

A special "Train the Trainers" Advocacy and Policy Clinic was held on Saturday, October 28 in Bonner Springs at the National Ag Hall of Fame. The participants were KARL program graduates and key leaders in the general economic, school finance and ag policy arenas. The purpose of the clinic was: (1) to communicate the critical importance of policy changes impacting rural Kansas, (2) to encourage participation in the process, and (3) provide basic information on how to get involved. Primary organizer, Scott Poor, Esq., a Class VII graduate, stated at the event that "KARL's tradition held true to make sure that every presentation had a balanced perspective."

Presenters included:

Gov. Sam Brownback (also a co-founder of the KARL program)

Alan Cobb - Americans for Prosperity (KARL Class VIII)

Mike Zamrzla - Deputy State Director, US Senator Jerry Moran

Doug Mays - Lobbyist and former Speaker of the House

Tim Graham - Chief of Staff, Senate Minority Leader

Mike Gaughan - Political consultant/former Executive Director of the Kansas Democratic Party/current Douglas Co. Commissioner

Sherienne Sontag - Director of Communications, Kansas Governor's Office

Robin Jennison - KS Secretary of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism

Scott B. Poor - Wichita attorney, Ag Law Specialist (KARL Class VII)

Dr. Vincent Amanor-Boadu - Associate Professor of Agribusiness Economics and Management, Kansas State University

Glennis Zimmerman - South Haven educator/Cowley Community College/school board (KARL Class VII)

Wm. Scott Hess - Topeka attorney/past Deputy Attorney General (KARL Class IX)

Diane Gjerstad - Lobbyist, Wichita Public Schools

Sen. Jean Schodorf - Kansas State Senate, Chairman of the Education Committee

Todd Davidson - Kansas Policy Institute

Mel Thompson - Agricultural Representative, US Senator Pat Roberts

Allie Devine - Kansas Livestock Association/Former Kansas Secretary of Agriculture

Todd Jennison - Kennedy & Coe Farm Policy Specialist (KARL Class XI)