

Programs 2004

Experts Lining Up for Criminal Justice Reform Program

Mark your calendars for what promises to be an outstanding educational program. On June 10-13, we will tackle one of the most difficult (both in terms of policy and politics) issues facing policy-makers today: criminal justice reform. How do you make sure that the guilty are convicted and the innocent are not? How can you balance the costs of justice with the many other demands on your limited state budgets? How do you make sure that the accused are treated fairly without tying the hands of police, prosecutors and judges? Join your colleagues and a cast of national and international experts at the University of Chicago's Gleacher Center to find out!

Criminal Justice Reform: Making Sure the Guilty are Convicted and the Innocent are Not will feature some of America's most prominent and well respected experts on judicial reform, including Stephen B. Bright, Director of the Southern Center for Human Rights, Dr. Lawrence Marshall, Director of Northwestern University's Center on Wrongful Conviction, The Honorable George Ryan, former Governor of Illinois, Peter Neufeld of The Innocence Project and Robert L. Spangenberg, President of the Spangenberg



Peter Neufeld

Chicago continued on page 2

SLLF Europe Program to Showcase Ukraine

Pack your bags, get your passport and visa and get ready for a fascinating week in Eastern Europe! The third Transatlantic Forum of the State Legislative Leaders Foundation/Europe will be held May 31st - June 6th in Kiev and Yalta in the Ukraine. ***Showcase Ukraine - A New Nation in the Geographic Center of Europe: The History, The Political System and The Economic Future*** will feature discussions on the past, present and future of this beautiful and historic nation. Join us as we meet with leaders and members of the Ukrainian Parliament in Kiev, discuss the present day implications of the historic Yalta Conference between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, and explore the political and economic challenges facing the second largest country in Europe. The Ukraine is one of the most fascinating, and to many

Ukraine continued on page 2

Inside this issue

Criminal Justice Reform Program	1,2
Showcase Ukraine	1,2
LAMP 2004: A Big Success	2,6
What's Up With Us	3
Politics & Policy	4
SLLF Abroad	5

Group, a nationally recognized research and consulting firm specializing in improving justice programs. We will hear from leaders in states that are at various stages of reforming their systems, including Nebraska, Indiana, Illinois and Georgia.



Robert Spangenberg

Former Illinois Governor George Ryan, a conservative Republican, has received international recognition for his efforts to reform the judicial system in Illinois and his decision to commute all of the state's death sentences. Come hear how a "tough on crime" Governor arrived at such a revolutionary decision. Stephen B. Bright is recognized across the country and the world for his efforts to ensure that defendants receive adequate representation and Dr. Lawrence Marshall has received similar acclaim for his work with inmates who were wrongfully convicted. Peter Neufeld will talk about the possibilities and challenges associated with science and the law, including DNA testing, measuring mental retardation, etc. Finally, Robert L. Spangenberg has provided guidance to more than half of the states in America as they try to make their criminal justice systems more fair and balanced.

You can expect your invitation to the conference at the beginning of April, but if you have questions about this dynamic and timely conference, call Thom Little at (336) 856-0623 or e-mail him at sllfthom@aol.com. If you want to register early, contact Janice Govoni at sllfjmg@cape.com or Roberta Duane at sllfrgd@aol.com.

nonEuropeans one of the least understood, countries in all of Europe. Join us to explore the history, culture, politics and economy of this interesting nation.



In order to explore the diversity of the Ukraine, we will spend time in both Kiev and Yalta, beginning the program in Yalta on Tuesday, June 1st and travelling back to Kiev on Friday, June 4th. As always, the educational classes will be juxtaposed opportunities to explore the host country - including a tour of the Palace Alupka and a wine tasting at the Massandra Winery in Yalta. The conference itself will be held in the Palace of Livadia, where the "big three" met in 1945. In Kiev, we will meet with members of the Ukrainian Parliament, tour the city and visit the Great Patriotic War Museum, 1941-1945.

If you have questions about arrangements, contact Marcia VanderVoort at (800) 532-3375 or sllfmarcia@aol.com. Keep checking on our website (www.sllf.org) for further updates regarding the program.

LAMP 2004: *Elections Program Big Success*



Barbour

Last month (March 18-21), more than thirty legislative leaders and about forty leaders from the corporate community gathered in historic Charlottesville, Virginia to talk about an issue that is on everyone's mind right now: elections. ***Making Elections Count: Winning, Governing and Engaging Voters*** addressed the importance of making elections about issues and offered tips on how candidates and caucuses could win by doing just that.

What's Up With Us?



Fill Out That Survey!

Late last month, you should have received a survey from the State Legislative Leaders Foundation and the Center for Legislative Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. If you have completed that survey, thank you very much! If you have not, please do so as soon as possible and return in the self-addressed stamped envelope to Thomas H. Little, Center for Legislative Studies, 213 Graham Bldg, Greensboro, NC, 27402. If you are presently a legislative leader and did not receive a survey, please contact Thom Little at (336) 856-0623 or sllfthom@aol.com.

The purpose of the survey is to help us better understand your jobs so we can continue to help you meet the challenges you face every day. The results will be completely anonymous (an identification number is included on the surveys so we know when you have returned it and we can stop bugging you!). Please help us continue to help you be the best leader you can be - your responses will help us make sure that our programs, publications and activities meet your needs. Fill out that survey!

New Case Study on the Web!

Are you the presiding officer in a state with legislative term limits? Would you like to be the next presiding officer in your legislative chamber? Do you work with leaders in a state with legislative term limits? Would you like to pass a cohesive, coordinated policy agenda through your chamber? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then we have a case study for you!

In 1997, Larry Householder was just one of about a dozen freshmen members of the Ohio House of Representatives trying to find his way around one of the most professional state legislatures in America. A short four years later, he was presiding over that chamber, leading a cohesive caucus and rapidly becoming the most influential state political official in the Buckeye State.



Effective Leadership in the Face of Legislative Term Limits: Larry Householder's Legislative Team is the story of that transformation. Find out how you can use campaigning and personal skills to rise quickly in leadership. Learn how campaigning and governing can be linked to create effective public policy. This is the story of how a large incoming class of inexperienced legislators can be merged with experienced colleagues to form a functional, effective and cohesive team.

While this case study is particularly appropriate for leaders from term limited states, the lessons learned and taught will be of use to any leader trying to build a cohesive legislative team. You can find the case study on our website at www.sllf.org under Case Studies.

One of the most difficult political issues facing our national, state, and local governments is the state of our criminal justice system. Debates related to this topic often turn passionate as participants discuss such topics as defendant and victim rights; punishment and rehabilitation; fairness and justice. Too frequently each side of the debate brings forward their 'poster child' - either a victim of a horrible crime or an innocent defendant who was wrongly convicted - to call attention to their cause. The result, unfortunately, is a political discussion that is passionate, hotly contested, and seldom leads to significant reform to address real concerns. While each side of the debate has merit, we should all agree that the goal of the criminal justice system should be to arrest, charge, convict and sentence the guilty in a manner that respects the rights of victims and defendants. All too often, however, our system falls short of this lofty goal.

Consider the following. The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that state and local governments spend in excess of \$124,408,000,000 per year on the justice system (defined as policing, judicial and legal expenses, and corrections). That translates into roughly \$440 per person each year. Few other governmental activities consume as many of our financial resources. The criminal justice system also consumes substantial "human" resources. The United States is, on a per capita basis, one of the most heavily incarcerated countries in the world. The BJS reports that over 5.5 million individuals are under correctional supervision each year. This represents 2.8% of the US population.

Despite the millions of dollars devoted to the system and the attention of many well-intentioned participants, the public lacks confidence in our criminal justice system. A BJS survey indicated that the criminal justice system had the confidence of only 27%

of the US public. This ranks well behind other institutions such as the military (79%), police (59%), banks (47%), churches (45%), the medical system (38%), public schools, (38%), newspapers (35%), and T.V. news (35%).

What can account for this relative low ranking of the criminal justice system despite repeated reform efforts? Almost daily the nation's newspapers report on failures of our criminal justice system. Stories recount victims who do not receive the attention they deserve, of innocents who are freed from prison after years of incarceration, and of police, prosecutors, and defense lawyers who fail to perform their job properly. These are serious matters that demand serious attention by policy makers and the public.

The good news is that there are practical, reasonable, reforms that have been implemented in a variety of states to address some of these concerns. For example, some jurisdictions now require that all police interviews be video taped to guard against misconduct and to create a record for the court. Other jurisdictions have recently adopted standards that establish minimum qualifications for lawyers who are assigned to represent indigent criminal defendants. Still other states have adopted statutes that provide access to post conviction DNA testing. These reforms are not budget neutral, but the early evidence from the states that had adopted these and other reforms is that their systems have been improved and, more importantly, are more equitable.

** Michael K. Moore is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Associate Provost at the University of Texas at Arlington. Since 1995 he has also been a member of the State Bar of Texas Committee on the Provision of Legal Services to the Poor in Criminal Matters.*

SLLF Abroad:

Argentina Hosts First Annual Meeting of SLLF/Latin America

Legislative and parliamentary leaders from 24 countries in Latin America, Europe, Canada and the United States were in attendance at the first annual meeting of SLLF's newest subsidiary, SLLF/Latin America (SLLF/LA), in Buenos Aires, Argentina from February 26th to March 1st. The objective of the five-day gathering in Buenos Aires was to establish a sustainable dialogue on issues of common concern among legislators and parliamentarians from North and South America and Europe.

"Latin American legislative leaders often express their disappointment at how little one-on-one contact they have with their counterpart legislative leaders in the United States. And they say that the level of contact is even less with their European counterparts. Now, SLLF/LA will provide a long-needed mechanism for an historic three-way dialogue among public and private sector leaders from all three continents."

Stephen G. Lakis, President, SLLF

At the conference's opening night reception at the Argentine National Congress, Argentina's Vice President Daniel Scioli, welcomed the participants to his country, applauded the goals of SLLF/LA and noted the critical importance of the organization. The following evening, the Hon. Lino Guterrez, the United States Ambassador to Argentina, hosted a reception for the conference attendees at his residence.

Among featured speakers at the conference sessions were Peter Romero, former United States Under-Secretary of State for the Western Hemisphere, Senator Antonio Wolff of Columbia and Maria Bettua, Director of Zogby Worldwide, a division of Zogby International. The speakers lead spirited discussions of the future of Latin American- European- United States relations, the challenges of international relations and the diverse opinions held by citizens of both Latin America and the United States regarding those relationships. All present agreed that SLLF/Latin America will provide a forum for much needed dialogue between the three continents.

SLLF Continues To Assist Legislative Bodies In Developing Countries

Under the direction of David Ogle, SLLF's Director of International Program Development, the SLLF continues its capacity-building assistance to parliaments and legislatures in the world's developing democratic countries. Two new projects are scheduled during February, March and April.

During February and March, the Foundation completed a review of security arrangements in the Parliament of Armenia. Armenia is a small west Asian country of 3.1 million that was formerly part of the Soviet Union and has been striving to build a new democratic system since achieving its independence in 1991. Parliamentary security has been a matter of special concern in Armenia since October 1999 when gunmen stormed the country's parliament building and killed the Prime Minister and seven other people. The project, which SLLF will be undertaking through Development Associates, an Arlington, Virginia consulting firm that is under contract to the USAID.

In April, an SLLF representative will be in Dili, Timor-Leste (formerly known as East Timor) for two weeks, assisting the parliament of this new democracy to strengthen its committee system. The project, which will be conducted through the United Nations Development Project (UNDP), will include preparation of an operations manual for use by the parliament's committees and, particularly, its chairpersons. Timor-Leste, a small southeast Asian country of 780,000, is one of the world's newest democracies, having been granted independence by Indonesia in 1999.



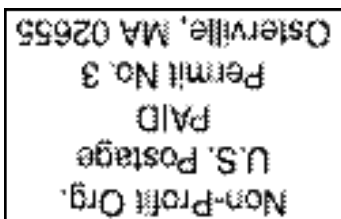
Sabato

Dr. Larry Sabato, political pundit and Director of the University of Virginia's Center for Politics, focused participant's attention on the importance and potential of issue-driven campaigns, while Mississippi Governor and former RNC Chair, Haley Barbour told how it could be done, citing his own successful campaign for Governor and the 1994 Republican Contract with America. Participants heard from political experts across the partisan and ideological spectrum, including the former political director of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, the president of The Polling Company, and a partner in Squier Dunn Knapp Communications.

In addition to talking about elections and democracy, participants spent time in the world of one of the founders of American democracy, meeting on the campus designed by and visiting the home of Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and 3rd President of the United States.

"We should not take for granted the power of creating/ implementing an agenda driven campaign. The sessions were useful because they informed us how to do this in a nutshell."

The Honorable
Scott Saiki, Hawaii
House of
Representatives



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