinion. Yet today, in most states, this basic requisite of independent and impartial administration of the rule of law is imperiled. Where judges hold or retain office by election, the independence of the judiciary is at risk. Elections encourage judges to solicit campaign contributions and appeal to voters. They provide special interests with substantial opportunities to politicize decisions and influence judicial behavior. How can this system be reformed to ensure the impartiality of the American judiciary?

Panel Discussion
The Honorable Randall Shepard, Former Chief Justice, Indiana Supreme Court (confirmed)
The Honorable Wallace B. Jefferson, Former Chief Justice, Texas Supreme Court (confirmed)
Hugh Caperton, Former President, Harman Mining Company (invited)
Martha McGarry, Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (invited)

5:30-6:00pm Break

6–6:45pm Cocktail Reception
Ballroom Foyer

7:00pm Leadership in the Nation’s Interest Awards Dinner
Ballroom

Since 1942, CED has encouraged America’s business leaders to take a more expansive view of their responsibilities, to be more publicly conscious, and to practice what CED calls business statesmanship—recognizing that business and society are interwoven, and using their positions as business leaders to incorporate societal concerns into their core operations. The Leadership in the Nation’s Interest Award recognizes a corporate executive who leads their company with integrity and purpose, and champions policies for the common good.

Awardee and Keynote

8-8:30 pm Fireside Discussion
Steve Odland, CEO, Committee for Economic Development
Thomas C. Nelson, Chairman, President & CEO, National Gypsum
Thursday, April 23, 2014

8:00 am  Breakfast

8:30–9:30  **Trade Agreements: Enabling U.S. Growth and Prosperity**  
Willard Room

*International trade has facilitated U.S. growth and prosperity over our nation’s history. Today, new technologies increase our productivity and our ability to export, while our traditional trading industries – such as agriculture – maintain their comparative advantage. Can a strategic negotiating approach achieve the agreements that yield greater exports and economic growth? CED will convene leaders from industry and government to discuss the short-term and long-term opportunities and challenges in the future of global trade negotiations.*

**Lou Jacobs**, Co-CEO, Delaware North  
**The Honorable Barbara Hackman Franklin**, President and CEO, Barbara Franklin Enterprises *(confirmed)*  
**Susan Schwab**, Strategic Advisor, Mayer Brown; Former US Trade Representative *(confirmed)*  
**Doug Baker**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ecolab Inc. *(invited)*  
**Lloyd Howell Jr.**, Executive Vice President, Booz Allen Hamilton Inc. *(invited)*

9:30–9:45  Break

9:45–10:45  **The Great Economic Debate**  
Willard Room

*The 114th Congress faces continuing economic challenges: a shallow recovery following a deep economic downturn, still-growing public debt, a new and still-evolving health care system, outdated national infrastructure, and concern about energy and the environment, to name just a few. Meanwhile, any national consensus on economic policy has eroded. CED’s expert panel will debate the competing economic policy visions on taxation, the budget, trade, health care, and energy, as well as some emerging issues.*

**Panel Discussion**

**Moderator: Zanny Minton Beddoes**, Editor-in-Chief, *The Economist* *(invited)*  
**Alan Krueger**, Professor, Princeton University *(invited)*  
**Alice Rivlin**, Senior Fellow of Economic Studies and Director of the Engelberg Center for Health Care Reform, Brookings Institution; Founding Director, Congressional Budget Office *(invited)*  
**Glenn Hubbard**, Dean, Columbia School of Business *(invited)*
10:45–11am  Break

11:00–12pm  It’s All Politics: The 2016 Elections
Willard Room

CED’s expert panel will review the major conflicts facing the 114th Congress, and the early maneuverings in the 2016 election cycle.

**Moderator: Steve Clemons**, Senior Editor, *The Atlantic* (confirmed)

**Panel Discussion**

- **Charlie Cook**, Editor and Publisher, The Cook Political Report (invited)
- **Bret Baier**, Chief Political Anchor, Fox News Channel (invited)
- **Michelle Cottle**, Washington Reporter, National Journal (confirmed)
- **Penny Lee**, Senior Advisor, Venn Strategies, LLC (confirmed)
- **Matt Schlapp**, Founder, Cove Strategies; Chairman, American Conservative Union (invited)
- **Peter Cook**, Chief Washington Correspondent, Washington Bureau, Bloomberg Television (confirmed)

12:00 pm  Lunch

**12:15-1:45  Business Perspectives on Health Care Reform**

The United States spends about 17 percent of GDP on health care, and this share is projected to rise sharply in the future. Despite the landmark Affordable Care Act, the cost of access to health care – for families, for businesses, and for government – continues to grow at unsustainable rates, without fair value for the sums that it has paid. Additionally, health insurance remains out of reach for millions of vulnerable Americans. How can we improve affordability, quality, and access for all Americans?

**Welcome Remarks: Steve Odland**, CEO, CED

**Keynote Remarks: The Honorable Sylvia Mary Mathews Burwell**, Secretary, Health and Human Services (invited)

**Panel Discussion**

- **Ray Gilmartin**, Chairman, President & CEO (Retired), Merck & Co., Inc. (confirmed)
- **Julie Stoss**, Vice President of Government Relations, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (confirmed)
- **Mark Bertolini**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Aetna Inc. (invited)
- **Alex Gorsky**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Johnson & Johnson (invited)

1:45 pm  Adjourn