The Center for Financial Policy at the University of Maryland’s Robert H. Smith School of Business is pleased to announce its spring roundtable discussion: “Revitalizing the U.S. Mortgage Market,” to be held on Monday, May 24, 2010, in the Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center, in Washington, D.C.

The roundtable will focus on the issues leading to the conservatorship of mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. Led by a panel of industry, academic and policy experts, the roundtable will explore policy implications for revitalizing the primary and secondary mortgage markets, while protecting tax payers.

With the federal government facing a contingent liability of trillions of dollars in debt issued by the two government sponsored enterprises (GSEs), a number of critical policy issues emerge. What will become of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac over time? Should they be privatized, or absorbed completely into a federal corporation? What should be the federal government’s view going forward with respect to housing policy and subsidies to this sector? How should they be regulated? These and other questions currently confronting policymakers will be addressed. The panel discussion will be followed by lunch, featuring Keynote Speaker Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody’s Analytics.

Mark Zandi is chief economist and co-founder of Moody’s Economy.com, where he directs the company’s research and consulting activities. Moody’s Economy.com, a division of Moody’s Analytics, provides economic research and consulting services to businesses, governments and other institutions.

His research interests include macro, financial and regional economics. His recent research has studied the determinants of mortgage foreclosure and personal bankruptcy, analyzed the economic impact of various tax and government spending policies, and assessed the appropriate policy response to bubbles in asset markets. He conducts regular briefings on the economy. He is quoted often in national and global publications, is frequently interviewed by major news media outlets, and is the author of Financial Shock, an exposé of the subprime financial crisis.

Dr. Zandi was an economic advisor to the John McCain campaign for president, has provided advice to the Obama administration, and regularly testifies in Congress. His most recent testimony has been on the economic impact of fiscal stimulus and the merits of providing government aid to the vehicle industry. He received his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania.

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CENTER FOR FINANCIAL POLICY
The speed at which the current financial crisis unfolded, as well as its financial and global impact, heightens the need for a broader, interdisciplinary perspective to address financial policy and corporate governance issues. The mission of the Center for Financial Policy is to develop thought leadership in financial policy that impacts corporate performance, capital allocation and the stability of the global financial system. The center is well-suited to take a leadership role in this regard given its globally recognized faculty; its extensive relationships with key policymakers, practitioners, and academics; and its Washington, D.C., location.

AGENDA
8:30 to 9 a.m. Registration & Continental Breakfast
9 to 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:15 to 9:30 a.m. A Framework for Assessing GSE Reform Alternatives
9:30 a.m. to noon Panel Discussion
12:15 to 1:30 p.m. Luncheon Keynote Address

FEES
General Admission: $65
Alumni: $45
Students: $25

Register now at www.rhsmith.umd.edu/ctp

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:
► G. “Anand” Anandalingam
Dean, Robert H. Smith School of Business
► John Dalton
President, Housing Policy Council for Financial Services Roundtable
► Greg Hawkins
Managing Director, Product Chief Risk Officer, Global Real Estate and Mortgages, Citigroup
► William Longbrake
Executive-in-Residence, Center for Financial Policy; Chairman Emeritus, Financial Services Roundtable’s Housing Policy Council
► Clifford Rossi
Tyser Teaching Fellow and Managing Director, Center For Financial Policy; Former Managing Director and Chief Risk Officer, Citigroup Consumer Lending Group
► Lemma Senbet
The William E. Mayer Chair Professor of Finance and Director, Center for Financial Policy
► Haluk Unal
Professor of Finance, and Financial Institutions and Consumer Finance Academic Track Leader, Center for Financial Policy
► Robert Van Order
Professor of Finance and Oliver T. Carr Professor of Real Estate, George Washington University
► Peter Wallison
Arthur F. Burns Fellow in Financial Policy Studies, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research
► Mark Zandi
Chief Economist, Moody’s Analytics

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