

2025 HECSE Annual Winter Summit

January 29-31, 2025

(January 27-29: 10th Annual HECSE Short Course)

Agenda is subject to change.



Embassy Suites DC Convention Center
900 10th St. NW ♦ Washington, D.C. ♦ Phone: 202-739-2001

Changing Tide: Preparing for the Future of Leadership in Special Education

Wednesday, January 29: Capital Room A

- 06:30 - 07:30 **Breakfast** (Hotel Restaurant)
- 08:00 - 08:45 **Registration / Meet and Greet**
- 08:45 - 09:20 **Introductions and Overview**
Dr. Ashley L. White: President
- 09:20 - 10:20 **Setting the Stage:**
The New Administration and Congress- Education and Funding
[Kuna Tavalin](#): Policy Advisor
- 10:20 - 12:00 **Brain Trust Session One: *Examining HECSE's Mission***
[Dr. Cindy Vail](#): Past President
[Dr. Erinn Whiteside](#): Membership Chair
- 12:00 - 01:30 **Lunch Buffet**
- 01:30 - 02:45 **Panel Presentation**
External Support: Expanding the View of Special Educator Preparation
[Dr. Pamela Williamson](#): President Elect
[Dr. Jacqueline Rodriguez](#): NCLD
[Blair Wriston](#): Ed Trust
[Christy Talbot](#): AERA
- 02:45 - 03:00 **Break**
- 03:00 - 04:00 **Overview: HECSE Policy Priorities**
Kuna Tavalin: Policy Advisor
- 04:00 - 05:30 **Day One Reflection and Day Two Logistics**
[Dr. Jonte' Taylor](#): Member at Large
- 06:00 - 07:00 **Happy Hour at Embassy Suites**
(must be lodging at Embassy for 2 tickets per happy hour)

Thursday, January 30: Capitol Room A

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| 06:30 - 07:30 | Breakfast (Hotel Restaurant) | 
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| 08:00 - 09:30 | Preparation for Hill Appointments
Kuna Tavalin: Policy Advisor | |
| 09:30 - 11:00 | Congressional Panel
Kuna Tavalin: Policy Advisor
Brad Thomas : Rep. Virginia Fox
Sarah Mueller : Ranking Member Bernie Sanders
Phoebe Ball, Esq. : Committee on Education & the Workforce | |
| 11:00 - 04:30 | Lunch (Not Provided) & Hill Visits | |
| 05:00 - 06:00 | Changing the Narrative: Hill Visit Debriefs
Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin : Political Action Liaison
Dr. Jonte' Taylor: Member at Large | |
| 06:00 - 07:00 | Happy Hour at Embassy Suites
(must be lodging at Embassy for 2 tickets per happy hour) | |

Friday, January 31: Capital Room A

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| 07:30 - 08:30 | Breakfast (Hotel Restaurant) |
| 09:00 - 09:15 | Welcome • Short Course Participant Introductions • Job Announcements
Dr. Cindy Vail: Past President
Dr. Melinda Ault : Secretary |
| 09:15 - 10:00 | <i>Until Then: Insight from the Biden Administration</i>
Dr. Kimberly Knackstedt : Unlock Access, LLC |
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Break |
| 10:15 - 11:00 | Brain Trust Session Two:
Dr. Jonte' Taylor: Member at Large
Dr. Sara Howorth : HECSE Member |
| 11:00: - 12:30 | Panel Presentation
<i>Federal Agency Support: Expanding the View of Doctoral Preparation</i>
Facilitator: Ashley White
Nathan Jones : NCSER
Christy Kavulic : OSEP
Rob Ochsendorf : NSF |

*Hill visits should be scheduled based on your representative or legislative contact's schedule.