

## The Presidency: The Framers' Vision to Contemporary Debates

2009 Colorado *We the People* Summer Institute  
University of Denver, June 15 – 18, 2009

### June 15, Monday Sturm Hall, Room 451

8:00 Introductions, Welcome

8:30 Student Demonstration: *We the People* Simulated Congressional Hearing

Presentation by students from East High School, Denver. Following the presentation, participants will have an opportunity to discuss the hearing experience and preparation with students.

9:00 Grade level sessions: Introducing the *We the People* Textbook  
High school teachers: Room 334  
Middle school teachers: Room 333

10:15 Break

10:30 The Paradoxes of the American Presidency

What exactly do Americans want from their president? A strong and innovative leader or someone who primarily listens to the will of the people? A party leader or a bipartisan coalition-builder? It would seem that Americans want the president to be both a leader and a follower, partisan and bipartisan, and innovative and conservative. In this session participants will have the opportunity to interact with a leading national presidential scholar.

Dr. Tom Cronin, Department of Political Science and McHugh Professor of American Institutions and Leadership, Colorado College

12:00 Lunch (Box lunch provided.)

1:00 Energy in the Executive: The Case for a Strong National Government

“A strong executive is vital to the success of the new Republic. Without strong, central leadership, the enterprise is mostly certainly destined to fail. The executive must have all the required powers for success – but not too much.”

General Alexander Hamilton., Lt. Colonel Hal Bidlack, Colorado Humanities Hamilton Scholar and Professor of Political Science, US Air Force Academy

2:15 Break

2:30 Participants meet in mentor groups. Mentors will assign readings from high school WTP text as homework for the next day.

Room 451	Kathy Switzer/Derrick Martin's Group	Room 334	Edna Sutton's Group
Room 311	Suzanne deLemos' Group	Room 333	Lori Mable's Group
Room 312	Victoria Bull's Group	Room 335	Chris Elnicki's Group

3:30 Credit Registration. Loyal Darr, Adjunct Professor, Adams State College and *We the People* Congressional District #1 Coordinator

Please bring payment for credit. Credit cards cannot be accepted. 2 semester graduate credit hours from Adams State College \$190. 3 semester graduate credit hours (includes a series of fall study groups) \$260. 2 hours recertification credit \$30.

4:00 Adjourn

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**June 16, Tuesday**

**Sturm Hall, Room 451**

*Computer Lab, 353 Sturm Hall, available 1 – 4:00 pm. Please no food or drink in the computer lab.*

8:00 Middle School *We the People* Simulated Congressional Hearing

Presentation by students from Thunder Ridge Middle School. Following the presentation, participants will have an opportunity to discuss the hearing experience and preparation with students and their teacher, Lori Mable.

8:30 The Growth of the American Presidency

The American Presidency has evolved into a dramatically different institution than the Framers could have imagined. The expansions of the power of the American Presidency will be explored in two sessions. Special attention will be paid to the development of inherent powers. If inherent powers are undefined, are they also unlimited?

Dr. Lauri McNown, Department of Political Science, University of Colorado – Boulder

10:00 Break

10:15 The Growth of the American Presidency, continued

11:30 Lunch (Box lunch provided.)

12:30 Teaching about the Executive Branch: Lesson Demonstrations

- High School Teachers: Lesson 23 Demonstration, “What Is the Role of the President in the American Constitutional System?” Suzanne deLemos and Edna Sutton. Room 335
- Middle School Teachers: Lesson 16 Demonstration, “How Much Power Should Be Given to the Executive and Judicial Branches?” Lori Mable and Chris Elnicki. Room 333.

1:45 Mentor Groups. Mentors to make special “Top Ten” assignment for Professor Weiser’s session tomorrow morning.

4:00 Adjourn

**June 17, Wednesday**  
**Sturm Hall, Room 451**

*Computer Lab, 353 Sturm Hall, available 1- 4 pm. Please no food or drink in the computer lab.*

8:00 Announcements; Recipe for good hearings

9:00 Take It To the Limit: Professor Phil Weiser's Top Ten

The Supreme Court has been reluctant to limit the executive when the President shows a serious national emergency or security crisis. Our history is rich with seminal cases and controversies involving the constitutionality of assertions of presidential power. This session will focus on cases in which the Court attempted to reign in executive power and recalibrate the constitutional balance of powers.

Professor Phil Weiser, Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Colorado School of Law

10:00 Break

10:15 SCOTUS Watch: Selecting a Justice

The retirement of Justice Souter provides President Obama his first appointment to the court and the first seat for a Democratic president to fill in 15 years. According to the Constitution, the only requirement for a Supreme Court justice is that he/she be nominated and appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. Resources from Street Law on the judicial nomination process will be demonstrated in this session.

Sarah Edson, Government Teacher and Mullen High School, Denver

11:30 Lunch (Box lunch provided.)

1:00 Meetings in Mentor Groups  
Mentors will provide an overview of the simulated hearing for the next day.

4:00 Adjourn

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**June 18, Thursday**

**Morning Location: State Capitol.** Please meet in the cafeteria in the basement of the Capitol. Please park in the lot on Grant Street on the east side of the Capitol. Parking costs will be reimbursed. To enter the Capitol, use the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor north entrance.

**Afternoon Location:** Chambers Center, University of Denver Women's College, 1901 East Asbury. Please use the same DU parking pass and parking lot.

8:00 Coffee, donuts; announcements and final preparation for *We the People* Simulated Congressional Hearing (Judges training, Loyal Darr).

8:30 *We the People* Simulated Congressional Hearings

Judges' Panel 1: Les Volpe, Attorney, Edward L. Volpe, PC  
 Melanie Keene, Congressman Perlmutter's Office  
 Susan Liddle, Colorado Legislative Council

Judges' Panel 2: Bill Hobbs, Assistant Secretary of State  
 Julie Pelegrin, Sr. Staff Attorney, Legislative Legal Services  
 Charlie Garcia, Colorado Bar Association

Hearing Schedule:

	Judges' Panel 1 Room 0111	Judges' Panel 2 Room 0109
8:30 – 8:50	Bull	Sutton
8:55 – 9:15	deLemos	Mable
9:20 – 9:40	Elnicki	Switzer/Martin
9:40 – 9:50	Discussion/feedback with judges.	

9:50 Break

10:00 Unpacking and Debriefing Hearings in Mentor Groups

- Room 0111: Groups – Bull, deLemos, Elnicki
- Room 0109: Groups – Switzer/Martin, Mable, Sutton

10:45 From the Veterans: Tips for Taking the Hearings to Your Classroom

- Middle School: The Simulated Hearing as a Performance Assessment  
Lori Mable, Thunder Ridge Middle School. Room 0109
- High School Competitive Hearings and AP Classes: Aligning with AP Courses and Preparing for District and State Competitions  
Victoria Bull, Northglenn High School, Kathy Switzer, University of Northern Colorado. Room 0111
- High School (Non-competitive): Special Showcase Hearings and In-class Hearings  
Suzanne deLemos, Mountain Range High School and Edna Sutton, Denver School of Science and Technology. Room 0112

12:00 Closing Luncheon: The Joke Is on Them-- Lampooning the Presidents

With the last issue of the *Rocky Mountain News* in February, Coloradans lost a powerful creative voice in our political conversations. Editorial cartoonist Ed Stein will take us down memory lane, sharing his presidential caricatures from LBJ to Obama.

Ed Stein, Editorial Cartoonist, <http://www.edstein.ink>  
 Garden Room, Chambers Center, Women's College, University of Denver

1:30 Materials from the Center for Teaching International Relations  
 Melissa Lane, CTIR, University of Denver

2:00 The Colorado WTP Blog and New Civic Ed Materials: Representative Democracy in America

Participants will receive civic ed teaching resources from three organizations: the Center for Civic Education, Lee Hamilton's Center on Congress at Indiana University, and the National Conference of State Legislators.

3:00 Final Session: Evaluation, book orders, and WTP Networking in Congressional Districts. Please meet in Congressional Districts (by school address) groups in the Garden Room:

District 1 (and Kansas): Loyal Darr

District 2, 3: Suzanne deLemos

District 5, 7: Edna Sutton

District 4: Victoria Bull

District 6: Lori Mable

3:45 Adjourn. Enjoy the rest of the summer!