

May 14, 2007

Dear GRA Friends and Colleagues:

It is that time again. Time for us to get back together, explore substantive policy issues, share organizational achievements and challenges, celebrate the best of the research our collective agencies have to offer, and generally reconnect with old friends and colleagues. Yes, it is GRA conference time, this time with an altitude. I hope you will join us in Denver from August 5-8, 2007 for our annual research conference. After years of pleading from members, I am happy to invite and welcome you to the Mile High City for this year's gathering.

Enclosed you will find a tentative agenda and a registration form for this year's Governmental Research Association annual conference. I hope you will agree with me that the Board has put together a wonderful slate of sessions addressing substantive policy issues affecting all levels of policy, national, state and local.

The conference is scheduled to convene with registration and a reception the evening of Sunday, August 5th. We have scheduled panels for all day Monday August 6 and the mornings of Tuesday August 7 and Wednesday August 8, with adjournment at midday Wednesday to get everyone off to the mountains to fish or otherwise recreate...or on their way home for those of you who are not afflicted with a state level version of Niwot's Curse.

The conference will be held in the heart of downtown Denver at the recently renovated Curtis Hotel (www.thecurtis.com). The phone number for the hotel is included on the registration form. Those coming by air will want to fly into Denver International Airport and take the shuttle to the hotel. Allow about an hour for the shuttle. You probably won't need that much time, but you can't predict traffic or the number of stops. For the more adventurous of you, the Regional Transportation District bus to Market Street Station will place you within walking distance of the hotel as well.

The Colorado Rockies play the Milwaukee Brewers on the evening of August 6th. We are planning an outing to the ballpark where hopefully the Blake Street boys will not disappoint. It is typically a hitting fest up here in the thin air. And, if not, the view is worth the price of admission. Details on the game to be available at registration.

If I can help with any questions regarding the conference or some R and R in the mountains following the meetings, please do not hesitate to get in touch. I may be reached at 303.554.9292 or at parterry@hotmail.com or r2analysis@comcast.net.

Hope to see everyone in Denver. Bring your sunscreen, water bottle and oxygen mask!

Phyllis Resnick
Conference Hostess