

**General Session: Monday at 8:30am**

### **The 2017 Economy and Beyond: Can We Escape the Slow Lane?**

This presentation will provide an assessment of the U.S. economy's performance and outlook with attention paid to the global economy, to U.S. regions and states, and to the political economy. A summary forecast will be provided that addresses national output, interest rates, and inflation. Learning objectives include 1) gaining an understanding of key dynamics of the national economy; 2) forming an appreciation of the wide variation in economic performance across U.S. states and regions; and 3) developing an understanding of how economic forces and trends feed into the development of a forecast for the national economy.

#### **Speaker:**



#### **Dr. Bruce Yandle – Dean Emeritus, Clemson University**

Dr. Bruce Yandle is an economist, writer and speaker on political economy. He is Mercatus Center Distinguished Adjunct Professor of Economics at George Mason University and Dean Emeritus of Clemson University's College of Business & Behavioral Science. While serving as Alumni Distinguished Professor of Economics at Clemson University, he taught in graduate programs in France, Italy, Germany, and the Czech Republic. He is author/editor of 17 books, including his 2014 co-authored Cato Institute book, *Bootleggers and Baptists: How Economic Forces and Moral Persuasion Interact to Shape Regulatory Politics*. He is a *U.S. News & World Report* contributor and columnist for the *Washington Examiner*.

Dr. Yandle served as a senior economist on the staff of the President's Council on Wage and Price Stability during the Ford and Carter administrations and later as Executive Director of the Federal Trade Commission in the Reagan Administration. Bruce was member and chairman of the South Carolina State Board of Economic Advisors, member and chairman of the Spartanburg Methodist College board of trustees, and member of the board of trustees of the Foundation of Economic Education. In 2012, he received the Adam Smith Award from the Association of Private Enterprise Education for his leadership in promoting the free market economy. In 2016, he received the Julian L. Simon Memorial Award from Washington's Competitive Enterprise Institute. The award celebrates human beings as the ultimate resource. Prior to entering an academic career, Dr. Yandle was in the industrial machinery business for 15 years. His quarterly Economic Situation report is distributed by George Mason University's Mercatus Center.