

## **Inside Congress: Understanding the Legislative Process**

**September 21 – 25, 2009**  
Washington, DC

### **Agenda**

#### **Monday, September 21, 2009**

- 7:45 – 8:15 a.m.**                      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*  
*The Brookings Institution*  
*(lobby level)*
- 8:20 – 9:00 a.m.**                      **Welcoming Remarks and Introductions**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*
- Peter Schoettle, Director of Policy Programs, Brookings Executive Education;
  - Ari Witkin, Program Associate, Brookings Executive Education
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m.**                      **Review: The Basics for Understanding Congress**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*
- Peter Schoettle, the Brookings Institution
- 9:45 – 10:00 a.m.**                      **Break**
- 10:00 – 11:15 a.m.**                      **Leadership and Organization in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*
- Michael Robinson, former Professor of Government, Georgetown University
- 11:15 – 11:30 a.m.**                      **Break**
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.**                      **Understanding the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*
- Ilona Nickels, Public Policy Consultant; former House and Senate staffer and Congressional Research Service expert on legislative procedures

## Monday, September 21, 2009 (continued)

**12:40 – 1:30 p.m.**  
*Somers Room*

**Lunch**

**1:30 – 3:30 p.m.**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*

**The Congressional Authorization, Appropriation and Budget Process**

- Peter Schoettle, the Brookings Institution

**3:30 – 3:45 p.m.**

**Break**

**3:45 – 4:45 p.m.**  
*Saul/Zilkha Room*

**Congress and the Executive Branch: A Cultural Comparison**

- Mark Lowenthal, former Assistant Director for Analysis and Production, National Intelligence Council, CIA; former Staff Director, House Select Committee on Intelligence; and former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research

## Tuesday, September 22, 2009

- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**                    **Continental Breakfast**  
*2103 Rayburn House Office Building*
- 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.**                    **Congress and the Media: A Panel of Correspondents**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- Dana Bash, Congressional Correspondent, CNN; and
  - Shailagh Murray, Congressional Correspondent, *Washington Post*
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m.**                    **Break**
- 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.**                    **How Congress Really Works: The Perspective of a Former Congressman**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- Former Congressman Christopher Shays, (R-CT); Member of Oversight and Government Reform, Financial Services Committee, and Homeland Security Committees, House of Representatives
- 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.**                    **Lunch**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.**                    **A Member's Perspective on Serving in Congress: The Federal Workforce and Telework**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- Congressman John Sarbanes, (D-MD), Member of Energy and Commerce; and Natural Resources Committees, House of Representatives
- 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**                    **Congressional Staffers' Roles and Responsibilities: Panel**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- Peter Tyler, Legislative Director, Office of Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT);
  - Paul Arcangeli, Deputy Staff Director, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives; and
  - Mira Kogen Resnick, Legislative Director, Office of Congressman Ron Klein, (D-FL)
- 3:00 – 3:15 p.m.**                    **Break**
- 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.**                    **Leadership in the United States Senate**  
*2103 Rayburn HOB*
- John Schall; former Assistant to Senator Bob Dole, (R-KS), former Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
- 4:15 p.m.**                                **Pick up House and Senate Gallery Passes from Members of Congress**

## Wednesday, September 23, 2009

- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**                    **Continental Breakfast**  
*Congressional Visitors*  
*Center, North Congressional*  
*Meeting Room*
- 8:45 – 9:15 a.m.**                    **Briefing for Attending Committee Hearings and Mark-ups**  
*North Room, CVC*
- Peter Schoettle, the Brookings Institution
- 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon**        **Attend Selected House and Senate Committee Hearings and Mark-up Sessions**
- 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.**                **Lunch**  
*North Room, CVC*
- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.**                **A Member's Perspective on Serving in Congress:  
The Western Caucus, and Critique of Cap and Trade**  
*North Room, CVC*
- Congressman Rob Bishop, (R-UT); Chairman, Western Caucus; Member of Armed Services; Education and Labor; and Natural Resources Committees; House of Representatives
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.**                    **Briefing in Preparation for Observing House and Senate Floor Action**  
*North Room, CVC*
- Ari Witkin, the Brookings Institution
- 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.**                    **Observe Floor Action in the House and Senate**

## Thursday, September 24, 2009

- 8:30 – 9:15 a.m.**  
*Pennsylvania/Texas Rm.  
Capitol Hill Club  
300 First St. S.E.*
- Continental Breakfast and Group Discussion**
- Peter Schoettle, the Brookings Institution
  - Ari Witkin, the Brookings Institution
- 9:15 a.m. – 12:00 noon**      **Attend Selected House and Senate Committee Hearings and Mark-up Sessions**
- 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.**  
*Room 204 Cannon HOB*
- Lunch**
- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.**  
*Room 204 Cannon HOB*
- A Member's Perspective on Serving in Congress:  
Perspectives on Health Care Reform from a former Surgeon**
- Congressman Charles Boustany, Jr., Member, Ways and Means Committee; Ranking Member of Oversight Subcommittee
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.**  
*Room 402 Cannon HOB*
- The Role of Party Leadership: The House Republican Whip's Office**
- Kyle Nevins, Floor Director, Office of the House Minority Whip, Congressman Eric Cantor, (R-VA)
- 2:30 – 2:45 p.m.**      **Break**
- 2:45 – 4:15 p.m.**  
*Room 402 Cannon HOB*
- Health Care Reform: The Politics and Legislative Tactics of Some Major Players: Panel Session**
- Tim Westmoreland, Legislative Counsel, Office of Congressman Henry Waxman (D-CA); House of Representatives; *(invited)*
  - Nora Super, Director, Federal Government Relations, Health and Long-Term Care, AARP;
  - Amanda Austin, Director of Federal Public Policy, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); and
  - Jeremy Sharp, Professional Staff Member, Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, Subcommittee on Children and Families, U.S. Senate

## Friday, September 25, 2009

### Breakfast Individually

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.  
North Room, CVC

### Executive Branch – Congressional Relations: Panel Session With Federal Agencies' Legislative Liaison Officers

- Arthur B. Baker, Supervisory Special Agent, Chief, Legislative Counsel, Congressional Affairs Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice;
- Ed Hunter, Deputy Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Department of Health and Human Services; and *(invited)*
- Carolyn Levine, Team Leader, Office of Congressional Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

### Break

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.  
North Room, CVC

### Working with the Congress: The White House Perspective

- Dana Singiser, Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs, the White House *(possible)*

11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### Lunch Individually

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.  
North Room, CVC

### Lobbying the Congress

- Robert Hoffman, Vice President, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Oracle Corp.; and
- Susan Polan, Associate Executive Director for Public Affairs and Advocacy, American Public Health Association

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

### Break

2:30 – 3:00 p.m.  
North Room, CVC

### Seminar Wrap-Up, Evaluation and Awarding Certificates

- Peter Schoettle, the Brookings Institution
- Ari Witkin, the Brookings Institution