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CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE    NEW

Congress is out of session and will meet again for legislative business on Monday, November 15, to begin the lame-duck session.

The House adjourned on September 30. The Senate finished its legislative business on September 29, but it is reconvening every few days in pro forma session to keep President Obama from making recess appointments during the period before the lame-duck session.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

AAU AND APLU URGE OMB TO MAKE HIGHER EDUCATION A PRIORITY IN FY12 BUDGET

AAU and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) sent a letter to the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on October 5 asking that the Administration make federal student aid and higher education priorities in its FY12 budget. The education letter complements a letter the two associations submitted to OMB on September 15 urging sustained growth for basic research programs in the FY12 budget.

The education letter thanks the Administration for its continued support of the Pell Grant program and the transition to direct loans. “On behalf of the students at our institutions, we thank you for these important investments in their education and future.”

The two associations encourage the Administration to propose again an expanded Perkins Loan program, and ask that the FY12 budget recognize the importance of graduate education and international education programs in the Department of Education. They commend the Administration for its pursuit of meaningful data across the education spectrum as a way of better informing policy and targeting resources, and request that the FY12 budget reflect a continued commitment to improving science education.
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