



Governmental Research Association

87th Annual Conference
August 5-8, 2001
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania





Take a stroll through historic Olde City Philadelphia. Tour Ben Franklin and Betsy Ross' homes. See where the Declaration of Independence was penned and where the Constitution was signed.

Schedule of Events

**Governmental Research Association
2001 Annual Conference
Rittenhouse Square Sheraton Hotel
August 5-8, 2001
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**



Make a visit to Philadelphia's world-famous Museum of Art. It's free until 1:00 p.m. on Sundays.

Sunday, August 5

Arrival

Potential Daytime Family Fun Activities:

- ◆ Tour Independence Hall
- ◆ Shop at world famous Rittenhouse Square shops/boutiques
- ◆ Visit Philadelphia museums
- ◆ German Summer Fest -- Penn's Landing
- ◆ Catch the World Dragon Boat Racing Championships
- ◆ Wilmington, DE Blue Rocks vs. Salem Avalanche (2:05 p.m.)



Walk through a giant model human heart following the path of blood circulation, catch a flick on the amazing IMAX theatre, or visit the state-of-the-art forecast weather center at the Franklin Institute Science Museum.

5:30-7:00 p.m.
GRA Reception (spouses welcome)

9:00-11:00 p.m.
Hospitality Suite



**PHILADELPHIA
ZOO**
AMERICA'S FIRST ZOO



**NEW JERSEY
STATE AQUARIUM**

Monday, August 6

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Trustee's Meeting

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:45 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks:

Samuel Tyler

President, GRA

Boston Municipal Research Bureau

David Thornburgh

Conference Host

Pennsylvania Economy League - Eastern Division

Jim Cuorato (invited)

Director of Commerce

City of Philadelphia

8:45-10:15 a.m.

Intergovernmental Relations in the Bush Era

Are the really important public policy decisions being made in state capitols, city halls and county commission chambers? As states gain increasing responsibility for social programs from the federal government, state leaders are having to make difficult financial and public policy choices. Will George Bush continue to shift power down to state and local government? Or will he consolidate federal power under the "cloak of devolution?" Additionally, how will local, state and federal agencies cooperate to address some of the most important issues to citizens? What tensions are inherent in their interaction?

Moderated by:

Karen Temple, Executive Director

Taxpayers Research Council.

Texas City, Texas

Panelists:

Karen Miller, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Economy League - State Office

Joseph Tierney, Vice President Greater Philadelphia Initiatives, Public Private Ventures

Alan Weil, Director of New Federalism Project, Urban Institute

10:30-11:45 a.m.

New Realities and New Opportunities in Public Education

Education appears to be the cornerstone of President Bush's approach to federal-state and federal-local relations. Although the White House serves as a forum for education issues and the federal government provides important educational funding, the real work in education is done at the state and local levels. What are some of the education issues that will take center stage in the Bush Administration and how will it affect state governments, local municipalities, and school districts? In addition, how have states measured up in allocating money for education? Despite lawsuits and legislative haggling, grave disparities still persist between rich and poor schools within states and across states.



Logan Circle on Benjamin Franklin Parkway



Pennsylvania Convention Center

Moderated by:
Earl Ryan, President
Citizens Research Council of Michigan

Panelists:
Virginia Edwards, Editor, Education Week
Debra Kahn, Secretary of Education, City of Philadelphia (invited)
Mike Rebell, Executive Director, Campaign for Fiscal Equity (invited)

12:00-1:30 p.m.
Luncheon
Using Research to Make Better Public Policy Decisions

Keynote Speaker:
Bob Butera
President and CEO
Pennsylvania Convention Center

2:00-4:30 p.m.
Urban Futures in the New Economy

Tour of Pennsylvania Convention Center

Find out how quasi-governmental organizations are helping to solve problems facing metropolitan Philadelphia. How are these organizations structured and how are they funded?

Moderated by:
David Thornburgh, Executive Director, PEL - Eastern Division

Panelists:
Meryl Levitz, Exec. Director, Greater Phila. Tourism & Marketing Corp.
Paul Levy, Executive Director, Philadelphia Center City District
Paul Drayton, Executive Director, Delaware River Port Authority
Joseph Vignola, Exec. Dir., PA Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority

5:00-9:00 p.m.
Free Time

Potential Options:

◆ **Lights of Liberty Show at Independence Hall**

Grab your headset. We're joining a revolution! Experience the American Revolution, told as it happened, where it happened – told through state-of-the-art technology. The story is told through beautiful hand painted images that are projected up to 50 feet high onto the buildings where the events actually took place over 200 years ago.

You'll hear a moving musical score, performed by musicians of the Philadelphia Orchestra and dazzling effects produced at Skywalker Sound. The voices of Walter Cronkite, Ossie Davis, and Charlton Heston tell the tale.

The story is also available on our "Children's Channel", magically told by Whoopi Goldberg and geared specifically towards children ages 6 - 12. In addition, the adult version is offered in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

GRA has secured 50 complimentary tickets to the Lights of Liberty Show for GRA Members, their spouses and children. Please mark on your reservation form how many tickets you will need. GRA will distribute tickets on a first-come, first-served basis.

•• **Trenton Thunder play New Haven @ 7:05 p.m.**

9:00-11:00 p.m.
Hospitality Suite



Tuesday, August 7

7:30-10:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast & Roundtable Discussion

A general session to discuss common GRA issues

Moderated by:

Ran Coble, Executive Director
North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research

Speakers:

Members of GRA (TBD)

10:15-11:45 a.m. Research Techniques & Uses of State and Federal Data Sources

This informative session will describe research techniques and data sources that are becoming available for public policy research from both state and federal governments. The discussion will pay particular attention to education, accountability and performance measurement data.

Moderated by:

Michael Weir, Senior Fellow
Pennsylvania Economy League - Western Division

Panelists:

Jonathan Jacobson, Director of Public Finance, Standard & Poor
Sheri Rowe, Special Programs Coordinator, PA Department of Education
Henry Wulf, Government Division, Census Bureau

12:00-1:30 p.m. Research Discussion: Measurement of Education Performance (Box Lunch)

An informal session with GRA leaders to discuss techniques assessing education performance. The panelists will discuss their involvement in assessing educational performance, to be followed by a discussion from other members.

Moderated by:

Samuel Tyler, President
Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Panelists:

Jeffrey Browne, Research Director, Public Policy Forum
Donna Smith, Connecticut Policy & Economic Council
Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Citizens League (MN)

1:30-6:00 p.m. Free Afternoon

6:30-8:30 p.m. Awards Banquet (spouses welcome)



Independence Hall

What can you expect from the 87th Annual GRA Conference?

Expertise

Authoritative keynotes and sessions from government and economic development leaders in a variety of disciplines.

Insight

Keynote presenters will discuss both the internal and external forces that are shaping future governmental relations.

Participation

Networking opportunities, facilitated discussion groups that uncover best practices, and the opportunity to learn from the experiences and research of your fellow colleagues.

Keynote Speaker:

Fred Siegel, Senior Fellow,
Progressive Policy Institute and author
of *The Future Once Happened Here*

8:30-11:00 p.m.

Hospitality Suite

Wednesday, August 8

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Trustees' Meeting

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

8:30-10:00 a.m.

New Horizons in Philanthropy and Public Policy Research

GRA researchers focus mostly on state and local issues. Even so, our collective influence is national in scope, and we could be working together on national problems. What are some of these problems? Which ones interest foundations? And what has to happen to strengthen the connection between foundations and nonpartisan watchdog groups like ours?

Moderated by:

Jeffrey Browne, Research Director
Public Policy Forum

Panelists:

Sean Treglia, Program Officer - Public Policy Program, Pew Charitable Trusts (invited)
Brian Kelly, The Heinz Foundation (invited)
Helen Davis Picher, William Penn Foundation (invited)

10:15-11:45 a.m.

I. GRA Research Alliances

II. GASB-GRA Discussion

How can GRA organizations partner with other organization on issues of common interest? What organizational and financial issues are involved? What is the current relationship between GASB and GRA?

Moderated by:

James Williams, Executive Director
Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama

Panelists:

Daniel Salomone, Executive Director, Minnesota Taxpayers Association
William Sheldrake, President, Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute

11:45-noon

Closing Comments

Samuel Tyler, GRA President
Boston Municipal Research Bureau

Adjournment



Before heading home, stop for lunch at Philadelphia's legendary **Reading Terminal Market** at 12th and Arch Streets. Established in 1893, it is the nation's oldest continuously operating farmers' market. Visitors enjoy eating virtually every type of cuisine, from soul food to Asian and Middle Eastern dishes to traditional Pennsylvania Dutch fare — all available from largely family-run stands. Sit-down eateries are scattered throughout the market.

Sheraton Rittenhouse Square

HOTEL PHILADELPHIA



Sheraton Rittenhouse Square Hotel
18th at Locust Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103
Tel: (215) 546-9400
Fax: (215) 893-0995



info@sheratonrittenhouse.com

*Perfectly located on
the lovely Rittenhouse
Square*

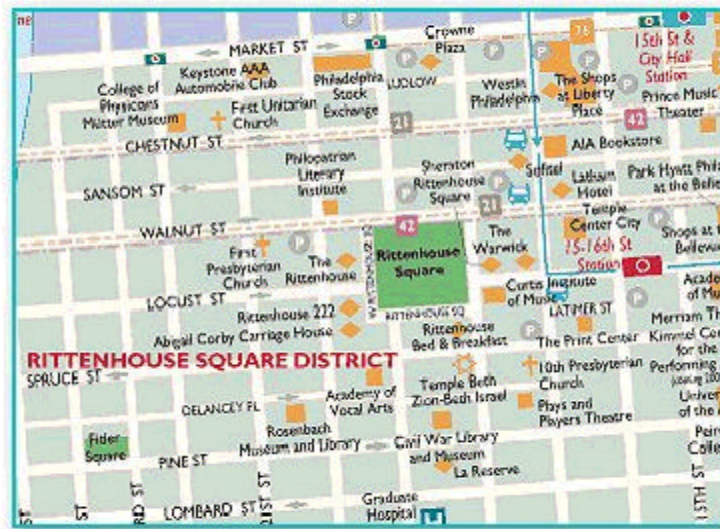
The Sheraton Rittenhouse Square is centrally located at the heart of Philadelphia's Center City, easily accessible by air, train or car and a short walk from Philadelphia's new and impressive Convention Center.

Ground Transportation:

From the Airport: the hotel participates in a shuttle service to and from the airport. The fee for this service is \$8.00 each way. To make arrangements for this service, contact USA Limo at 215-546-5044. When you arrive in Philadelphia, you can make arrangements with the bellman to schedule your return trip to the airport.

From Amtrak: the hotel is a short cab ride from Philadelphia's 30th Street Station.

From Regional Rail: the hotel is a short walk from Philadelphia's Suburban Station, a hub for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority's regional rail system.



Hotel Reservations, Procedures and Policies

GRA has arranged special rates for conference attendees and their guests. These room rates are for GRA Conference attendees only. ***If you don't mention the GRA Conference when you register, a higher rate will apply.***

\$129.00 per night (plus tax).

Each room features a large work station with internet access, sitting area and a king-size bed.

DEADLINE DATE:

All reservations must be made directly with the hotel by **July 15, 2001**. *Cancellations will be subject to a cancellation fee.*



The Liberty Bell



Area Attractions

Welcome to Philadelphia, the place that loves you back! The fifth-largest city in the United States and the second-largest on the East Coast, Philadelphia is one of the world's most dynamic destinations. In Philadelphia, you will be at the crossroads of big city excitement and hometown hospitality where the promise of the future meets old world charm. Most famous as the birthplace of American independence and home of the Liberty Bell, Philadelphia offers a unique variety of attractions, culture, entertainment and activity that is sure to bring a smile to your face and the desire to return soon. A tour of the city's diverse neighborhoods brings the best of Philadelphia to life, and keeps you wanting more.

Historic and Waterfront District

The city's historic and waterfront park begins on 6th Street, just four blocks east of the Convention Center, and continues to Penn's Landing on the banks of the Delaware River. The site of Philadelphia's earliest settlements, the neighborhood is full of 18th-century influence including Colonial-era homes and cobblestone streets. In addition to the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, Independence National Historical Park - America's most historic square mile - is home to numerous historical buildings and sites, most of which are free to the public.

Old City

Your exploration of America's heritage continues north of Market Street in the city's first commercial district. In addition to Betsy Ross's home and Elfreth's Alley - America's oldest continuously residential street - Old City is known for the most exciting collection of art galleries on the East Coast.

Society Hill

A prominent Delaware River waterfront neighborhood steeped in America's history, Society Hill is a upscale prototype for urban restoration. Enjoy the architectural styles of hundreds of historically significant townhouses and places of worship.



The Benjamin Franklin Parkway



Manayunk

South Street

The “hippest street in Philadelphia,” South Street is famous for its eclectic shops, diverse restaurants and dynamic nightlife. There’s no better place to people-watch on a Friday or Saturday night.

Washington Square District

Centered around one of the public squares planned by William Penn, this area of the city connects the historic and commercial districts. Walking through the quaint neighborhoods you will discover Jewelers Row and Antique Row, two of the city’s specialty shopping areas, as well as the Walnut Street and Forrest theaters.

Convention Center District

Built in 1994, the state-of-the-art Pennsylvania Convention Center contains more than 400,000 square feet of exhibit and meeting space and is one of the finest facilities in the country. The Center is connected to the historic Reading Terminal Market, an open-air smorgasbord of 80 eateries and merchants.

Chinatown

The “Chinese Friendship Gate” at 10th and Arch Streets welcomes you to this bustling community that has established itself as a center for fine art, culture, and the very best in Asian culinary delights for more than a century.

Parkway/Museum District

Stretching from City Hall to The Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway is flanked by some of the city’s most acclaimed institutions. The Parkway is also the location of numerous festivals and events throughout the year, including Fourth of July fireworks. Logan Circle, one of the public “squares” in the city’s original design, is home to the magnificent Swann Fountain.

Rittenhouse Square District

One of the most prestigious addresses in Philadelphia, Rittenhouse Square is famous for its world-class shopping and restaurants. Part of William Penn’s original city plan, this beautiful public square is a popular destination for Center City residents and visitors alike.

Manayunk

Nestled along the banks of the Schuylkill River just west of Center City, Manayunk is one of the newest hot spots in the area. Named a National Historic District in 1983, “Philadelphia’s Main Street” boasts more than 65 chic boutiques and galleries and dozens of restaurants.

South Philadelphia

This mix of long-established residential ethnic neighborhoods, provides a tapestry of sights, sounds and tastes to explore. In addition to being home of the city’s expansive professional Sports Complex, South Philadelphia is probably best known for the open-air Italian Market, outstanding Italian restaurants, and the home of the cheesesteak.

The Avenue of the Arts

Encompassing North and South Broad Street, The Avenue of the Arts is one of the premier cultural destinations in the city and the region and home to the Academy of Music, the Merriam Theater, Wilma Theater, Freedom Theatre and the dazzling Regional Performing Arts Center to be completed in 2001.

(Source: Pennsylvania Convention and Visitors Bureau)



Society Hill



Rittenhouse Square



South Street



Avenue of the Arts



Conference Reservation Form

YES, I plan to attend the 87th Annual GRA Conference in Philadelphia on August 5-8, 2001.

Please enclose your **check** (*no credit cards, sorry*), **made payable to the Pennsylvania Economy League -- Eastern Division** and send it along with this registration form to:

**Pennsylvania Economy League -- Eastern Div.
Attention: Meredith Jelleyman
1700 Market Street; Suite 3130
Philadelphia, PA 19103**

Name

Title

Company Name

Street Address

City, State Zip Code

Telephone Number

Fax Number

email address

*** Please note, hotel reservations must be made separately from the conference reservation. (See Sheraton Rittenhouse Hotel fact sheet included with this invitation.)**

**There will be no conference cancellations or refunds.
Questions? Please call 215-563-3640.**

Three-Day Conference

- **GRA Members (\$225.00)**

_____ members @ \$225. ea.

- **Non GRA Members (\$250.00)**

_____ non-members @ \$250. ea.

Daily Pass

(\$100.00)

_____ days @ \$100. ea.

_____ Monday, August 6, 2001

_____ Tuesday, August 7, 2001

_____ Wednesday, August 8, 2001

Lights of Liberty

(8/6/01)

_____ tickets (complimentary)

Cocktail Reception

(8/5/01)

The cocktail party is included in the cost of the conference. You are welcome to bring a spouse or a guest to the cocktail party. The cost for each spouse/guest is \$25.00.

_____ guests @ \$25. ea.

Dinner (8/7/01)

The dinner is included in the cost of the conference. You are welcome to bring a spouse or guest to dinner. The cost for each spouse/guest \$50.00.

_____ guests @ \$50. ea.

TOTAL AMOUNT
