



California Promise

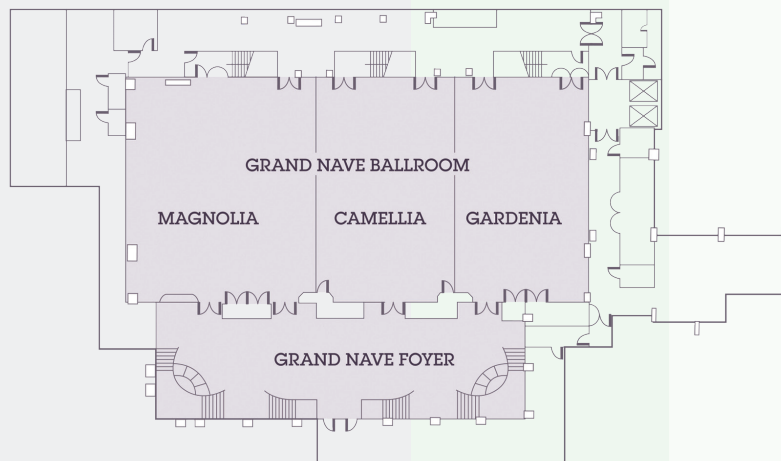
PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS

August 30, 2017 | Sacramento, California

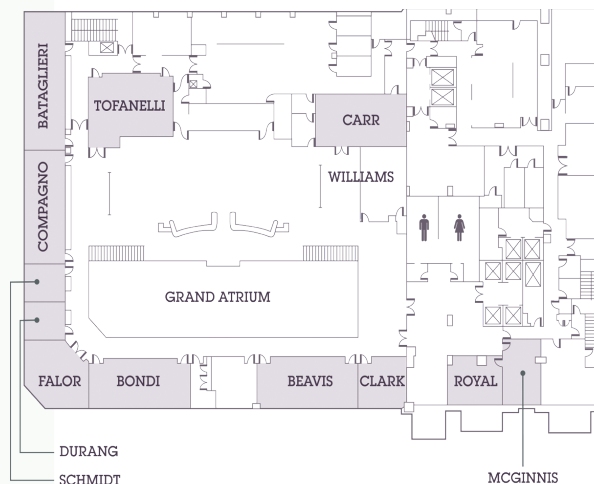


Venue Information

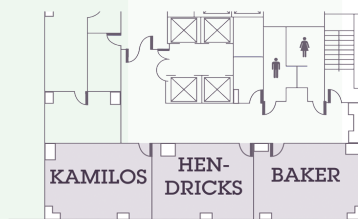
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Level One



Level Two



Level Three

Thank You for Your Generous
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WELCOME

to California Promise: Pathways to Student Success!

Thank you for joining us today as we explore and celebrate the depth and breadth of College Promise efforts across California. Collectively we represent small pilot efforts, mature, citywide programs, and larger regional plans. We serve students from rural, suburban, and urban areas of the state, and include graduates from both single high school districts as well as high school graduates from an entire city or region. What unites us is our commitment to increase postsecondary access, persistence, and completion; create a college-going culture in our communities; and strengthen our local economy. These are the common goals of College Promise programs.

Today, we'll have the opportunity to learn from and collaborate with college, community, and state partners who are implementing, developing, or considering establishing a College Promise program. In addition to sharing some "nuts and bolts" about developing, managing, and measuring our programs, we'll weave some themes into all of our discussions. We'll emphasize the importance of cross-sector collaboration for the structural and financial sustainability of our programs and we'll focus on the ways that our programs align with student support structures and intersegmental transitions to ensure student persistence and completion.

We want to thank REL West at WestEd, the College Promise Campaign, the Los Rios Community College District, the Community College League of California, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, the California College Promise Leadership Team, ACT, the California Community Foundation, Pearson, and the Santa Barbara City College Foundation for their generous contributions to today's convening.

We hope that you will leave today's event with useful ideas and information to strengthen your program and that you deepen your connections with colleagues from our California College Promise Learning Community.

Thank you for your commitment to a "Promise" for our students and our communities.

Sincerely,

Brian King, Chancellor, Los Rios Community College District & Chair,
California College Promise Leadership Team

Eloy Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Mary Rauner, Senior Research Associate, WestEd

Martha Kanter, Executive Director, College Promise Campaign

Larry Galizio, President and CEO, Community College League of California

College Promise Leadership Team

Brian King, Chancellor, Los Rios Community College District & Chair,
California College Promise Leadership Team

Constance Carroll, Chancellor, San Diego Community College District

Larry Galizio, President and CEO, Community College League of California

Geoff Green, Chief Executive Officer, Santa Barbara City College Foundation

Martha Kanter, Executive Director, College Promise Campaign

Eloy Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Mary Rauner, Senior Research Associate, WestEd

Francisco Rodriguez, Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District

Erik Skinner, Deputy Chancellor, California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office

Agenda

TIME	ACTIVITY
9:00 – 9:30 am	Breakfast and Registration
9:30 – 10:00 am	Opening Remarks College Promise: Pathways for Student Success <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eloy Oakley, California Community Colleges National Advances in College Promise Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Martha Kanter, College Promise Campaign The Depth and Breadth of California College Promise Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mary Rauner, WestEd
10:00 – 10:40 am	Panel: The Role of Local Leaders in College Promise Moderator: Larry Galizio, Community College League of California <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deborah Budd, San José-Evergreen Community College Districts Mayor Darrell Steinberg, City of Sacramento Ian Winbrock, City of West Sacramento
10:40 – 11:15 am	Panel: Innovative Financial Sustainability Strategies Moderator: Geoff Green, Santa Barbara City College Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lisa Cole-Jones, San Diego Community College District Greg Gillespie, Ventura County Community College District Christina Romero, Santa Ana College Foundation and Office of College Advancement
11:15 – 11:30 am	Break
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Breakout Session 1 The Role of the College Promise within the Guided Pathways Framework Location: Main Ballroom (Magnolia/Camellia) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Fried, Success Center, Foundation for California Community Colleges Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, Contra Costa College Keeping the Promise: Insights and Strategies for Sustainability Location: Beavis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geoff Green, Santa Barbara City College Foundation Developing and Integrating Student Support Services into College Promise Programs Location: Bondi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bernard Gibson, Folsom Lake College Andrea Vizenor, Skyline College Michelle Ware, MDRC Strategies for Engaging Industry in College Promise Location: Carr <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrea Bailey, Chevron Products Company Jaime Fall, Aspen Institute Francisco Rodriguez, Los Angeles Community College District

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	<p>Breakout Session 1, <i>continued</i></p> <p>Developing a Promise Research and Evaluation Plan Location: Tofanelli</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jorge A. Aguilar, Sacramento City Unified School District • Mary Rauner, WestEd <p>Cross-Sector Collaboration and the Long Beach Promise: Lessons Learned Location: Bataglieri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terri M. Carbaugh, California State University Long Beach <p>A Grassroots Approach to Developing a College Promise Program Location: Compagno</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack Beresford, San Diego Community College District • Shakerra Carter, San Diego Community College District • Lynn C. Neault, San Diego Community College District <p>College Promise Programs in Rural California Location: Falor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kate Mahar, Shasta College • Dawnie Slabaugh, College of the Siskiyous • Randy Smith, Rural Community College Alliance <p>Collaboration with College Trustees on College Promise Location: Hendricks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenneth Brown, El Camino Community College District • Larry Galizio, Community College League of California • Bernie Rhinerson, San Diego Community College District
12:30 – 1:15 pm	Buffet Lunch
1:15 – 2:00 pm	<p>Lunch Plenary: Intersegmental College Promise Commitment Moderator: Martha Kanter, College Promise Campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janet Napolitano, President, University of California • Eloy Oakley, Chancellor, California Community Colleges • Kristen Soares, President, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities • Tom Torlakson, Superintendent, California Department of Education • Timothy White, Chancellor, California State University
2:00 – 2:15 pm	Break
2:15 – 3:15 pm	<p>Breakout Session 2 (See topics above, each presentation will be repeated during Session 1 and Session 2)</p>
3:15 – 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Closing

All Plenary sessions will be videotaped, including audience Q&A. If you prefer not to be videotaped as a participant of this event, please let our event videographer know.

Session Descriptions

The Role of the College Promise within the Guided Pathways Framework

Sandra Fried, Executive Director, Success Center, Foundation for California Community Colleges

Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, President, Contra Costa College

Location: Main Ballroom (Magnolia/Camellia)

Guided pathways reform is a student-centered approach that can dramatically increase the number of students earning community college credentials, while at the same time closing equity gaps. Through guided pathways, students are provided with clear, educationally coherent program maps that include specific course sequences, progress milestones, and program learning outcomes. Guided pathways are a college-wide undertaking that provides a framework for integrating California-based initiatives such as the Student Success and Support Program, Equity, Basic Skills Transformation, the Strong Workforce Program, and California College Promise. Mojdeh Mehdizadeh, President of Contra Costa College, and Sandra Fried, Executive Director of the Success Center in the Foundation for California Community Colleges, will discuss how Promise Programs fit within the framework of guided pathways to improve student outcomes.

Keeping the Promise: Insights and Strategies for Sustainability

Geoff Green, Chief Executive Officer, Santa Barbara City College Foundation

Location: Beavis Room

When designing, launching, or expanding a College Promise effort, decision makers have to navigate a wide range of concerns, some of which may be in competition with each other. How much support can programs afford to offer? How is success measured? How well will a College Promise effort integrate with existing programs? How can programs guarantee financial sustainability? How can they best coordinate with K-12 districts and four-year universities? How can they recruit critical leaders? What is the right mix of public and private funding? How might a Promise program affect existing policies? Is there infrastructure in place to effectively manage a Promise effort? In this session, Geoff Green, CEO of the Santa Barbara City College Foundation, will share some of the research and strategies that have proven successful, and will offer some tools for designing, launching, and/or expanding College Promise efforts.

Each presentation will be repeated during Session 1 and Session 2.

Session Descriptions

Developing and Integrating Student Support Services into College Promise Programs

Bernard Gibson, Dean of Student Services, Folsom Lake College

Andrea Vizenor, Director of Career and Workforce Programs, Skyline College

Michelle Ware, Operations Associate, MDRC

Location: Bondi Room

This highly interactive, functional workshop will provide strategies, research, and tactics that participants can deploy to help their institution develop, adapt, and align support services with their College Promise program. Grounded with research on effective student services initiatives, this session is designed for those who are planning, developing, or building a Promise program and seeking to leverage the strengths that lie within their already-existing student support services. In this session, Andrea Vizenor, Michelle Ware, and Bernard Gibson will provide tools and resources and lead a discussion about effective strategies for supporting Promise students through integrated support services.

Strategies for Engaging Industry in College Promise

Andrea Bailey, Community Engagement Manager, Chevron Products Company

Jaime Fall, Director, UpSkill America, Aspen Institute

Francisco Rodriguez, Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District

Location: Carr Room

Employer support for College Promise is critical, making employer engagement efforts a “make or break” element to every Promise program. Join this discussion to get tips from experienced professionals on when to approach employers, who to contact, the best way to engage them, the elements of a perfect pitch, and the things employers look for when deciding whether they want to participate in programs. Participants will also learn some common mistakes that nonprofits make when approaching employers and strategies to avoid them.

Developing a Promise Research and Evaluation Plan

Jorge A. Aguilar, Superintendent, Sacramento City Unified School District

Mary Rauner, Senior Research Associate, WestEd

Location: Tofanelli Room

This workshop will engage participants in developing or enhancing a research and evaluation plan for their College Promise program. The session will begin with an overview of the importance of gathering and using data for program improvement and for student and community engagement. Examples of indicators being tracked, analyzed, and shared by existing Promise programs will then be shared with the group. Finally, workshop participants will participate in a series of activities to guide the alignment of their program goals with a research and evaluation strategy.

Each presentation will be repeated during Session 1 and Session 2.

Session Descriptions

Cross-Sector Collaboration and the Long Beach Promise

Terri M. Carbaugh, Associate Vice President, California State University, Long Beach

Location: Bataglieri Room

The Long Beach College Promise has reformed the ways in which educational institutions operate and collaborate in Long Beach, California. This longstanding and successful collaboration has been built on dedication, shared goals, strong and trusting relationships, willingness to take risks, sustained commitment, and much more. In this session, Terri Carbaugh, who oversees public engagement for the Promise, will share the history of the partnership that evolved into the Long Beach Promise and the lessons learned. She will engage the audience in a discussion on why partnerships are important and steps they can take to develop and maintain cross-sector partnerships for successful College Promise initiatives in their own communities.

A Grassroots Approach to Developing a College Promise Program

Jack Beresford, Director of Communication and Public Relations,
San Diego Community College District

Shakerra Carter, Associate Dean of Outreach and Pre-Enrollment Services,
San Diego Community College District

Lynn C. Neault, Vice Chancellor of Student Services,
San Diego Community College District

Location: Compagno Room

This workshop will present lessons learned from developing a College Promise program at the San Diego Community College District. The presentation will include information on a pilot program design, funding, branding, and outreach strategies. Participants will engage in an interactive discussion about developing their own program including challenges, development strategies, and tips for moving forward.

Each presentation will be repeated during Session 1 and Session 2.

Session Descriptions

College Promise Programs in Rural California

Kate Mahar, Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Shasta College

Dawnie Slabaugh, Director of Public Relations and College Foundation,
College of the Siskiyous

Randy Smith, President, Rural Community College Alliance

Location: Falor Room

Implementing College Promise programs in rural areas presents very different challenges and opportunities than those in more densely populated regions. However, the importance of affordable college attainment is critical in rural regions with direct impact on individual, economic, and community vitality. Please join Dr. Randy Smith, Dawnie Slabaugh, and Kate Mahar in an interactive session that focuses on rural College Promise programs and the importance of increasing affordable college access in rural communities. Presenters will share information about current efforts in rural California and throughout the country. Through small group discussions and interactive dialogue, participants will leave the session with a deeper understanding of rural postsecondary education and with practical resources and tools to bring back to their local efforts.

Collaboration with College Trustees on College Promise

Kenneth Brown, President of the Governing Board of Trustees, El Camino
Community College District

Larry Galizio, President and CEO, Community College League of California;

Bernie Rhinerson, Executive Vice President, San Diego Community College
Board of Trustees

Location: Hendricks Room

College Promise programs at community colleges come in all shapes and sizes, but all share a common goal to remove the financial barriers to education for incoming students. Regardless of the details of each individual Promise program, Board Trustees always play a critical role in ensuring successful program development, implementation, and sustainability. Board Trustees can leverage community relationships to support fundraising and promotional efforts, ensure collaboration with K-12 leaders to promote coordination with local feeder schools, and support development of student support systems that are critical to the success of Promise students. This session will explore the many ways that Board Trustees can become involved with College Promise efforts, provide strategies for working successfully with Trustees, and describe programs throughout California with strong Trustee collaboration.

Each presentation will be repeated during Session 1 and Session 2.

Speakers



Jorge A. Aguilar

Superintendent, Sacramento City Unified School District

Superintendent Jorge A. Aguilar leads the Sacramento City Unified School District, a system of more than 43,000 students with 80 schools. He has over twenty years of K-12 and higher education experience with a strong focus on issues of equity and student achievement. Prior to arriving in Sacramento, Aguilar served as Associate Superintendent for Equity and Access at Fresno Unified School District.

While there, he established a unique partnership between the Fresno district and the Center for Education Partnerships, which he founded and directed at UC Merced. Superintendent Aguilar graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Latin American Studies and Spanish and Portuguese. He also earned a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles.



Andrea Bailey, PhD

Community Engagement Manager, Chevron Products Company

As part of the Policy, Government and Public Affairs team at Chevron, Dr. Andrea Bailey is responsible for developing and implementing social investment strategy, assisting with community and stakeholder engagement strategies, and managing community relationships. Bailey works closely with local nonprofits, creating and building relationships that link resources with organizational needs.

Bailey has over 15 years of nonprofit experience and an extensive background in fundraising, capital campaigns, board and donor development, grant management, and strategic planning. She has a PhD in Clinical Psychology from UC Berkeley, an MBA in Management and Organizational Leadership, and a BA in Business Administration.



Jack Beresford

**Director of Communications and Public Relations,
San Diego Community College District**

As the Director of Communications and Public Relations for the San Diego Community College District, Jack Beresford's responsibilities include overseeing the Communications and Public Relations Office and developing and maintaining a strong public image for the district. Since joining the district in 2013, Beresford has overseen a dramatic increase in districtwide marketing and media relations activity including a 58 percent increase in positive news stories and social media followers. In his capacity as the district's legislative liaison, Beresford advocates in support of pending legislation at the local, state, and national levels. Prior to joining the San Diego Community College District, Beresford served 13 years as Chief Communications Officer for San Diego State University. He is a regular presenter on topics such as media relations, crisis communications, enrollment marketing, and community relations.

Speakers



Deborah Budd, EdD

Chancellor, San José–Evergreen Community College District

Dr. Deborah Budd is recognized for her passion for educational excellence and her expertise in leveraging collaborative partnerships and opening channels of communication to ensure equitable student outcomes. Her educational career spans 30 years in both community college and K–12 teaching and administration.

During her tenure as San José–Evergreen Community College District Chancellor, Budd has led successful efforts to pass a \$748 million bond as well as accreditation efforts for both of the District's colleges. Budd holds a Master's degree in Education from Stanford University and an EdD from San Francisco State University.



Kenneth Brown

**President of the Governing Board of Trustees,
El Camino Community College District**

Kenneth Brown was appointed President of the Board of Trustees of the El Camino Community College District in December 2010. He is a System Engineering Manager for Northrop Grumman Corporation, which he joined in 2015 after serving for more than 20 years as a Senior Engineer and Project Controls

Liaison at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Brown received his BS in Computer Science and Physics from Morehouse College in Atlanta, and an MS in Applied Physics from Clark Atlanta University. He has been an Adjunct Professor of Physics at CSU Dominguez Hills for the past 14 years, teaching Physical Science for Teachers and Introduction to Science and Technology. He was recently named a 2017 Modern-Day Technology Leader and honored at the 31st Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards STEM Conference in Washington, DC.



Terri M. Carbaugh

Associate Vice President, California State University, Long Beach

Terri M. Carbaugh is the Associate Vice President at CSU Long Beach. She has worked in and around California politics and policy throughout her career and is passionate about solving perplexing social challenges through the implementation of statewide solutions that leverage proven local models of success. Carbaugh is the head of public affairs for Long Beach State University and oversees the Long

Beach College Promise public engagement campaign. While working in politics, she served as a top policy and communications advisor to high-level officials, including California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, First Lady Maria Shriver, Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown, Jr., and more. Carbaugh has a BA in Rhetoric and Public Discourse from Humboldt State University.

Speakers



Shakerra Carter

Associate Dean of Outreach and Pre-Enrollment Services,
San Diego Community College District

Shakerra Carter serves as the Associate Dean of Outreach and Pre-Enrollment Services for the San Diego Community College District. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Child Development from California State University, Chico and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from San Diego State University.

Carter has twelve years of experience in higher education at both the community college and university levels. Her roles have included Program Coordinator for a federal GEAR UP grant at UC San Diego, Admissions Counselor at San Diego State University, Counseling Services Supervisor, and Interim Director of Student Activities at Grossmont College. Her experience as a first-generation, low-income college student has fueled her commitment to improving outcomes for underrepresented students.



Lisa Cole-Jones, JD

Development Coordinator, San Diego Community College District

Lisa Cole-Jones recently joined the San Diego Community College District as Development Coordinator to facilitate the fundraising program in support of the San Diego Promise. The program has grown dramatically since its pilot year in 2016, and Cole-Jones is actively engaged in establishing diverse and reliable philanthropic revenue to support current and future growth. She has extensive experience in the field of nonprofit fund development including donor communication, grant writing, Board engagement, and major event management. She holds a BS in Psychology from Arizona State University, an MSW from San Diego State University, and a Juris Doctorate from California Western School of Law.



Jaime S. Fall

Director, UpSkill America, Aspen Institute

Jaime S. Fall is the Director of UpSkill America at the Aspen Institute, an employer-led movement to expand opportunity for America's workers and help the economy and communities thrive by promoting training and advancement practices that help workers progress in their careers and move into better-paying jobs. UpSkill America is led by a coalition of business, education, workforce training, and human resource organizations. Fall makes his home in Sacramento, California, where he moved in 2004 to serve as Deputy Secretary of Employment and Workforce Development for the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency.

Speakers



Sandra Fried

Executive Director, Success Center,
Foundation for California Community Colleges

Sandra Fried is the Executive Director of the Success Center at the Foundation for California Community Colleges. Fried comes to this role after 28 years of public policy work, focusing primarily on higher education policy and advocacy. She began her career as a Legislative Aide, providing general policy analysis and development to Speaker Willie Brown and Assemblymember (now Congresswoman) Susan Davis. A desire to focus on higher education led her to join the University of California's office of State Governmental Relations as a Legislative Advocate. After ten years with the University of California, Fried returned to the Legislature, where she analyzed legislation, managed committee hearings, negotiated policy issues, and served as the Assembly's lead staff person on higher education issues. During her tenure, she worked with the Senate and California community college stakeholders on the development of the Student Success Task Force study and implementation legislation.



Larry Galizio, PhD

President and CEO, Community College League of California

Prior to becoming President and CEO of the Community College League of California in 2015, Larry Galizio served as President of Clatsop Community College in Astoria, Oregon. He served three terms in the Oregon Legislature which included chairing the Education Subcommittee of Ways and Means, which is responsible for all pre-K through higher education budgets. A Los Angeles native, Galizio attended Santa Barbara City College and UC Santa Barbara before transferring to UC Berkeley where he earned his undergraduate degree. He holds a Masters from San Francisco State, and earned his Doctorate from Portland State University's School of Urban and Public Affairs. Galizio serves on the California College Promise Leadership Team.



Bernard Gibson

Dean of Student Services, Folsom Lake College

Bernard Gibson has more than 30 years of experience in the private and government sectors, having worked in telecommunications, publishing, education, training, application learning, and management. He is a certified facilitator in process improvement, training, and team development as well as a graduate of the Stanford University Advanced Project Management program. Gibson's current dissertation work at San Diego State University focuses on the ability of young men of color to persist and enroll at four-year institutions after participating in a California community college Promise program. Gibson has an MBA from the University of San Francisco and a BA in Public Administration from the University of Mississippi.

Speakers



Greg Gillespie, PhD

Chancellor, Ventura County Community College District

Dr. Greg Gillespie has been employed by the Ventura County Community College District for just over four years. He initially served as the President of Ventura College and was appointed Chancellor in July 2017. He has worked for more than 23 years in the community college system and has served in faculty, director, dean, vice president, and president positions in Arizona, California, and Washington. Gillespie is focused on supporting the Ventura County Community College District colleges in providing student-centered access to quality educational programs and support services. He works with employer, education, and governmental partners to address shared educational and community priorities. Gillespie also serves on many local, state, and national organizations and Boards. He holds a PhD from North Dakota State University.



Geoff Green

Chief Executive Officer, Santa Barbara City College Foundation

A native of the San Francisco Bay Area, Geoff Green moved to Santa Barbara in 1990 as a UC Santa Barbara student where he participated in community organizing on issues of racial equity, access to education, environmental health, and LGBTQ equality. His professional work at UC Santa Barbara included positions with the Office of Residential Life and the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

In 1997, Green began work with the Fund for Santa Barbara, where he served in a variety of roles for nearly 18 years, including as Executive Director from 2003 to 2015. Green has served on numerous boards and advised hundreds of nonprofit organizations, foundations, public agencies, and labor organizations over the course of his career. He currently serves on the California College Promise Leadership Team.



Martha Kanter, EdD

**Executive Director and Advisory Board Member,
College Promise Campaign**

Dr. Martha J. Kanter leads the College Promise Campaign, working with communities and states to fund community college tuition and fees for students to complete their degrees and certificates. She is also a Senior Fellow at New York University. In 2009, President Barack Obama nominated Kanter to serve as the US Under Secretary of Education, with oversight responsibility for all federal postsecondary statutory, regulatory, and administrative policies and programs for the Department of Education. Kanter holds a BA degree in Sociology from Brandeis University, an MEd from Harvard University, and an EdD from the University of San Francisco.

Speakers



Brian King, JD, EdD

Chancellor, Los Rios Community College District

In addition to his role as Chancellor at one of the largest multi-college districts in America, Dr. Brian King serves on the Community College League of California Board and is president of the Community College League of California's Chief Executive Officer Board. He is also a member of the Greater Sacramento Economic Council Board of Directors, the Valley Vision Board of Directors, the Align Capital Region Steering Committee, and the Linked Learning Alliance Board of Directors. King currently chairs the California College Promise Leadership Team and serves as the CEO Representative on the Chancellor's Office Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative Advisory Committee. King received his BA in History from the University of Missouri-Columbia, his JD from Duke University School of Law, and his EdD in Educational Leadership from the University of Arkansas.



Kate Mahar, EdD

Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Shasta College

Dr. Kate Mahar has worked in education for nearly 20 years with a focus on improving the educational pipeline as well as college access and outcomes, especially for underrepresented students and communities. In addition to her role as the Dean of Institutional Effectiveness at Shasta College, Mahar also serves as the Chief Learning and Research Officer for North State Together, a collective impact effort to increase educational attainment in far northern California. She has held leadership roles in K-12, community college, and the UC system and understands the importance of helping students and families navigate between educational sectors. Mahar has a Master's degree in Humanistic/Multicultural Education from SUNY New Paltz and an EdD in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.

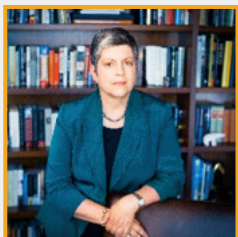


Mojdeh Mehdizadeh

President, Contra Costa College

Mojdeh Mehdizadeh began her tenure as the 11th President of Contra Costa College on March 9, 2016, having served as interim President since January 2015. With more than 25 years of experience in higher education, she began her career at Diablo Valley College in student services and later was the Executive Vice Chancellor of Education and Technology at Contra Costa Community College District. Mehdizadeh holds an MA in Organizational Communications from CSU East Bay and a BS in Computer Information Systems from San Francisco State University. She is proud of her roots in the community college system, where she completed her undergraduate general education requirements.

Speakers



Janet Napolitano
President, University of California

Janet Napolitano was named the 20th president of the University of California on July 18, 2013, and took office on September 30, 2013. She leads a university system with 10 campuses, five medical centers, three affiliated national laboratories, and a statewide agriculture and natural resources program. Napolitano is a distinguished public servant with a record of leading large, complex organizations. She served as Secretary of Homeland Security from 2009 to 2013, as Governor of Arizona from 2003 to 2009, as Attorney General of Arizona from 1998 to 2003, and as US Attorney for the District of Arizona from 1993 to 1997.



Lynn Neault, EdD
Vice Chancellor of Student Services,
San Diego Community College District

As Vice Chancellor of Student Services, Dr. Lynn Neault provides leadership and coordination for a comprehensive program of student support services. Her responsibilities include providing leadership for the implementation of new programs and services for student success, enrollment management, policy development, oversight of student records, and management of the student information system. She has been employed with the San Diego Community College District since 1980 and has served in a variety of positions including Research Analyst, Program Coordinator of Student Services, Associate Director of Student Services, and Director of Student Services. Neault is a graduate of San Diego State University, where she earned a BA in Political Science, a Master's degree in Public Administration, and an EdD in Educational Leadership.



Eloy Oakley
Chancellor, California Community Colleges

Eloy Ortiz Oakley is the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges. He is recognized throughout California and the nation for implementing innovative programs and policies that help students succeed in college. He strongly believes that California's emerging economies demand a highly qualified workforce and that the state's 113 community colleges play a pivotal role in moving California forward. Under Oakley's leadership from 2007 to 2016, Long Beach Community College District received numerous awards and recognitions for its efforts to improve student completion rates and for supporting a strong small business and entrepreneurship ecosystem throughout the region. Oakley himself is a community college success story. After serving four years in the US Army, he enrolled at Golden West College, later transferring to UC Irvine where he received a BA in Environmental Analysis and Design and his MBA.

Speakers



Mary Rauner, PhD

Senior Research Associate, REL West at WestEd

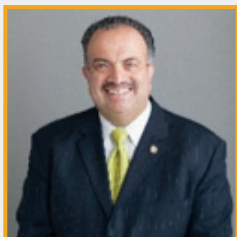
Dr. Mary Rauner is a Senior Research Associate at WestEd. Her portfolio of work focuses on interventions that improve postsecondary access, persistence, and completion for low- and middle-income students. Rauner has been researching and consulting with College Promise programs in California and across the nation since 2015 and is a member of the California College Promise Leadership Team. Rauner has 20 years of research, evaluation, strategic planning, and teaching/coaching experience in a wide range of organizational settings, including local and federal government and the nonprofit, academic, and private sector. She holds an MA in Sociology, an MA in International Educational Development, and a PhD in Education from Stanford University.



Bernie Rhinerson

Executive Vice President, San Diego Community College Board of Trustees

Bernie Rhinerson was elected to the San Diego Board of Trustees in 2012. In addition to this role, he is also a member of the Association of Community College Trustees Board of Directors and Chair of the Community College League of California's Advisory Committee on Legislation. In 2013, he retired from the San Diego Unified School District where he worked as Chief of Staff for two different superintendents. Rhinerson has more than 30 years of experience in public policy, marketing, and communications. He has also taught as an adjunct Public Administration instructor at San Diego State University, where he received his BA and MPA degrees.

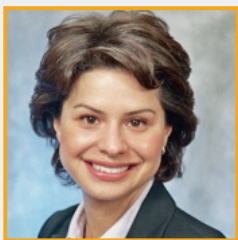


Francisco Rodriguez, PhD

Chancellor, Los Angeles Community College District

In June 2014, Dr. Francisco Rodriguez was appointed Chancellor of the Los Angeles Community College District. LACCD is the country's largest community college district, with nine campuses and nearly 250,000 students in a region encompassing 36 cities. Prior to his current role, Rodriguez served as Superintendent and President of MiraCosta Community College District in Oceanside, California. There, he is credited with growing student enrollment by 27 percent, improving student success, and doubling the number of student veterans despite deep budget cuts resulting from the Great Recession. From 2003 to 2009, Rodriguez was President of Cosumnes River College in Sacramento.

Speakers



Christina Romero

Executive Director, Santa Ana College Foundation
and Office of College Advancement

Christina Romero uses her relationship-based strengths and passion for community partnerships to create, maintain, and cultivate the corporate and private donor relations needed to increase resource development at Santa Ana College. Since beginning her tenure, the program has grown from a 3.6 million-dollar foundation to four times that, with over \$10 million currently. Romero manages all donor relationships, working closely with faculty and other college constituents to develop strategic initiatives for resource development. She received her undergraduate degrees from Santa Ana College and CSU Long Beach and holds a Master's degree in Management from the University of Redlands.



Dawnie Slabaugh

Director of Public Relations and College Foundation,
College of the Siskiyous

Dawnie Slabaugh joined the staff of College of the Siskiyous in 1996 as Office Secretary to the Public Relations and Foundation Office. In 2006, her position was reclassified to Administrative Specialist and she became the Director of Public Relations and College Foundation at the College in 2016. In addition to her current role, Slabaugh also serves as a board member with Siskiyou Media Council and the Weed Chamber of Commerce.



Randy Smith, PhD

President, Rural Community College Alliance

Dr. Randy Smith has been involved in higher education for over 22 years. In addition to leading the largest organization of rural colleges in the United States, Smith is also the President of Sisseton Wahpeton College in Sisseton, South Dakota. His research interests include leadership in higher education and recruitment and retention of students at tribal and rural colleges. Smith served as a member of the 21st Century Community College Commission, which was charged with developing a long-term strategic plan for the nation's community colleges. He holds a BA in Political Science, an MS in Emergency Health Services Administration, and a PhD in Higher Education Leadership. Smith also completed the Educators' Leadership Academy at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Speakers



Kristen Soares

President, Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities

Kristen Soares is the fourth president of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities, representing the chief executives of California's 75-plus private nonprofit colleges and universities on issues of public policy. Soares brings to the position her extensive background in higher education administration, policy development, and governmental affairs. She currently chairs the California Education Round Table, California Intersegmental Coordinating Council Executive Committee, and The National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities State Executive Committee. She earned her BS in Public Administration from the University of Southern California.



Darrell Steinberg

Mayor, City of Sacramento

Mayor Darrell Steinberg is one of Sacramento's most accomplished public servants, having dedicated his career to the Sacramento community for over 20 years. He served in the California State Assembly and then Senate from 1998 to 2014, where he was the first Sacramentan to serve as President of the Senate in over 125 years. During his tenure in the Legislature, Steinberg championed economic development, education reform, building sustainable communities, and major investments in healthcare and education. Steinberg is committed to making Sacramento a city that is for and about youth, connecting high school students to 21st century jobs, and working with local businesses to create paid internships in every high school.



Tom Torlakson

Superintendent, California Department of Education

Tom Torlakson was re-elected to a second four-year term as California's 27th State Superintendent of Public Instruction on November 4, 2014. As chief of California's public school system and leader of the California Department of Education, Superintendent Torlakson applies his experience as a science teacher, high school coach, and state policymaker to fight for California's students and improve the state's public education system. Born in San Francisco, Torlakson served as a firefighter in the United States Merchant Marine, earning the Vietnam Service Medal. He earned a BA in History, a Life Secondary Teaching Credential, and an MA in Education from UC Berkeley.

Speakers



Andrea Vizenor

Director of Career and Workforce Programs, Skyline College

Andrea Vizenor joined California Community Colleges in 2003 as a Deputy Sector Navigator for the Retail, Hospitality, and Tourism sector. In her current role, Vizenor acts as a catalyst for the advancement of career education programs, thoughtful industry engagement, K-12 pathway expansion, and educator professional development. She has a vast background in industry and education where she began her role in the hospitality industry as a travel agent and with Hyatt Hotels and Resorts. Through partnerships established during her Hyatt career, Vizenor taught K-12 Hospitality and Entrepreneurship CTE programs for 8 years. Today, she continues to pave the way for new program development, high-value employer partnerships, and work-based learning opportunities.



Michelle Ware

Operations Associate, MDRC

As an Operations Associate at MDRC, Michelle Ware's work centers on revealing ways to improve college access, persistence, and success for low-income and underprepared students. She is responsible for recruiting sites, managing project start-up, collaborating on program design, and guiding implementation to ensure rigorous testing of ideas and theories. With expertise in program management and a background in higher education, Ware has contributed to many MDRC projects, including the Family Self Sufficiency Evaluation, College Match, and the Aid Success pilot test, for which she was the project director. Prior to joining MDRC, Ware worked in higher education in the areas of financial aid and student services. She holds a Master's degree in Adult and Organizational Development from Temple University.

Speakers



Timothy P. White, PhD
Chancellor, California State University

As Chancellor of the California State University system, one of the largest and most diverse systems of higher education in the United States, Dr. Timothy White leads 23 campuses and a global community of 479,000 students, 50,000 faculty and staff, and more than 3.3 million alumni. He is a champion of inclusive excellence and student success and a proponent of bringing individualized education to scale through the expansion of proven best practices. White deeply believes in and is a product of California's Master Plan for Higher Education, having pursued his higher education from Diablo Valley Community College, Fresno State, CSU East Bay, and UC Berkeley. Like many CSU students and alumni, White was the first in his family to attend college and earn a degree.



Ian Winbrock
Program Manager, City of West Sacramento Kid's Home Run

Ian Winbrock is the manager of Kids' Home Run, a cradle-to-career initiative that provides universal preschool, guaranteed college savings accounts, paid internships for students in career pathways, and the first year of community college fee-free. In addition to managing the Kid's Home Run program, Winbrock is also West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon's staff lead for intergovernmental affairs and education policy at the United States Conference of Mayors, where Mayor Cabaldon serves as chair of the Jobs, Education, and Workforce standing committee. Winbrock previously worked as the Executive Director of FutureReady, a West Sacramento-based nonprofit dedicated to improving the lives of young people through civic engagement, college preparedness, career readiness, and work-based learning.





California Promise

PATHWAYS TO STUDENT SUCCESS

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