



## NACA News Update – May 2016

### NACA Announces Scholarship Opportunity

With generous support from ICMA-RC, NACA will offer a full scholarship to the [2016 ICMA Annual Conference](#) to a first-time attendee from a county. **Application Due Date: May 31, 2016.** [Read more about this opportunity.](#) [Download the Application Form.](#)

### NACA Scholarship Winners Relate Their Experiences at ICMA Regional Summits

NACA, with generous support from the ICMA-RC, awarded scholarships to four individuals to attend the 2016 ICMA Emerging Professionals Leadership Institutes and ICMA Regional Summits.

- **Midwest: Jim Hurley, Assistant to the County Administrator of McHenry County, Illinois** - "The 2016 ICMA Emerging Professional Leadership Institute (EPLI) was an excellent experience to learn about trends in local government and develop my leadership competencies. The event provided a series of interactive, challenging and engaging activities in leadership. I had the opportunity to hear from ICMA Executive Director Bob O'Neill and ICMA President Pat Martel about their perspective and experience in cultivating high-performing local governments. I look forward to applying the new knowledge I received from the EPLI to building stronger relationships with my peers and community."
- **Mountain Plains: Bryan Layton, Assistant County Manager of Navajo County, Arizona** - "The Mountain Plains Regional Summit has proven to be very impactful for our organization. It was a unique experience to learn from and interact directly with Bob O'Neill, and the topics presented were extremely timely and relevant. As a result of the discussion presented at the Regional Summit, we are changing how and why we conduct meetings, strategize, and plan."
- **Northeast: Nathan Kelley, ICMA University Fellow** - "... this year's ICMA Northeast Summit was an experience filled with great memories, advice on beginning my career, and for fellowship in general. These types of events...are a great source of learning how to become a better public servant and to see how your peers are navigating the profession."
- **Southeast: Luisa Agathon, 2016 MPA candidate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** - "The ICMA Southeast Summit provided me with an opportunity to reflect on my transition from a student to a working professional in local government ... I walked away knowing that leadership is an on-going development process [and that] there is a strong network of professionals ready to ... support each other... I am grateful for the

opportunity to learn from others and to be inspired by professionals in the field.”

### **NACA Events at the 2016 NACo Annual Conference & Exposition**

Location: Los Angeles County / Long Beach, California; July 22 – 25. Times and dates for NACA events have been confirmed. [Check here](#) for updated times and event descriptions so that you can plan your conference agenda.

### **Get Ready! The 2016 ICMA Annual Conference Registration Opens Soon**

Location: Greater Kansas City Region, Missouri; September 25-28. Online registration and housing for the [2016 ICMA Annual Conference](#) opens on June 2, 2016, at 12:00 p.m., EDT. [Check here](#) regularly for updates on NACA events at this year’s conference.

### **NACA and ICMA Launch New Membership Development Program**

NACA and ICMA are working together to gain joint membership in both associations. While many of our members do maintain joint membership, many others have yet to realize the benefits of belonging to both. Our joint outreach efforts will be piloted in several states by the end of the month before a nationwide launch. We are also working together on a joint outreach program for county administrators who are currently non-members of both associations. This program will fully launch this summer.

### **Encouraging NACA Members to Apply for NACo Committees & Task Forces**

Every year, the leaders and members of the policy committees and task forces are appointed by the new NACo president. The application process is now open. Please click [here to open the online application form](#), and have it completed by June 3, 2016. For more information on applying for a presidential appointment, see follow these links:

- [How to Join a NACo Committee](#)
- [Application for 2016-2017 NACo Presidential Leadership and Committee Appointments](#)

### **Counties to be Designated SolSmart**

The Solar Foundation (TSF) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) have relaunched the Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC) program as [SolSmart](#).

SolSmart will recognize hundreds of leading communities that take action to foster solar market growth and reduce costs to residents and businesses. It will also offer free technical assistance. A core component of the technical assistance program are the SolSmart Advisors, who are fully funded temporary staff embedded in up to 40 communities to help communities achieve designation. [Learn more](#) about becoming SolSmart.

### **County-administered Pension Plans**

A recent briefing issued by the [Center for State & Local Government Excellence](#) discussed the role of counties in providing public pensions. Particularly, the briefing focused on counties that provide their own pension plans instead of relying on state-administered pension plans. [Click here](#) to read more and access the full briefing.

### **Member Moments on Social Media**

Have you or your staff been formally recognized for your service and achievements? Have you met with colleagues at a recent event? Has your county accomplished something noteworthy?

NACA would like to share member moments on our social media platforms. Please, [send us photos and links](#) regarding yourselves, colleagues, and your counties so that we can highlight you and your efforts for all of our members to see. You can also tweet us [@NACA\\_ICMA](#) and we'll take it from there.