



Deans and Directors Summit Summary

Background

Over 50 Deans and Directors of NASPAA institutions met in Washington, DC on October 14th, 2009 to push for reform of the Federal hiring process. The Deans and Directors met with their representatives on Capitol Hill regarding S.736, the Federal Hiring Improvement Act, and H.R. 3264, the Federal Internship Improvement Act.

Issue

Graduates of NASPAA programs are having an increasingly difficult time gaining Federal employment because of a lack of an effective hiring pipeline for graduates. NASPAA's direct association with graduate programs of public policy and administration makes us a primary stakeholder and partner for ensuring the future generation of talented public servants successfully gains employment within the Federal Government.

In addition, NASPAA had several key speakers speak the day of the Summit and at NASPAA's Annual Conference the following day. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Director John Berry spoke about OPM's actions on hiring reform and vision for the future, and his Chief of Staff stayed afterwards to answer questions. James Walkinshaw, Chief of Staff for H.R. 3264 sponsor Representative Gerry Connolly, spoke to Deans and Directors about the merits and need for H.R. 3264. Christine Kim from Senator Akaka's office and Jennifer Hemingway of Senator Voinovich's office spoke on the merits and need for S. 736.

Key Findings:

During lawmaker visits, each Member and staffer Deans spoke to agreed on the urgency of the Federal hiring challenge and the need for action. Several offices have expressed a willingness to cosponsor each bill.

Total Office Visits:

- 24 House Offices
 - 17 Democrats, 7 Republicans
- 18 Senate Offices
 - 10 Democrats, 7 Republicans

Moving Forward: Key Strategic Areas

NASPAA is scheduling key follow-up meetings with members of key subcommittees, OPM representatives, Office of Management and Budget representatives, as well as partnering with offices like Representative Connolly, Senator Voinovich, and Senator Akaka to push these bills forward.