

**Pre-Conference Symposium
July 7th and July 8th, 2008**

**Strategic Leadership for Career Development in Public Policy
Identifying Challenges, Creating Solutions and Implementing Strategies**

Career development professionals make key contributions at federal, state, and local government levels toward the achievement of public policy goals in education, training and employment. Although career practitioners concentrate on assisting individuals to manage their learning, work and other life-paths, they also operate in policy contexts designed for the public good. Such policies have ultimate goals such as economic competitiveness, efficient investment in education and training, workforce development, and social inclusiveness. Career practitioners must play a key role in achieving these goals.

The contribution of career practitioners to the achievement of such goals is now readily acknowledged in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand and reflected in policy decisions made by governments at national and state/regional levels. The ministries of several countries are funding an International Centre for Career Development and Public Policy (also supported by NCDA), four international symposia on career development and public policy have been held, country career development and public policy reviews are on going, international collaborative work is taking place on how to provide evidence of the impact of career development services in a meaningful way to policy makers, and international policy networks for career development services have been established.

The Public Policy Symposium integrates the expertise of international and national leadership with the practical experiences of those working in the field during this two-day symposium. Through the combination of invited speakers, US and International panel members and participant workgroups, the symposium will

- **Identify Challenges and Minefields related to career development policy initiatives**
- **Create Solutions that address selected challenges and**
- **Develop Strategies to be implemented by organizations and individuals.**

International experts will join national and international participants in discussions.

Liz Galashan Senior Manager of Careers Scotland

"International Symposia on Career Development and Public Policy: Major Findings from Scotland"

John McCarthy Director of the International Centre for Career Development and Public Policy, France

"An Overview of Career Development and Public Policy from the International Centre: Implications for the United States."

Lester Oakes Chief Executive of Career Services New Zealand

"Communicating with Policy Makers: A New Zealand Perspective"

Raimo Vuorinen Coordinator of the European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network, Finland

"The European Lifelong Guidance Policy Network: Possible Implications for North America"

Tony Watts International policy consultant on career guidance and career development, United Kingdom

"Lessons Learned from National Reviews: Implications for the United States."

In addition to invited workgroup facilitators, US speakers and panel members include:

Darrell Luzzo, National Career Development Association President

Ed Herr, Pennsylvania State University, US Public Policy Leader

Bridget Brown, National Assn of Workforce Development Professionals, Chair
NCDA Government Relations

Alberto Puertas, Brigham Young University, Chair NCDA International Committee

Pat Schwallie-Giddis, George Washington University, USA Public Policy Council

NCDA Public Policy Council Members include:

Spencer G Niles, Chair

Martha M. Russell, Co-Chair

Career development and public policy initiatives can be viewed on the site of the International Centre: www.iccdpp.org

Career guidance: a handbook for policymakers (2004) a joint European Commission and OECD publication can be found on the following web site:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/53/54/34060825.pdf>

Thank you for adding your voice to the important effort of fostering public policies that support career services. Doing so is essential if we are to provide career assistance to people across the lifespan, this symposium gives us an added forum for Identifying Challenges, Creating Solutions and Implementing Strategies.

Please note: Detailed agenda, speaker and participant contact information, reading material, handouts and follow up documents will be available to all participants during symposium.

Symposium Co-Chairs:

Spencer G. Niles, Pennsylvania State University

Martha Russell, Russell Career Services, WA