Welcome to the 20th annual meeting of the Midwest Regional Public Finance Conference. This year’s program emphasizes the past development and current situation of public finance in the region.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. John Bartle, is a nationally-recognized scholar and member of the National Academy of Public Administration, a Presidential advisory board. He will address the relationship between the public and private sectors and the forces that play out in today’s discussions of taxes and the financing of public services.

Also featured is a panel of current and former Regents Professors from Wichita State University. I am pleased to be joined by Dr. Glenn Fisher, Regents Professor Emeritus at WSU and Dr. Bart Hildreth, Professor of Public Finance at Georgia State University. Both are winners of the prestigious Aaron Wildavsky Award from the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management, the premier national public finance research association.

In addition, we will honor current and past recipients of the Van Riper Fellowship, which provides a significant source of financing for top graduate students at the Kansas Public Finance Center.

We are glad to have you here and encourage feedback and suggestions. Please join me in thanking our sponsors. Without their support, this important exchange of knowledge wouldn't be possible.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. Kenneth A. Kriz
Regents Distinguished Professor
Director, Kansas Public Finance Center
Wichita State University Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs
Thursday, April 9, 2015

Pre-Conference
8:30 a.m. Pre-Conference Registration | Regent Ballroom
9 a.m. Pre-Conference Seminar
  ▶ "Intermediate Accounting for the KMAAG User" | Viceroy Room
    • Scot Loyd, CPA, Partner, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk and Loyd
Noon Lunch on your own

Conference
12:30 p.m. Conference Registration | Regent Ballroom
1:15 p.m. General Session | Regent Ballroom
  ▶ George Van Riper Fellowship Alumni and Wichita State University Regents Professors
    • Dr. W. Bartley Hildreth, Professor, Georgia State University
    • Dr. Kenneth A. Kriz, Regents Distinguished Professor, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, Wichita State University
    • Dr. Glenn W. Fisher, Professor Emeritus, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, Wichita State University
    • Panel of Invited George Van Riper Fellowship Alumni
3 p.m. Break
3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions <choose one>
  ▶ "Revenue Diversification and Outsourcing: Do Local Revenue Structures Impact Outsourcing Levels?" | Study Room
    • Dr. Zhiwei Zhang, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Kansas State University
  ▶ "Land Banks: Benefits, Lessons and More" | Viceroy Room
    • David Yearout, Director of Planning and Zoning, City of Junction City, Kan.
    • Cheryl Beatty, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director, City of Junction City, Kan.
4:15 p.m. Break
4:30 p.m. General Session | Regent Ballroom
  ▶ "State Budget Update and Fiscal Condition Analysis"
    • Chris W. Courtwright, Principal Economist, Kansas Legislative Research Department
    • Dr. Kenneth A. Kriz, Regents Distinguished Professor, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, Wichita State University
5:30 p.m. Kickoff Reception with COLUMBIA CAPITAL MUNICIPAL ADVISORS | Viceroy Room
Friday, April 10, 2015

Conference
7:45 a.m. Breakfast and Networking | Regent Ballroom
8:15 a.m. Keynote | Regent Ballroom
  ▶ "Tea Parties, Whigs and Compromise: The Historical Roots of American Government-Business Relations"
    • Dr. John R. Bartle, Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service, Professor of Public Administration, University of Nebraska Omaha
10 a.m. Break
10:15 a.m. Breakout Sessions <choose one>
  ▶ "TIF: An Important Tool or a Four-Letter Word?" | Study Room
    • Jeff White, Principal, Columbia Capital Management, LLC
  ▶ "Budgeting for Kansas Municipalities" | Viceroy Room
    • Roger Basinger, Public Service Executive, Kansas Department of Administration
11:15 a.m. Break
11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions <choose one>
  ▶ "Economic Outlook for the Midwest Region" | Viceroy Room
    • Kelly Edmiston, Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
  ▶ "So, How's the Midwest Neighborhood Doing? A Comparative Overview of Selected Trends and Results in State and Local Government Finance in Eight Midwestern States"
    • Dr. Carl D. Ekstrom, Lecturer Emeritus, School of Public Administration, University of Nebraska Omaha
  ▶ "How Citizens Value Tax Money" | Study Room
    • Dr. Alfred Ho, Associate Professor, School of Public Affairs & Administration, University of Kansas
12:30 p.m. Lunch | Regent Ballroom
1:30 p.m. Conference End
Scot Loyd, CPA, Partner, Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk and Loyd
Scot Loyd is a Partner with Swindoll, Janzen, Hawk & Loyd, LLC where he is in charge of a diversified governmental practice relating to states, counties, cities, schools and other government entities. He also audits financial institutions. Loyd has a B.A. in Accounting from Tabor College and holds the following certifications: Certified Public Accountant (CPA), Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) and Certified Global Management Accountant (CGMA).

Dr. W. Bartley Hildreth, Professor, Georgia State University
Dr. Hildreth previously served as the Regents Distinguished Professor of Public Finance at Wichita State University. As Director of the Kansas Public Finance Center from 1994-2009, governors appointed him to high-level tax and infrastructure financing assignments, and he led several research teams on significant state-wide policy issues. His recent work includes projects to train Fellows and Residents of the CDC Public Health Prevention Service in public budgeting and finance.

Dr. Kenneth A. Kriz, Regents Distinguished Professor, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, Wichita State University
Kenneth A. Kriz, Ph.D., serves as the Director of the Kansas Public Finance Center at Wichita State University. His primary research areas include public pensions, debt economics, financial risk, economic policy and transportation finance. His recent work includes publishing "The Impact of Subnational Fiscal Policies on Economic Growth: A Dynamic Analysis Approach" in the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management.

Dr. Glenn W. Fisher, Professor Emeritus, Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs, Wichita State University
Dr. Fisher joined the faculty at Wichita State University in 1970 as the first Regents Distinguished Professor of Urban Affairs. He was instrumental in the creation of the Master of Urban Studies degree, which later became the Master of Public Administration. He was the 2006 recipient of the Aaron Wildavsky award from the Association for Budgeting and Financial Management for lifetime scholarly achievement in budgeting and financial management.

Dr. Zhiwei Zhang, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Kansas State University
Zhiwei Zhang, Ph. D., teaches public budgeting as well as core courses in the Master of Public Administration program. His research focuses on public finance and budgeting, public procurement and public private partnership, donors' philanthropy behavior and nonprofit finance. Zhang received a degree in Public Administration from Beijing Institute of Machinery, a Master of Public Administration from Kansas State University and Ph.D. from University of Kentucky.
David Yearout, Director of Planning and Zoning, City of Junction City, Kan.
David Yearout, AICP, CFM, has over 42 years experience in local government planning in Kansas. He has been responsible for the administration and enforcement of local development codes, including developing cases for prosecution and testifying in court. He has provided consulting on planning and zoning matters to cities and counties including preparation and updates to Comprehensive Plans, Zoning and Subdivision Regulations, Sanitation Codes and other special studies.

Cheryl Beatty, Assistant City Manager and Finance Director, City of Junction City, Kan.
Cheryl Beatty has 33 years of management experience including serving in government management as a city/county clerk, community development specialist, elected city/county chief executive officer, city administrator and city manager. She recently assisted the City of Junction City in overtting a fiscal crisis and providing a reorganization of the City’s fiscal policies and practices.

Chris W. Courtwright, Principal Economist, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Chris Courtwright is a member of the state’s Consensus Revenue Estimating Group, which provides baseline forecasts that the governor and policymakers are required by law to utilize. He is the author of “Kansas Tax Facts,” the authoritative guide on Kansas state and local tax policy. Courtwright serves as a member of the Kansas Public Finance Center Advisory Board and conducts historical research on the economic policies of the Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Dr. John R. Bartle, Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service, Professor of Public Administration, University of Nebraska Omaha
John R. Bartle, Ph.D., is Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service, and a Professor of Public Administration at the University of Nebraska Omaha. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration and the author of three books on public finance and budgeting. Bartle has worked in city and state government, and for state and national nonprofit research organizations on tax policy issues.

Jeff White, Principal, Columbia Capital Management, LLC
Jeff White advises clients on economic development transactions, including developing conceptual plans of financing, leading developer negotiations, preparing financial modeling for the transaction, advising on the issuance of economic development bonds and assisting his clients with post-issuance care and feeding of these transactions. White holds an A.B. in Political Science from the University of Michigan and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Kansas.
Roger Basinger, Public Service Executive, Kansas Department of Administration
As a Public Service Executive with the Municipal Services Team at the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Roger Basinger's career with the State of Kansas spans 25 years. He is responsible for the development of the budget forms, maintaining and publishing municipal audits and municipal budgets and providing training concerning the budget process to local units of government. Basinger holds a B.A. in Business and Accounting from Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina.

Kelly D. Edmiston, Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City
As Senior Economist in Community Development, Edmiston conducts research on issues involving regional economic development, community development, consumer finance and public finance. He also provides expert commentary to community leaders, policymakers, and the media, advises senior Bank officials and provides written commentary for academic journals and Federal Reserve publications. Edmiston holds BA and PhD degrees from the University of Tennessee.

Dr. Carl D. Ekstrom, Lecturer Emeritus, School of Public Administration, University of Nebraska Omaha
Carl. D. Ekstrom, Ph.D, has nearly 50 years of professional involvement in the field of public administration as a professional administrator in state and local governments and nonprofit organizations; a researcher in applied public policy research; and a teacher at the graduate and undergraduate level in the more than 20 colleges and universities in the U.S. and in four international programs. Ekstrom holds a Master of Public Administration from Syracuse University and a Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University at Albany.

Dr. Alfred Ho, Associate Professor, School of Public Affairs & Administration, University of Kansas
Dr. Ho's teaching and research focus is on public budgeting, performance management, citizen engagement and e-government. He also advises state and local officials in the U.S. and abroad on performance-oriented reforms. Before he joined KU, he taught at Iowa State University and Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. Ho received his Master of Public Affairs and Ph.D. from the School of Public & Environmental Affairs, Indiana University (Bloomington).
THE RULES HAVE CHANGED

With full implementation of the US Security and Exchange Commission’s municipal advisor rules on July 1, 2014, the same firm can no longer provide both financial advice and underwriting services on the same transaction. Underwriters engaged on a transaction are limited in their ability to provide service to issuers before and after the transaction, as well.

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Overland Park-based Columbia Capital Management, LLC is the largest independent financial advisory firm in the region. With advice provided on more than 500 transactions representing $27 billion in par issued, we can help you meet your public finance needs. Please contact us to learn more about the Columbia Capital difference.

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Source: Thomson Reuters.

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