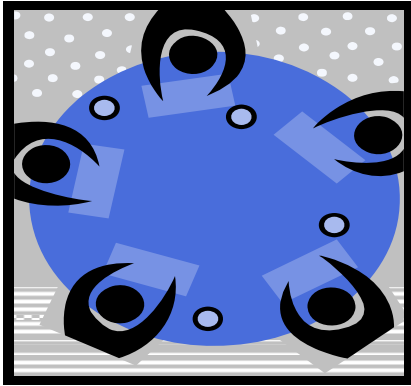


Inspection and Evaluation Committee

President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

July 2006



INSPECTION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOHNNIE FRAZIER
IG Commerce, Chair
CHRISTINE BOESZ
IG NSF
CARL CLINEFELTER
IG FCA
GLENN FINE
IG Justice
GORDON HEDDELL
IG Labor
HOWARD KRONGARD
IG State
DANIEL LEVINSON
IG HHS
GEORGE OPFER
IG VA



UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next I&E Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for November at the National Science Foundation.

The next I&E Roundtable meeting will be in October at the Department of Health and Human Services.

STATE OIG HOSTS JUNE 13 JOINT I&E COMMITTEE AND ROUNDTABLE MEETING

State Department IG, Howard Krongard, hosted the June 13th joint I&E Committee and Roundtable meeting at the State Department (State) headquarters building. The joint meeting brought together both Committee and Roundtable members and provided a valuable forum for discussing recent projects and future cooperation among the I&E community.

I&E Committee Chair Johnnie Frazier opened the meeting and thanked the members for their work this past year and reported that the PCIE retreat in May 2006 was successful. Mr. Frazier also thanked Howard Krongard and State OIG for hosting the joint meeting. In his opening remarks, Mr. Krongard discussed State OIG's organizational structure. The four main components of State OIG include: audits, inspections, investigations, and information technology.

According to the Foreign Service Act of 1980, Mr. Krongard's office

is tasked with reviewing each Foreign Service post every 5 years. However, Mr. Krongard also noted that many more embassies exist today than in 1980. State OIG now receives a waiver from the Congress from this 5-year rule.

Mr. Krongard stated that his philosophy focuses on teamwork. As part of the PCIE community, he believes in leveraging resources and noted a few joint reviews State OIG is performing with other OIGs. These include:

- Working with the Department of Defense OIG on two separate assessments involving the Iraq and Afghan police training programs;
- Working with the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction; and
- Collaborating with Veterans Affairs OIG on an inspection of State Department's medical services.

Bob Peterson, State OIG's AIG for Inspections and Evaluations also

provided an overview of State's I&E unit. State's I&E unit covers three broad areas as set forth in the Foreign Service Act of 1980:

- Policy implementation;
- Resource management; and
- Management controls.

Approximately 63 of 203 State OIG employees work in the I&E unit. This includes 45 civil servants and 18 foreign service employees who rotate through the OIG as part of their foreign service assignment. Mr. Peterson noted that the overseas inspections are led by former Ambassadors.

The overseas inspections also provide State with an independent assessment of each Chief of Mission, Deputy Chief of Mission, Principal Officer, Assistant Secretary, and Deputy Assistant Secretary. This includes a review of their performance, the adequacy of management and coordination

of physical and procedural security, as well as several additional areas pertinent to the mission.

VARIOUS I&E MATTERS DISCUSSED

Several other matters were also discussed at the meeting.

TIGTA I&E Pilot in Full Swing

A representative from the Treasury IG for Tax Administration (TIGTA) presented information on TIGTA's pilot I&E program. The vision for the unit is that it will provide the IG with new capabilities and flexibilities to complement audit and investigation units. The pilot program will end in September 2006 but the I&E unit will continue to operate.

NSF Reviews Continuing

National Science Foundation (NSF) IG Tina Boesz discussed reviews on misconduct in research. She noted that plagiarism existed in at least four percent of the grant proposals NSF receives. In April 2007, there will be a symposium in Portugal discussing what governments around the world are doing to address this problem. While NSF has the lead for the U.S. government, Ms. Boesz would like the Committee and Roundtable members to look into future projects in this area.

Peer Review Being Considered at DHS

Bob Ashbaugh, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) OIG, volunteered DHS' Inspections and Special Reviews unit for a peer review in July 2006.

The pilot will focus on three major topic areas: project management, quality of analysis, and verification. Mr. Ashbaugh suggested that he would select a pool of reports and assignments from the last two semiannual cycles for the team to review. He anticipates the review to last approximately ten working days with 5 of those onsite.

Skillsoft Pilot Realigning Courses

Christine Shafik, Department of Energy OIG, provided an update on the PCIE Skillsoft pilot program. Ms. Shafik noted the Skillsoft courses are realigned to better meet the OIG core competencies. Now, courses are broken into three skill levels: entry, intermediate, and advanced.

Inspector General Institute Currently Interviewing

Lisa Allen, Commerce OIG, reported that the Board of Governors of the Inspector General Institute selected its Executive Director, Gaston Gianni. The Board of Governors is also currently interviewing candidates for the other Director and Deputy Director positions for the Audit & Inspections, Investigations, and Management Schools, as well as a Special Projects position. Ms. Allen reported that the positions should be filled in the next few weeks.

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 (jgross@oig.doc.gov).