

DRAFT 11/7/2014

2015 – 2016 New Member Orientation

November 19 – 21, 2014

Schedule and Agenda

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

3:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
Lobby, Legislative
Lounge, Room 10

**Registration, Information Technology, and Photos for
Biographical Sketches and Identification**

5:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.
Room 11

Logistics Overview (mail, messages, payroll)

Francis Brooks, Sergeant-at-Arms

Janet Miller, Deputy Director for Operations, Office of Legislative Council

5:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.
Meet in the Lobby

Tour of the State House (optional)

David Schutz, State Curator

6:30 p.m.
Cafeteria

Welcome, Dinner, and Panel Discussion

Opening

Mark Snelling, President of The Snelling Center for Government

Welcome and introductions by:

Stephen Klein, Chief Legislative Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office, and

Luke Martland, Director and Chief Counsel, Office of Legislative Council

**Presentation by first-term and former legislators on
expectations and realities of service in the Vermont
Legislature**

First-term Legislators:

Rep. Barbara Rachelson

Rep. Lawrence Cupoli

Sen. David Zuckerman

Former Legislators:

Thomas Koch, Former Representative

Honorable Madeleine Kunin, Former Governor/Representative

Gaye Symington, Former Speaker/Representative

Closing – Overview of schedule

Colleen Newschwander, Director of Events and Business Operations, The
Snelling Center for Government

Thursday, November 20, 2014

Throughout the day
The Cedar Creek Room

Slide Show: The Legislature

7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
Room 10

Photos for Biographical Sketches and Identification (if needed)

Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Cafeteria

Bagels and Coffee

Open Cafeteria Account (if desired)

8:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Room 11

The State Fiscal Process

A panel discussion providing an overview of the legislative fiscal office, revenue projections and tracking, a description of Vermont funds, how Vermont's budget is established, and the FY2016 budget context.

Tom Kavet, Legislative Economist

James Reardon, Commissioner, Department of Finance and Management
Stephen Klein, Chief Legislative Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office

10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Room 11

Fiscal Chairs Panel

An overview of the revenue and appropriations committee processes with 2013–2014 money committee chairs.

Rep. Janet Ancel, Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means

Sen. Tim Ashe, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance

Rep. Martha Heath, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations

Sen. Jane Kitchel, Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations

11:10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Room 11

Legislative Fiscal Office: Accessing Fiscal Information

Joint Fiscal Office Staff

12:20 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Cafeteria

Lunch and Speakers

1:10 p.m.

Friends of the Vermont State House

Mary Leahy, President, Friends of the Vermont State House

1:25 p.m.

"Retaining Sap; The Ancient Roots of Current Issues"

Gregory Sanford, Former State Archivist

Thursday, November 20, 2014 - continued

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
Room 11

**Panel of legislative leadership of the 2013–2014 Biennial
Session on the role of leaders, political parties, caucuses, and
legislative organization**

Sen. Claire Ayer, Senate Assistant Majority Leader
Sen. Joe Benning, Senate Minority Leader
Rep. Kate Webb, House Assistant Majority Leader
Rep. Donald Turner, House Minority Leader
Rep. Chris Pearson, House Progressive Caucus Leader

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Room 11

Relationship with the Executive Branch

Jeb Spaulding, Secretary, Agency of Administration

Relationship with the Judicial Branch

Chief Justice, Honorable Paul Reiber

Associate Justices:

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
Room 11

Honorable John A. Dooley III

Honorable Marilyn Skoglund

Honorable Beth Robinson

Honorable Geoffrey Crawford

Court Administrator Patricia Gabel

5:20 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
The Cedar Creek Room

Reception

All new members, all program participants, and invited guests are welcome

6:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Capitol Plaza
(Montpelier Rm)
100 State Street

Dinner

Opportunity for attendees to mingle

Closing – Overview of Friday's schedule

Stephen Klein, Chief Legislative Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office

Friday, November 21, 2014

Throughout the day
The Cedar Creek Room

Slide Show: The Legislature

7:30 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
Cafeteria

Breakfast

Introduction to Office of Legislative Council

8:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Rooms 30, 31, 34 and
35

The Legislative Process, Part I

Discussion of the drafting process, bill introduction, the legislative committee process, and the role of the Office of Legislative Council.

Agenda TBD

10:05 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
The Senate Chamber
or
The House Chamber

The Legislative Process, Part II

New House and Senate Members go to their respective chambers to discuss parliamentary procedures, reporting and debate of bills, the amendment process, recording and notice of proceedings in Calendars and Journals, and legislative decorum.

John Bloomer, Secretary of the Senate
William MaGill, Assistant Clerk of the House

10:50 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Room 11

The Legislative Committee Structure

Panel discussion on the legislative committee structure, including: how committees work and what they do; how committee assignments are made; sample issues and bills taken up by committees last session.

Sen. Claire Ayer, Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
Sen. Kevin Mullin, Chair, Senate Committee on Economic Development,
Housing and General Affairs
Rep. Alice Emmons, Chair, House Committee on Corrections and
Institutions
Rep. Tony Klein, Chair, House Natural Resources and Energy

Friday, November 21, 2014 - continued

- 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. **Lunch**
Cafeteria
- 12:30 p.m. – 12:40 p.m. **Introduction to Uniform Law Commission**
Carl Lisman, Uniform Law Commissioner
- 12:45- 2:00 p.m. **The State House Press Corps**
Room 11 A panel of State House reporters will discuss what members should expect from the press, with Q and A.

Tom Brown, VTdigger.org
Peter Hirschfeld, Vermont Public Radio
Stewart Ledbetter, WPTZ Channel 5
Paul Heintz, Seven Days
- 2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. **Ethical Decision Making; Vermont Legislative and Federal Perspective**
Room 11 Vermont Congressman Peter Welch, U.S. House of Representatives
- 3:15 p.m. **Closing**
Room 11

Stephen Klein, Chief Legislative Fiscal Officer, Joint Fiscal Office and
Luke Martland, Director and Chief Counsel, Office of Legislative Council
- 3:20 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. **iPad Distribution (optional)**
Room 11