

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.

Dr. Michael V. Drake is the 21st president of the University of California. He oversees UC's world-renowned system of ten campuses, five medical centers, three nationally affiliated labs, more than 280,000 students, and 230,000 faculty and staff. He previously served as president of the Ohio State University from 2014 through June 2020. Prior to OSU, he served in several roles at the University of California, including nine years as chancellor of UC Irvine and five years as the systemwide vice president for health affairs. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is former chair of the board of directors of the Association of American Universities, the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities, the Association of Academic Health Centers, and the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and former president of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society. He is currently chair of the board of the Commonwealth Fund and on the board of directors of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. An ophthalmologist by training, he received his AB from Stanford University and his MD from UC San Francisco, where he also completed his residency training.