

Financing Wisconsin's Future: Politics, Economics, and Public Opinion
A Discussion Sponsored by the Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS) and the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF)

UW Memorial Union, Madison
June 22, 2004 – 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

8:30-9:00 AM **COFFEE AND REGISTRATION**

9:00-9:20 AM **WELCOME AND BACKGROUND**

What is this conference about? Jon Peacock (WCCF)

What are the basics on WI's current finances? Andrew Reschovsky (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

9:20-10:30 AM **PUBLIC OPINION**

What do Wisconsinites think about taxes and spending? Diane Feldman (Feldman Group)

Panel Response & Discussion: Tim Kelley (*Wisconsin State Journal*), Richard Mial* (*La Crosse Tribune*), Steve Walters (*Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*)

10:30-11:45 AM **ECONOMICS**

What is the economic impact of raising or cutting taxes? Dean Baker (Center for Economic and Policy Research)

Panel Response & Discussion: Tim Hanna (Mayor of Appleton), Mike Ivey* (*The Capital Times*), Paul Linzmeyer (Bay Towel), Michael Morgan (Wisconsin Department of Revenue)

11:45 AM-12:45 PM LUNCH

12:45-2:30 PM **POLITICS**

What are the political costs of raising revenue? Michael Ettlinger (Economic Analysis and Research Network, Economic Policy Institute)

Panel Response & Discussion: Kathleen Falk (Dane County Executive), Frederica Freyberg* (Wisconsin Public Television), John Medinger (Mayor of La Crosse), Ed Muir (American Federation of Teachers)

2:30-2:45 PM **BREAK**

2:45-4:00 PM **SUMMING UP**

What have we learned today? Dean Baker, Mike Ettlinger, Diane Feldman, Andrew Reschovsky, Joel Rogers* (COWS)

* Panel chair/moderator