Descriptions of NLS Concurrent Sessions

You will sign up to attend 2 of the following 7 Concurrent Sessions. The first series of sessions will take place on Thursday, July 30, 2009 from 8:30 am – 9:15 am. You will then transition to the second session from 9:35 am – 10:20 am.

The sign-up will be on a first come, first serve basis during NLS registration on Monday, July 27th from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm at the Airlie Center. Please read below for a description of each session and come prepared to sign up for the 2 sessions that look most interesting and applicable to you and the work that you do.

1. **Communicating NOAA Priorities and Knowledge**  
   Justin Kenney, Director of Communications and External Affairs

   **Description:** Justin will talk about NOAA’s strategic direction and priorities and discuss how these should inform and motivate our communications throughout the agency.

2. **Congressional Relations: Know Your Audience**  
   John Gray, Director, NOAA Office of Legislative Affairs

   **Description:** Congress is increasingly interested in, and engaged in, NOAA’s mission, programs, and activities. Join us to learn:
   - How the Office of Legislative Affairs works on your behalf to make NOAA’s voice heard on the Hill;
   - Key information about Congress, how it works, and who the key Members are;
   - What legislation is a priority for NOAA and how it may affect you;
   - ......and much more!

3. **NOAA Education: You Have a Mandate to Educate**  
   Louisa Koch, NOAA’s Director of Education

   **Description:** You have a mandate to educate! Find out what’s new with NOAA education. How can you be involved? Why is it important?

4. **Got CLC? Make the Commerce Learning Center a Staple of Your Learning Diet**  
   Debra Farmer, Instructional Systems Program Manager, NOAA’s Workforce Management Office &  
   Don Rinderknecht, NWS Learning Management System Administrator & Meteorologist Instructor, NWS Warning Decision Training Branch

   **Description:** This session will provide an introduction to the Commerce Learning Center (CLC). Learn how to take advantage of the Learning Center for your training programs.
5. Developing NOAA’s Next Generation Strategic Plan  
Laura Furgione, Director, Program, Planning & Integration

Description: Over the next 25 years, the world will be shaped by dramatic changes in:
- Global climate and ecology
- Competition for natural resources
- Scientific and technological innovation
- Political and economic power
- Social identities and demographics

Everything that NOAA does will affect and be affected by these changes, so the agency must act strategically in the face of uncertainty. Being strategic means basing our decisions upon stakeholder concerns.

We need you to tell us:
- What trends will shape our long-term future?
- What challenges or opportunities will we face?
- What should NOAA strive to accomplish?

6. The Greening of NOAA  
Will Freeman, NOAA Environmental Engineer

Description: Get up to speed with the latest on NOAA’s greening efforts. This presentation will provide you with an overview of the many greening mandates, NOAA’s impact on the planet, NOAA’s current and future greening efforts, and what you can do to help.

7. Experience the NOAA Program Coordination Office and Gain Insights into How Leadership Thinks  
Jeremy Potter & Kelly Denit

Description: None provided.