In a development that barely could have been envisioned by the authors of the Freedom of Information Act four decades ago, and with a force that has been accelerating around the globe, people in more than 90 nations of the world now enjoy the benefits of “government transparency” laws akin to the FOIA. In the United States, “Freedom of Information Day” is celebrated each year on or near March 16 (the birthday of James Madison), and for the past decade members of the international transparency community around the world likewise have celebrated “International Right-to-Know Day” annually on September 28. And the Washington College of Law’s Collaboration on Government Secrecy has become the principal location for the celebration of International Right-to-Know Day in the United States now for more than half of that past decade.

9:00 a.m.  Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 a.m.  Welcome and Opening Remarks -- Daniel J. Metcalfe, Executive Director, Collaboration on Government Secrecy, Washington College of Law

9:40 a.m.  Keynote Presentation -- Nathaniel Heller, Executive Director, Global Integrity, and Civil Society Co-Coordinator, Open Government Partnership Networking Mechanism

10:40 a.m.  Transparency Worldwide: A Survey of Recent Developments -- Thomas S. Blanton, Director, National Security Archive, and Civil Society Member, Steering Committee, Open Government Partnership; Nancy Z. Boswell, Adjunct Professor, Washington College of Law, and Former President and CEO, Transparency International-USA; Julia V. Svintsova, Research Assistant, Collaboration on Government Secrecy, Washington College of Law; and Thomas M. Susman, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, American Bar Association (moderator)

Noon  Freedom of Information in Europe: A live video-link exchange joining with the celebration of International Right-to-Know Day at Access Info Europe in Brussels, Belgium, and Madrid, Spain -- Pamela Bartlett Quintanilla, Research and Campaigns Coordinator, Access Info Europe (in Brussels), and Lydia Medland, Research and Campaigns Coordinator, Access Info Europe (in Madrid)
1:00 p.m.  Luncheon Presentation -- Suzanne E. Spaulding, Deputy Undersecretary for National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security

2:15 p.m.  International Transparency Principles Redux: An updated review of Draft International Principles on National Security and the Right to Information -- Morton H. Halperin, Senior Advisor, Open Society Institute and Open Society Policy Center, and Former Director of Policy Planning, Department of State; W. George Jameson, President, Council on Intelligence Issues, and Former Director, Office of Policy & Coordination, Central Intelligence Agency; William J. Leonard, Chief Operating Officer, National Endowment for Democracy, and Former Director, Information Security Oversight Office, National Archives and Records Administration; and Sandra Coliver, Senior Legal Officer, Freedom of Information and Expression, Open Society Justice Initiative (moderator)

3:15 p.m.  The New Open Government Partnership: A first-year review -- Gavin Baker, Federal Information Policy Analyst, OMB Watch; Amy Bennett, Assistant Director, OpenTheGovernment.org; Wayne M. Burke, Executive Director, Open Forum Foundation; and Toby McIntosh, Managing Editor, freedominfo.org, and Steering Committee Coordinator, Global Transparency Initiative

Video: Secretary of State Hillary R. Clinton’s Opening Remarks, Open Government Partnership Annual Meeting, Brasilia, Brazil, April 17, 2012

General Registration, no charge.
CLE Accreditation (5 credits) will be applied for -- CLE Registration, $275
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For further information, please contact: Office of Special Events & Continuing Legal Education, 202.274.4075 or secle@wcl.american.edu.
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