

**GRA Summer 2007 Research Conference – Denver, Colorado**  
**Sunday August 5 – Wednesday August 8, 2007**  
**DRAFT Conference Schedule**

**Sunday August 5, 2007**

4:00 – 6:30 pm Registration

6:45 – 8:00 pm Opening Cocktail Reception

Dinner and evening will be on your own.

Hospitality Suite will be open.

**Monday August 6, 2007**

**7:30 am Trustees' Meeting**

**8:00 am BREAKFAST**

**8:30 – 10:45 am Session 1: Opening Roundtable Discussion**

- Catching up on the goings on of GRA organizations

Moderator: Ran Coble and Eric Lupher

**10:45 – 11:00 BREAK**

**11:00 – 12:00 Session 2: Regional Cooperation**

- Strategies for financing
- Colorado examples

Moderator: Steve Wray

**12:00 – 1:30 pm - Working LUNCH:** Proposed presentation – Update on education related litigation against states.

**1:30 – 3:15 Session 3: Local Government Fiscal Distress**

- Effect of changing demographics on the sustainability of sales tax as a government revenue
- Trends in local government financing

Moderator: Eric Lupher

**3:15 – 3:30 BREAK**

**3:30 – 5:00 Session 4: Financing Economic Development.**

- Relationship to tax increment financing
- Incentives that local revenues provide for economic development -- best practices from around the nation
- How do business taxes affect economic development?

Moderator: Ryan Horton

Dinner and evening on your own or join us at the ballpark for Colorado Rockies baseball! Hospitality Suite will be open after the game.

## **Tuesday August 7, 2007**

**7:30 – 8:30am BREAKFAST**

**Discussion and Presentation: 50 State Survey of State Health Care Reform Initiatives**

**8:30 – 10:15 am Session 5: Government Ethics Reform**

- The Colorado experience with Amendment 41
- Other States

Moderator: Lynn Reed

**10:15 – 10:30 BREAK**

**10:30 – 12:00 Session 6: Alternative Energy and Climate Change**

- Colorado Initiatives

Moderator: Steve Kroes

**LUNCH** and afternoon on your own to discover downtown Denver.

**6:30 - ??? DINNER and AWARDS BANQUET**

Hospitality Suite will be open after banquet.

## **Wednesday August 8, 2007**

**7:30 am Trustees' Meeting**

**8:00 – 8:30 BREAKFAST**

**8:30 – 10:15 am Session 7:** Organizational issues facing GRA organizations and non-profits in general

Moderator: Linda Brookhart

**10:15 – 10:30 am BREAK**

**10:30 – 11:30 am Session 8: Reports from related activities**

Eric Lupher to moderate

- Census
- GASAC

**11:30 – 12:30 Session 9: Presentations from Award Winners**

Roland Calia to moderate