

PARTICIPANTS

Mark Baldassare is president and CEO of the Public Policy Institute of California, where he holds the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Public Policy. He is a leading expert on public opinion and survey methodology, and has directed the PPIC Statewide Survey since 1998. He is an authority on elections, voter behavior, and political and fiscal reform, authoring ten books and numerous reports on these topics. He often provides testimony before legislative committees and state commissions, and regularly hosts PPIC's Speaker Series, a public forum featuring in-depth interviews with state and national leaders. Previously, he served as PPIC's director of research. Before joining PPIC, he was a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of California, Irvine, where he held the Johnson Chair in Civic Governance. He has conducted surveys for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the California Business Roundtable. He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

Donna Lucas is founder and CEO of Lucas Public Affairs, a California-based strategic consulting, public affairs, and communications firm. She has served on the PPIC Statewide Survey Advisory Committee since 1998 and on PPIC's Board of Directors since 2007; she became board chair in 2013. She has provided strategic counsel to corporate clients, labor unions, nonprofits, and political candidates. She has also worked on statewide initiative campaigns in many policy areas, including housing, education, campaign finance, and energy. Before forming Lucas Public Affairs in 2006, she was a deputy chief of staff for Governor Schwarzenegger and chief of staff to First Lady Maria Shriver. Previously, she was the global and public affairs practice leader for Porter Novelli and CEO of the Nelson Communications Group. She was also deputy press secretary for Governor Deukmejian, deputy treasurer for Tom Hayes, and California press secretary for President George H. W. Bush. In addition, she chaired the American Association of Political Consultants. She serves on the boards of the California Chamber of Commerce, the College Futures Foundation, Maria Shriver's A Woman's Nation Foundation and the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. She is a graduate of the University of Southern California's School of Journalism.

Leon Panetta is chairman of the Panetta Institute for Public Policy, a nonpartisan study center housed at California State University, Monterey Bay. He returned to the institute—which he cofounded—in 2013, after serving as US secretary of defense. A Monterey native and Santa Clara University School of Law graduate, he began his public service career as a first lieutenant in the US Army, and then went to work in Washington as a legislative assistant to US senator and minority whip Tom Kuchel. In 1969, he became director of the US Office for Civil Rights, where he enforced equal education laws. He then served as executive assistant to the mayor of New York City, before returning to Monterey to practice law. In 1976, he was elected to the US House. During 16 years of serving his Central Coast district, he authored a wide range of legislation and was active in many policy areas. From 1989 to 1993 he chaired the House Budget Committee. He left Congress in 1993 to serve as director of the Office of Management and Budget in the Clinton administration, and in 1994 he became White House chief of staff. After leaving the Clinton administration in 1997, Secretary Panetta and his wife Sylvia established the Panetta Institute. He returned to public service in 2009 to serve as CIA director and then as defense secretary in the Obama administration. His life in public service is chronicled in his best-selling memoir *Worthy Fights*, published in 2014.