Create the Fix:
Empowering the public to solve the federal budget crisis

Tuesday, 3 April 2012
Waterfront Place Hotel, West Virginia University

Event Schedule

9:00-10:00 Registration

10:00- 10:30 Welcome

  • Karissa Skiba and Will Turner- WVU Master of Public Administration Students

10:30-11:45 Defining the Problem: Getting Past the Budget Rhetoric
Panelists will discuss controversial elements of the Federal Budget with a focus on the choices that have most contributed to our nation’s ballooning debt. They will also examine the impact large deficits have on both foreign and domestic policy as well as the public at large.

  • Jonathan Stehle, American Association of Budget & Program Analysts
  • John Weinberg, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
  • Melissa Merrill, President’s White House Office of Management & Budget (OMB)
  • Moderator: Dr. Karen Kunz, Division of Public Administration, West Virginia University

11:45-12:00 Break

12:00-1:15 Lunch

Educating the Public: The Dissonance Between Politicians and the Media

  • Ron Nixon, New York Times

1:15-1:30 Break
1:30-2:45 Crafting Solutions: Using Media, eGovernment and other Public Sources to get the Message Out

Panelists will discuss ways in which the media, eGovernment and other sources can effectively communicate federal fiscal issues to the American Public. This interactive roundtable will offer panelists and the audience the opportunity to explore innovative methods and ideas to improve public awareness of the complex choices faced by those who represent us and the repercussions of actions taken.

- Wendell Cochran, American University
- Larri Fish, Government Accountability Office (GAO)
- Jason Peuquet, Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget
- Moderator: Dr. Kevin Leyden, Institute for Public Affairs, West Virginia University

2:45-3:00 Closing Remarks