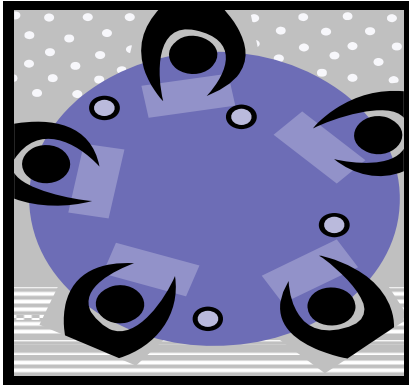


Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

January 2006



INSPECTION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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IG Commerce, Chair
CHRISTINE BOESZ
IG NSF
CARL CLINEFELTER
IG FCA
GLENN FINE
IG Justice
GORDON HEDDELL
IG Labor
HOWARD KROGARD
IG State
DANIEL LEVINSON
IG HHS



UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next I&E Roundtable meeting will be held February 16th at the Veterans Administration OIG. The I&E Committee will meet in March. Details will be sent via email.

TOP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES FACING SOME OF THE AGENCIES IN THE I&E COMMUNITY

The I&E committee members represent seven highly diverse federal organizations. From overseeing diplomatic security in Baghdad to funding ice core drillings in Antarctica, the programs in these agencies are diverse and rely on their OIG to identify areas where management can improve its operations and efficiency.

Each year, offices of inspectors general (OIGs) identify major management challenges facing their organizations. Many of these challenges cut across bureaus and agency lines. Others represent the individual challenges facing each agency.

With a new year comes new challenges. This month we are publishing a partial listing of the challenges facing I&E Committee members' agencies as highlighted in their September 2005 Semiannual Reports to Congress. Many of these challenges mirror those reported by other IGs. We believe this will offer the IG community opportunities for addressing crosscutting issues and identifying best practices.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

September 2005

- Strengthen Department-wide information security.
- Effectively manage departmental and bureau acquisition processes.
- Enhance the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO's) ability to manage and operate its own processes.
- Control the cost and improve the accuracy of Census 2010.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA's) ocean and living marine resources stewardship.
- Promote fair competition in international trade.
- Enhance export controls for dual-use commodities.
- Enhance emergency preparedness, safety, and security of Commerce facilities and personnel.
- Continue to strengthen financial management controls and systems.
- Continue to improve the Department's strategic planning and performance measurement in accordance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

November 2005

- Implementation of the Medicare Modernization Act.
- Accountability of Medicaid funds.

- Integrity of Medicare payments.
- Payment for Medicaid prescription drugs.
- Quality of care in long term care services.
- Grants management.
- Ensuring the protection of critical systems and infrastructure.
- Public health readiness.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

October 2005

- Counterterrorism.
- Sharing of law enforcement and intelligence information.
- Department and FBI intelligence-related reorganizations.
- Information technology systems planning and implementation.
- Information technology security.
- Financial management and systems.
- Grant management.
- Detention and incarceration.
- Judicial security.
- Supply and demand for drugs.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

November 2005

- Improving the integrity of the procurement system.
- Reducing improper payments.
- Safeguarding unemployment insurance.
- Maintaining the integrity of foreign labor certification programs.
- Improving financial and performance accountability.
- Improving systems planning and

- development.
- Ensuring security of employee benefit plan assets.
- Improving management of real property assets.
- Pursuing reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

November 2005

- Protection of people and Facilities.
- Information security.
- Financial management.
- Human resources.
- Counterterrorism and border security.
- Public diplomacy.
- Post-conflict stabilization and reconstruction.

FARM CREDIT ADMINISTRATION

October 2005

- Human capital.
- Financial management.
- Leveraging technology.
- Agency governance.
- Strategic planning.
- A changing environment.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

October 2005

- Award administration.
- Human capital.
- Budget, cost and performance integration.
- Information technology.
- Procurement.
- U.S. Antarctic Program.
- Merit review.

paredness working group will distribute its draft guide to the full Roundtable membership prior to the February 16 meeting. The working group is seeking comments and feedback or suggestions for additional consideration. For more information or to comment, please contact Jennifer Carmichael (jcarmichael@dia.mil) or Jim Seacord (james.seacord@dia.gov).

WORKERS' COMPENSATION PROJECT TO SPAN PCIE/ECIE

Gordon Heddell, inspector general of the Department of Labor, is spearheading a government-wide PCIE/ECIE review of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA). Labor OIG is working with its department to facilitate the use of FECA records by other OIGs working on this issue.

The departments of Interior, Labor, Education, and Commerce, as well as the US Postal Service, Social Security Administration, and Veterans Administration have begun or are starting FECA projects. Heddell expects to issue a joint PCIE/ECIE report by the end of the calendar year. He also plans to conduct a symposium to inform OIGs about the FECA program, its challenges, and how to audit or evaluate it.

For more information on the I&E community working group or to find out how to begin, please contact Christine Shafik at cshafik@oig.doc.gov or Erin Reuther at ereuther@oig.doc.gov.

BEST PRACTICES GUIDE FOR REVIEWING DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

The I&E Roundtable's disaster pre-

GET THE SCOOP!

For more information about any item in this newsletter, contact Erin Reuther at 202-482-4069 (ereuther@oig.doc.gov) or Jill Gross at 202-482-2754.