Special National Tax Association Conference on
Attaining Fiscal Sustainability: State & Local Perspectives and the Federal Outlook

A conference sponsored by the National Tax Association, in partnership with the
Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois, Tax Analysts, and
The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center

The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, NW, Washington, DC
Friday, September 26, 2008

PROGRAM

8:00 a.m.  Continental Breakfast

8:25 a.m.  Welcome, Ranjana Madhusudhan, NTA President and New Jersey Dept. of Treasury

8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Opening Session: The Fiscal Challenges Confronting Our Nation
Diane Lim Rogers, Concord Coalition, moderator
Robert Bixby, Concord Coalition, David Walker, Peter G. Peterson Foundation, Isabel Sawhill, Brookings Institution, and Alison Acosta Fraser, The Heritage Foundation
Richard Dye, University of Illinois-Chicago, Scott Pattison, National Association of State Budget Officers, Stanley Czerwinski, Government Accountability Office

9:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Session Two: Getting a Grip on Our Public Budgets—Can Better Measurement and Planning Help Us Find the Solutions?
Iris Lav, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, moderator
Iris Lav, CBPP, Edward Kleinbard, Joint Committee on Taxation, Shayne Kavanagh, Government Finance Officers Association, Donald Boyd, Rockefeller Institute of Government

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session Three: Preparedness from the Ground Up—Supporting Our Nation’s Infrastructure
Kim Rueben, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, moderator
Joseph Kile, Congressional Budget Office
Congressman Earl Blumenauer, D-Oregon
Raymond Scheppach, National Governors Association

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Luncheon Speaker: C. Eugene Steuerle, Peter G. Peterson Foundation
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.  Session Four:  Public Pensions and Other Retirement Benefits – The “Easy” Part?
Joseph Cordes, George Washington University, moderator  
J. Fred Giertz, National Tax Association and University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, Joshua Rauh, University of Chicago,  
John Sabelhaus, Investment Company Institute

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  Session Five:  Health Care Spending:  Can We Really Rein It In?
Howard Gleckman, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, moderator  
John Holahan, Urban Institute, Jagadeesh Gokhale, Cato Institute, Len Nichols, New America Foundation, Gail Wilensky, Project HOPE

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.  Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.  Session Six:  Challenges in Meeting Revenue Needs – A Survey of Revenue Instruments, Constraints, and Options  
Sally Wallace, Georgia State University, moderator  
Leonard Burman, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, Thomas Clifford, New Mexico Tax Research Institute, David Sjoquist, Georgia State University

4:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  Summing Up/Planning for Future NTA Working Group on Fiscal Sustainability

PROGRAM COMMITTEE
Ranjana Madhusudhan, NTA and New Jersey Department of Treasury, Chair  
Diane Lim Rogers, Concord Coalition, Chair

Thomas Barthold, U.S. Joint Committee on Taxation  
Donald Boyd, Rockefeller Institute of Government  
Robert Chirinko, University of Illinois-Chicago  
Joseph Cordes, George Washington University  
Richard Dye, University of Illinois-Chicago  
William Fox, University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
J. Fred Giertz, NTA and University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign  
Howard Gleckman, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center  
Iris Lav, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities  
David Merriman, University of Illinois-Chicago  
Kim Rueben, The Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center  
David Sjoquist, Georgia State University  
Robert Tannenwald, New England Public Policy Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston  
Sally Wallace, Georgia State University