Are You Ready for Day on the Hill?
AACTE Government Relations and Advocacy Committee

Chair: Trish Parrish, Lindsey Wilson College
Board Liaison: Mary Murray, Bowling Green State University
Larry G. Daniel, The Citadel
Beth Giles-Klinkner, University of Wisconsin Madison
Donny Lee, Harding University
Allan Clarkson, Western Governors University
Glynis Barber, Coppin State University
Today’s Presenters

Larry G. Daniel (moderator), The Citadel
Ann E. Larson, University of Louisville
Stacey Edmonson, Sam Houston State University
Vinny Alfonso, Gonzaga University
Questions will be taken at the end of the presentation.
Who Should Come to AACTE’s Day on the Hill?

- College/School/Department Leadership
- Faculty
- Staff
- Students
- PK-12 Partners
- Other Community and Government Partners

AACTE’s Day on the Hill is open to members and non-members alike.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
Why *Attend* Day on the Hill?

- Learn how to advocate for the profession, or advance your advocacy skills.

- Meet colleagues and partners from across the country – perhaps your new boss is there, or your new hire!

- Learn how to take these advocacy experiences back home to your state chapter or your institution to augment the voices engaging on behalf of the profession.

- You get to have some FUN! Check out the Twitter feed from last year #AACTEWW19
Attending the Holmes Summer Policy Institute? If you register for Day on the Hill, your registration is FREE.

Attending the State Leaders Institute? Register for Day on the Hill and get a discount on the package.

At an AACTE member institution? The price drops as you bring more people!

To register & see the pricing go to http://bit.ly/AACTEWW19
Tuesday June 4: ORIENTATION

- Washington Update & Talking Point Review

**Breakout Sessions: Track A**
For those new to DOTH or who want to polish up their advocacy skills

**Breakout Sessions: Track B**
For those who have attended 2 or more Days on the Hill and have a track record of meeting with their elected officials at the state or federal levels

Everyone Gets:
- Chance to *practice* your meeting skills and *get feedback*!
- Hear from *congressional staff* on how to work with them.
- Evening Reception with presenters and participants.
Wednesday, June 5

It’s an EARLY departure to Capitol Hill for breakfast:
Buses depart at:

7:30 am

Post breakfast: You go to your meetings!

And we reconvene on Capitol Hill starting later in the day to do a debrief with AACTE staff & other participants!
IMPORTANT TO NOTE

AACTE does NOT set up your meetings!
You Do! 😊

Schedule your meetings for WEDNESDAY JUNE 5!

Once you register, AACTE sends materials to support you in how to set up your meetings.

You can also work with your institution’s government relations staff.
Before You Ask For a Meeting

Are you going it alone, or with others?
• With colleagues, students, or community partners?
• Join representatives from other IHEs in your state?

Who Represents YOU?

United States House of Representatives
United States Senate
Requesting a Meeting

Going It Alone

• You ask for the meeting!
• Email or call – check out the AACTE Advocacy Guide titled *Requesting a Meeting With an Elected Official* at the AACTE Advocacy Center’s [federal page](#)

Going in a Group

• Determine who in the group will ask for the meeting – it’s best coming from a constituent!
Never Asked Before?

We’ve got a script for you to follow in the AACTE Advocacy Guide on the federal page

Key Information to include:

• Identify yourself and if you are a constituent, & your institution
• Ask for a meeting with the Member of Congress or their staff
• Share what topic(s) you want to cover
• Let them know who else will be attending the meeting
• Get name and full contact number for the person with whom you speak
Want Some Help?

AACTE MEMBER COACHES AVAILABLE

They are just an email away!

Beth Giles-Klinkner, University of Wisconsin Madison
Todd Price, National Louis University
Allen Clarkson, Western Governors University
HOMEWORK TIME! Preparing for Your Meetings

AACTE has an Advocacy Guide titled *Preparing for a Meeting with an Elected Official* on the federal page of the AACTE Advocacy Center!

- Day on the Hill Orientation will help you get up to speed on current legislation, budget items, and other policy decisions unfolding in Congress
- Do your homework – research the elected officials with whom you are meeting!
- What materials do you want to add to the AACTE Leave-Behind-Folders?
- Who leads the meeting if you are in a group?
Before the Meeting, But After Orientation

At the orientation, AACTE updates you on what’s unfolding in Washington, so that you are up to speed.

You also receive talking points on key issues. You cannot cover all of them in a meeting, so you should select a few in advance that you are comfortable with talking on and/or that connect to your programs and experience.

In a Group?
Decide on who will take what talking point before the meeting.
The Meeting!

AACTE has an Advocacy Guide titled *Brief Tips for a Successful Meeting* on the AACTE Advocacy Center’s [federal page](http://www.aacte.org).

• Arrive a few minutes early
• Be flexible & friendly
• Share that you are part of AACTE’s Day on the Hill.
• Be ready with your talking points, or step through the Leave-Behind-Folder
• If you don’t know the answer to a question, ask if you can follow up later.
• Ask for the business card(s) of the staff with whom you met for follow-up
TAKE PHOTOS & POST IT ON TWITTER
Other Things to Keep in Mind

• It’s just as important to meet with staff as it is the Member of Congress.
• Even a short meeting (less than 5 minutes) can make a difference.
• You might have to meet in the hallway or the cafeteria.
• It gets easier as the day moves on.
• You want the staff to see you as a resource not a combatant – personal politics and opinions need to be put aside (AACTE Day on the Hill orientation covers how to do this!)
• THIS IS **FUN**! 😊 #AACTEWW19
After the Meeting

Send a **thank you** email to the staffer with whom you met or to the Member of Congress (via the scheduler).

The email should contain reminders of the following:

- Names of attendees and institutions represented
- What you covered in the meeting
- Any answers that you did not have the answer for at the moment in the meeting
- Offer to be a resource at any time on matters related to educator preparation

*It can be a short email!*
The (Day After the) Day on the Hill

- Pat yourself on the back for representing an important professional interest that makes a difference in our nation.

- Begin to look for other opportunities to advocate – engage with your state chapter, for example, on advocating at the state level! It is important!

- Start planning to attend the 2020 Day on the Hill and let others know what it’s all about.
You can also email gra@aacte.org with other questions.