

Local Government



Leadership Institute

State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli
and Cornell University

Local Government Leadership Institute

“Beyond the Fiscal Crisis:
How to Build Partnerships and
Leverage Opportunities”



New York State Office of the State Comptroller

August 13–14, 2009



Office of the New York State Comptroller's
Local Government Leadership Institute
In partnership with Cornell University's
Community and Rural Development Institute
(CaRDI)

**“Beyond the Fiscal Crisis:
How to Build Partnerships and Leverage Opportunities”**

August 13-14, 2009
Cornell University Campus

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

11:00 a.m. – Noon

Registration

ILR Conference Center Lobby

11:30 a.m. – 12:30p.m.

Lunch and Informal Networking

ILR Conference Center

12:30 – 1:15 p.m.

Institute Kickoff

Welcoming Remarks and Introduction of Comptroller DiNapoli -
Ronald L. Seeber,
Cornell University Vice Provost for Land Grant Affairs

Opening Keynote - Thomas P. DiNapoli,
New York State Comptroller

Ives 105

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

Plenary Session – Keynote Address

Ives 105

Keynote Speaker

The Honorable Anthony Williams, Former Mayor of the District of Columbia, Director of State and Local Practice at Arent Fox LLP, Washington, D.C.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m.

Break

2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Five Breakout Sessions - choose one

All to be held in the ILR Conference Center

4:30 - 4:45 p.m.

Break

4:45 - 6:30 p.m.

**Recap of Major Themes of the Day
Reception with Hors d'œuvres**

Willard Straight Hall, Memorial Room

BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

Municipal Shared Services: How do I Know if Entering into a Shared Services Agreement will be Effective?

ILRCC 423

In this session, panelists will explore the context for shared municipal agreements. A case study will set the stage for discussing the reasons for entertaining and/or entering into inter-municipal agreements with other governmental entities. Panelists will discuss the process, the opportunities and the challenges, and potential benefits.

Panelists:

1. Dr. Michael Hattery, Center for Local Government, College of Community and Public Affairs, Binghamton University
2. Kyle Wilber, Municipal Management Consultant, NYS Department of State
3. Dr. James Melitski, Assistant Professor, Public Administration, Marist College
4. Stephen Locey, President and CEO, Locey and Cahill, LLC (Consultant on Tompkins County Health Care Consortium)

Panel Moderator:

David Kay, Senior Extension Associate, Community and Rural Development Institute, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University

Comprehensive Planning for Local Governments and School Districts: Strategically Planning for the Future

ILRCC 525

Communities across the state are experiencing changing demographics, declining property values, increasing property tax rates, increasing healthcare and pension fund costs, and in many areas, declining population. Communities are also challenged to support improvements in their public schools to meet state and federal requirements. A constructive relationship between school districts and local governments is critical for successful comprehensive planning, particularly in these times of shrinking resources. This session will begin with a discussion of the new NYS Center for Rural Schools, created by NYS law in September of 2008, whose goal is to be a leader in solving systemic problems and improving opportunities, practice, and policy for rural schools and the communities they serve. The session will include discussion of two case studies: first, a successful countywide collaboration of agencies that have studied, planned and implemented a variety of programs and improvements; and second, an inter-municipal PILOT agreement including a county, several municipalities, school districts, and a private energy firm. We will also address key planning and leadership strategies. This session will be relevant to both rural and urban participants.

Panelists:

1. John Sipple, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Rural Schools, Cornell University
2. Ron Dougherty, President of BOCES Board and former Tioga County Legislator
3. Dr. William C. Russell, Superintendent of Schools, Owego Apalachin Central School District
4. Janie Nusser, Superintendent, South Seneca School District

Panel Moderator:

Mark Pattison, Executive Deputy Comptroller, Office of the New York State Comptroller

Thinking Regionally, Acting Locally: How to Develop and Leverage Public and Private Partnerships for Community Development

ILRCC 229

Municipalities need to work with the private sector to promote economic development during these difficult fiscal times and link economic development to a comprehensive plan. The discussion will focus on the essential components in building successful public and private partnerships. The discussion will also examine the importance of interpersonal networking and methods of addressing regional problems through economic development. The panelists will highlight examples of successful partnerships.

Panelists:

1. Dr. Joseph Stefko, Director of Public Finance, Center for Governmental Research
2. David Zembiec, Director of Community Development, NYS Tug Hill Commission
3. Frank Caliva, Director of Talent Initiatives, Metropolitan Development Association of Syracuse and Central New York, Inc.
4. John S. Tonello, Mayor, City of Elmira

Panel Moderator:

Dr. David Brown, Professor, Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University

Fiscal Difficulties, Economic Underperformance, and Governmental Cooperation: What our Regions can do to Address these Critical Issues

ILRCC 425

Interpersonal networking among municipal leaders is critical in addressing intergovernmental cooperation and resource sharing. Communities across New York State are confronted with regional problems including fiscal stress and economic stagnation. While there are many examples of cooperation among local governments, there is also a tendency for municipalities to compete, which can make it difficult to achieve regional solutions. In this session, panelists will discuss the steps in opening regional dialogue as well as successful regional ideas.

Panelists:

1. Dr. Susan Christopherson, Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University
2. Kathy Konst, Erie County Legislator District # 5
3. Mike Manikowski, Executive Director, Ontario County Office of Economic Development
4. Peter Fairweather, Principal, Fairweather Consulting

Panel Moderator:

Peter Baynes, Executive Director, New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials

Leveraging Colleges, Universities, and BOCES as Engines for Development

ILRCC 225

A skilled workforce is essential to the development of any region. Education and training should go beyond the classroom to link skills and practices that build bridges between education and industry. Additionally, educational institutions can work to prepare students for the future marketplace by equipping them with a diverse set of basic skills and specific training in emerging careers. This session will focus on building partnerships with academic institutions in order to leverage opportunities and build stronger ties with communities.

Panelists:

1. Alan Paau, Executive Director and Vice Provost for Technology Transfer & Economic Development, Cornell Center for Technology Enterprise and Commercialization
2. David Parsons, Director of Administrative Services, Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES
3. Michael Fuller, Director, Pipeline 4 Progress, Three Rivers Development, Assemblyman Thomas O'Mara's Office
4. Jerry Mahone, Director, Venture Creations, Rochester Institute of Technology

Panel Moderator:

Ronald L. Seeber, Cornell University Vice Provost for Land Grant Affairs

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

7:00 -7:45 a.m.	Breakfast <i>ILR Conference Center</i>
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	Plenary Session – Leadership and Organizational Skills for Success Clint Sidle, Director, Roy H. Park Leadership Fellows Program <i>Ives 105</i>
8:45 - 9:00 a.m.	Break
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Five Breakout Sessions- choose one <i>All to be held in the ILR Conference Center</i>
11:00 - 11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Closing Plenary Speaker – Professor Max J. Pfeffer, Chair, Development Sociology Department and Co-Faculty Director CaRDI <i>Ives 105</i>
Noon	Box Lunch <i>ILR Conference Center</i>

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Achieving Greener Communities through Civic, Private and Government Sector Innovation

ILRCC 225

A growing movement is underway to share information, learn from one another and revamp federal, state and local policies to promote greener communities. This session will examine innovative programs, policies and strategies that promote sustainable communities through such avenues as energy saving developments; land use practices; efficient use of conventional and alternative energy sources in housing, transportation, and the business sector; and assessments of energy use and savings' potentials.

Panelists:

1. Antonio Miguel R. Bento, Associate Professor, Department of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University
2. Mary Ellen Heyman, Supervisor, Town of Irondequoit
3. Mark Eggers, Program Manager, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)
4. Linda Dickerson Hartsock, Director, Center for CleanTech Entrepreneurship

Panel Moderator:

Rod Howe, Assistant Director, Community and Economic Vitality, Cornell Cooperative Extension and Executive Director, Community and Rural Development Institute