

Tentative Agenda

(as of July 24, 2017)

The Aspen Institute Communications and Society Program, in partnership with the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, have established the Knight Commission on Trust, Media and American Democracy. Currently, trust in the major institutions of American democracy has fallen to troubling lows amid a rapidly changing information ecosystem. Without trust, democracy cannot function. It is, therefore, the Commission's charge to examine the causes and consequences of a collapse in trust in democratic institutions, with a focus on trust in the media, journalism and the information ecosystem. In addition, the Commission seeks to identify the perennial and emerging values and social obligations that should guide those who produce, distribute and consume news and information to ensure a functioning democracy. To accomplish this, the August 2017 workshop will provide Commissioners and participants an opportunity for thoughtful discussion guided by a set of issue-driven white papers and readings.

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. *Check in at Aspen Meadows*

6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. **Opening Cocktail Reception, Group dinner and Introductions**
Located on the Merrill Patio at the Aspen Meadows Reception Center

Thursday, August 10, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. *Breakfast at the Aspen Meadows Restaurant*

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **Session I. Democracy and Trust**
All workshop sessions will be held in the Lauder Seminar Room

This opening session explores these questions: What is the role of trust in democratic institutions? Why has trust in democratic institutions declined over the years, and why is it worrying?

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. *Break & Group Photo*

10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Session II. Science, Technologies and Institutions of Trust**
This session builds first from a scientific understanding of trust, and moves on to its implications. Participants will discuss features of trust ranging from the physiological to the psychological. Then, how do digital technologies relate to the growing mistrust of democratic institutions?

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Lunch*

