



Institute of Public Policy
Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs
University of Missouri

2nd Annual PARTNERS IN GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE "In Government We Trust?"

April 21, 2016

Reynolds Alumni Center, University of Missouri - Columbia

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8:30 a.m. REGISTRATION STARTS

9:30 a.m. WELCOME – **Brian Dabson**, *Associate Dean and Director*, Institute of Public Policy, Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs and **Kathy Rose**, *Mayor Riverside and MML Vice President*

9:40 a.m. "TRUST AS A PUBLIC VALUE" - **Wally Siewert, Ph.D.**, *Director of the Center for Ethics in Public Life*, University of Missouri - St. Louis

The process of governing involves a variety of (small d) democratic values such as: participation, accountability, and of course...TRUST. But, what exactly does it mean to have trust in government? What is at stake? What does the public "trust" the government with? What are the consequences of a lack of trust? Where does the value of "trust" fit in with the broader values at stake? This first session of the Conference will be a discussion surrounding these fundamental questions on trust in the public sphere.

10:50 a.m. BREAK

11:00 a.m. TRUST IN ME(DIA)

The media is a main source of information about what is happening in government. The media landscape is changing rapidly as citizens increasingly rely on social media and 24-hour, on-demand news channels; as the dividing line between news and entertainment disappears; and as society continues to polarize and self-select into factions. Where does this leave the idea of trust in those whom we elect to govern us? What should be the media's role in the democratic process? How should government officials navigate these swirling waters?

PANELISTS: **William Freivogel**, *Professor and Former Director*, School of Journalism, Southern Illinois University; **Jason Hancock**, *Capitol Correspondent*, Kansas City Star; **Ryan Famuliner**, *News Director*, KBIA Mid-Missouri Public Radio

MODERATOR: Brian Dabson

Noon LUNCH ADDRESS: IN GOVERNMENT WE TRUST?

Jim Robertson, *Managing Editor*, Columbia Daily Tribune

Jim Robertson has been with the Tribune for nearly 30 years enabling him to observe and participate in the discourse between the public, the press, and those in public office, and how this has evolved over time. He will share his perspectives and insights on the continuing tensions between trust and accountability, government effectiveness and citizen participation, and serious reporting and sensational entertainment.

MODERATOR: Brian Dabson

1:00 p.m. BRIDGING MISTRUST

Building and maintaining roads and bridges are basic government functions. However, they are expensive and require major long-term investments. Responsibilities are often split between federal, state, and local governments, and there is ongoing contention over priorities, funding sources, and economic, community, and environmental impacts. In this mix, trust in government can be undermined if citizen interests are not seen to be served, or costs and benefits are not equitably shared. What can governments do to improve citizen trust? Are there success stories from which we can all learn?

PANELISTS: *David Slater, Mayor, Pleasant Valley, Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation and Environment, Mid-America Regional Council, Jay Wunderlich, Director of Governmental Relations, Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission*

MODERATOR: Brian Dabson

2:00 p.m. INTERACTIVE TABLE DISCUSSION

These table discussions will give attendees the opportunity to discuss challenges they face with regard to building trust and solutions.

MODERATOR: Wally Siewert

2:30 p.m. CLICK "LIKE" IF YOU HATE GOVERNMENT

How and when we get our information has drastically changed. With the increased use of social media, governments are called upon to address rumors and accusations 24/7. This panel, comprised of public information officers from across the state, will address how to get your message through the whirlwind of information and misinformation.

PANELISTS: *Nicolette Brennan, Public Information Officer, Cape Girardeau, David Luther, Director of Communications, Missouri Association of School Administrators, Mark Siettmann, Director of Communications, Jackson County*

MODERATOR: *Laura Holloway, Communications Specialist, Missouri Municipal League*

3:30 p.m. CLOSING - Dan Ross, Executive Director, Missouri Municipal League

3:45 p.m. HEAD OVER TO THE HEIDELBERG, LOCATED AT 410 S. 9TH STREET, TO NETWORK AND CONTINUE THE DAYS DISCUSSIONS