

Public Sector Foresight Network Meeting

World Future Society Annual Conference

Friday, July 19, 2013

Chicago, Illinois

Preliminary Agenda

9:00 Welcome & Introductions

- **Ken Hunter**
Chairman, World Future Society
- **Dewey Harris**
Assistant County Manager, Catawba County, North Carolina

Our purpose at this year's face-to-face meeting is to begin dialogues by our Network on three dimensions of our public sector foresight work. First, how we do our work – how we design our projects, select the tools to be used, and carry out our projects. Second, how we build and operate networks and collaborations across many organizations to carry out foresight of large, complex government systems and functions. Third, how we build effective training and communications operations to support our foresight work.

We have invited several of our practitioner colleagues to share their approaches and methods to start our discussions today. In the morning we will address “how we do our work” - with three of our colleagues with very different experiences. Each will explain what they do and take questions. Then we will have a general discussion and hopefully identification of specific topics that people would like to work on together and volunteers to lead.

In the afternoon we will do the same for “building and operating networks and collaborations” with four of our colleagues. And, lastly, one of our colleagues that works on training will get us started on that topic followed by a general discussion of communication to policy and decision-makers.

At the end of the day we will have (1) a recap of the ideas for members of the network, asking for volunteers to pursue these over next year, e.g., planning for 2014 Orlando conference and (2) suggestions for two dimensions of our foresight work that we should give priority at next year's meeting.

9:15 Reflections: Inaugural Year in Review

- **Nancy Donovan**
Senior Analyst, Applied Research & Methods
U.S. Government Accountability Office
- **John Schmidt**
Team Leader, Strategic Research and Analysis Desk, Macro
Analysis and Research
Financial Analysis and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada
(FINTRAC)

MORNING SESSION: HOW WE DO FORESIGHT

9:30-10:00

Oliver Grant

Head of Horizon Scanning Centre, Foresight Programme
Government Office for Science, UK

“The Right Answer Depends on the Right Question and the Right Tool”

Experiences from the UK Foresight Programme of different futures tools to inform public policy

10:00-10:15

BREAK

10:15-10:45

Erin Aleman

Principal Planner, Chicago Metropolitan Agency on Planning

“GO TO 2040: Scenario Planning and Public Engagement”

Experiences in using foresight in regional planning

10:45-11:15

Ty Mitchell

Assistant Director, Strategic Issues
US Government Accountability Office

“Reexamination: A Framework for Raising Pertinent Questions From Foresight”

Experiences from leveraging foresight in order to tee up public discussion of sensitive topics

11:15-11:45

FACILITATED DISCUSSION of METHODS

11:45-1:00

Lunch

All are on our own, with suggestions for speediest and best in the hotel or nearby

AFTERNOON SESSION: HOW DO WE CREATE NETWORKS FOR FORESIGHT

1:00-1:45 David Kaufman

Associate Administrator for Policy, Program Analysis, and International Affairs
Federal Emergency Management Agency

Andrew Velasquez

Regional Administrator, Region V
Federal Emergency Management Agency

“Employing Foresight for a Field of Practice”

Experiences applying foresight tools to the field of Emergency Management

1:45-2:15 Dr. Satyamoorthy Kabilan

Director, National Security and Strategic Foresight
The Conference Board of Canada

“The Benefits of a Collaborative Foresight Community”

Experiences and lessons learned from working with and co-leading the UK’s Future Security and Intelligence Outlook Network (FUSION)

2:15-2:30 Joe Moore

Senior Analyst, Strategic Studies Group
Office of Policy and Planning
Department of Veterans Affairs

“Why Should We Create a Federal Foresight Network?”

Discussion of why VA’s initiative led to creation of a U.S. Federal foresight network

2:30-3:00 FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF NETWORKING

3:00-3:15 BREAK

AFTERNOON SESSION: TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION

3:15-3:45 Patricia Sommerville

Manager, Military Personnel Strategic Policy Management team, Department of National Defence (Canada)

"Training Policy Analysts to Use Foresight"

Experiences in developing foresight training

3:45-4:15 FACILITATED DISCUSSION OF ROLE OF COMMUNICATION IN FORESIGHT VIS-À-VIS POLICY/DECISION-MAKING

4:15-4:30 Looking ahead, where do we want the PSFN to be in 2014 and beyond? How do we get there? Planning for 2014 and future conferences!

4:30-4:40 Concluding Thoughts

5:00-6:30 No-host Reception

Brasserie, 800 S Michigan Avenue, Chicago