

GRA/NTC CONFERENCE

*** REGISTRATION – ROOM 302 ***

Sunday, July 24

5:00-7:00 Reception, Michigan League Courtyard

Monday, July 25

7:30-8:30 GRA Trustees Meeting (Regency Ballroom East) NTC Board Meeting (Regency Ballroom West)

8:30-8:40 Welcoming Remarks (Terrace Ballroom)
Brief words of greeting from Earl Ryan, CRC President, John Kennedy, GRA President & Kevin McCarthy, NTC President

8:40-10:15 Joint Roundtable (Terrace Ballroom)
Each organization will have an opportunity to discuss the past year's activities, upcoming activities, and organizational issues. Tim Bramlet will moderate and lead the discussion.

10:15-10:30 Break

10:30-11:00 Formula Driven Budgeting (Terrace Ballroom)
Kevin McCarthy will give a presentation highlighting the findings of a recent the Arizona Tax Research Association on the recent trend of statutorily determining increased budget costs by instituting formulas into agency budgets.

11:00-12:15 Price of Government (Terrace Ballroom)
Steve Struthers will discuss the Price of Government as a tool for budgeting. Dick Davis will serve as a responder, discussing the State of Washington's experience in using the methods espoused by the Price of Government.

12:20-1:50 Joint Lunch (Regency Ballroom)
The Funding of Higher Education
James Duderstadt will discuss different state approaches to higher education funding, trends toward reduced state support, and other issues confronting administrators of America's colleges and universities. Ran Coble will serve as responder, using recent work of the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research to bring context to Dr. Duderstadt's comments.

	GRA (Terrace Ballroom)	NTC (Regency Ballroom West)
2:00-3:30	What is so hard about regionalism? <i>Jered Carr will lead Paul Tait and Robert Daddow in a discussion of the aspects of regionalism that are attractive for metropolitan areas, the mechanisms that are key to achieving those goals, and the impediments to reaching them.</i>	The Future of the Initiative Process <i>Liz Gerber will moderate a discussion with Phyllis Resnick and Larry McCarthy of recent trends in the use of the initiative process and what they see in the future.</i>

3:45-5:00 Building a Tax System for the 21st Century (Terrace Ballroom)
An analysis of how state and local governments are attempting to alter their tax structures to better suit the economy of the 21st century. Doug Drake will moderate this panel, with Bob Cline, Ron Fischer, and Joel Slemrod serving as panelists.

Evening on your own

Tuesday, July 26

8:00-9:15 Joint Breakfast (Terrace Ballroom)

Meeting the Challenges of Urban Economic Development

Walter Watkins, Chief Development Officer for the City of Detroit, will offer his thoughts on the difficulties big cities face in attempting to attract economic development.

9:15-9:30 Break

9:30-10:30 Education Issues (Terrace Ballroom)

Moderated by John Munich, this panel will have Steve Smith discuss outcomes and trends in school finance lawsuits among the states, and Dennis Pollard, who is involved in the class action lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Education, will address weaknesses in the implementation of No Child Left Behind.

10:30-10:45 Break

GRA
(Regency Ballroom East)

10:45-12:00 Changes in State/Local Responsibilities
A lively discussion of trends in the evolution of state/local responsibilities for the collection and funding of government services. Doug Roberts will discuss how Proposal A of 1994 came about and how well it is working 10 years later. John Kennedy and Jim Williams will respond with tales of recent efforts to accomplish similar tax shifts in Texas and Alabama.

NTC
(Regency Ballroom West)

Public Employee Retirement Systems
Frank Audia from Plante & Moran and Cathy Nagy from Gabriel Roeder & Smith will lead a discussion of trends in funding of public employee retirement systems.

Tuesday afternoon free

6:00-9:00 Joint Dinner (Regency Ballroom)

The Decline in Media Coverage of State and Local Government

Tim Skubick, dean of the Lansing press corps, will provide the keynote address. Tim is an entertaining and thoughtful commentator on state and local politics and public policy making and a long-time friend of the Research Council.

Wednesday, July 27

7:30-8:15 GRA Trustees Meeting (Terrace Ballroom West)

7:30-9:30 NTC Board Meeting (Boardroom #301)

8:30-9:30 GRA Award Winners Discussion (Terrace Ballroom East)

Winners from the GRA Tuesday evening's publication awards competition will discuss their reports. Winners are encouraged to discuss research methodologies, implications of their research, changes brought about as a result of their work.

9:30-9:45 Break

9:45-11:00 GRA/NTC Organizational Issues (Terrace Ballroom)

This session will focus on organizational issues of GRA and NTC organizations. We are looking for ideas that may or may not have brought favorable changes to your organization. Do you have war stories in your attempts to create an endowment? Different strategies for printing and disseminating your research? Success with foundations? Cooperation with universities?

11:00 Adjourn Sine Die



Conference Registration Form

July 24th-27th in Ann Arbor, Michigan

Name Telephone Number (____) _____

Title Fax Number (____) _____

Company Name

Street Address

City, State Zip Code

E-mail address

1st Attendee from GRA/NTC Member @ \$150 ea. = \$ _____

Each additional attendee from GRA/NTC Member
_____ @ \$125 ea. = \$ _____

Monday Sessions # _____ @ \$40 ea. = \$ _____

Tuesday Sessions # _____ @ \$25 ea. = \$ _____

Tuesday Night Dinner – July 26th

One Dinner ticket is included with each registration fee. Other guests are welcome to attend. The cost is \$60 per person.

_____ Additional Dinner tickets @ \$60 ea. = \$ _____

_____ Tigers tickets @ \$20 ea. = \$ _____

Final Total = \$ _____

Please make you check payable to Citizens Research Council of Michigan (734-542-8001 or crcmich@crcmich.org) for the Final Total amount.

The conference will be held at the Campus Inn. Rooms are being held for attendees at a cost of \$135.00 per night for a single occupant, \$157.00 per night for double occupants (\$22.00 for each additional occupant). You are responsible for your room registration. Call 800-666-8693 or go to www.campusinn.com for reservations. You must mention you are with GRA for these room rates. Registration deadline for this rate is June 24th.



**Detroit Tigers v.
Minnesota Twins**

Sunday, July 24, 1:05 p.m.

CRC will provide transportation
from the Campus Inn to
Comerica Park

Additional Attendees included in this registration:

Name	Title