



National Conference of State Legislatures

2012 NCSL Legislative Summit

Chicago, Illinois ♦ August 6-9, 2012



RACSS Business Meeting & Breakfast

Wednesday, August 8, 2012 ♦ 8:00 – 9:15 a.m.

McCormick Place Convention Center, Room W187a, Level 1 ♦ Chicago, Illinois

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Remarks by RACSS Chair, 2011-2012
Mark Mitchell, Committee Administrator, Legislative Research Commission, Kentucky
3. RACSS Professional Development Seminar, Oct. 10-12, 2012, Madison, Wisconsin
4. Presentation of 2012 Legislative Staff Achievement Award
John Q. Cannon, Managing Policy Analyst
Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, Utah
5. Election of Officers: 2012-2013 Slate of Candidates
for Vice-Chair:
Sabrina Lewellen, Constituency Services/Research & Special Projects Manager
Arkansas Senate
for Directors:
Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, Acting Director
Legislative Reference Bureau, Hawaii
Cindy Ellison, Senior Research Associate
Policy Issue Research Division, Texas Legislative Council
Sandra Norman-Eady, Director
Office of Legislative Research, Connecticut
6. Remarks by Incoming RACSS Chair, 2012-2013
Walker Reagan, Director, Research Division, North Carolina General Assembly
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment

Legislative Staff Achievement Award

RACSS 2012



John Q. Cannon

Managing Policy Analyst

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Utah

John serves as the Managing Policy Analyst in the Utah Legislature's Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel. In this position, John manages the 11 Policy Analysts employed by the office, as well as several interns, and works with the Director and other managers to guide the overall direction of the office.

John joined the office in 1992 after graduating from Brigham Young University with a Master of Public Administration degree. His committee staffing assignments have primarily been in the areas of local government, state government operations, election laws, rules, and redistricting. During the 2011 redistricting effort, John guided a large staff of map drawers, attorneys, and others who helped the legislature draw boundaries for legislative, congressional, and school board districts, and oversaw the implementation of an on-line citizen's map-making program that allowed for greater citizen participation in the redistricting process.

John also serves as staff to the House Rules Committee. As the gatekeeper for all bills, the Rules Committee is the hub for hundreds of bills going to and from standing committees and to the floor. John deftly navigates both technical challenges in keeping track of hundreds of bills and the challenges of daily working in a politically charged environment. He is considered the "go to" guy for all questions relating to legislative rules and processes.

John possesses a unique array of superior technical skills combined with a first-rate political acumen and an unassuming and down-to-earth demeanor. (Not to mention his great sense of humor and compassion towards others.) As he is now ending his service with the office to pursue other opportunities, he leaves behind a legacy of quiet, competent service to the Utah Legislature.

John is a long-term and active member of the Research and Committee Staff Section and it is with great affection and appreciation for his service that RACSS presents him with the 2012 Legislative Staff Achievement Award.