
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.

Linda Darling-Hammond is president of the California State Board of Education. She is also the Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education Emeritus at Stanford University. She has conducted extensive research on issues of educator supply, demand, and quality. Among her award-winning publications in this area are *What Matters Most: Teaching for America's Future*; *Teaching as the Learning Profession*; and *Preparing Teachers for a Changing World: What Teachers Should Learn and Be Able to Do*. She is also a member of the American Association of Arts and Sciences and of the National Academy of Education. Previously, she was president of the Learning Policy Institute and of the American Educational Research Association. She was also executive director of the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, director of RAND Corporation's education program, and an endowed professor at Columbia University, Teachers College. She received a bachelor's from Yale University and an Ed.D. from Temple University.

Laura Hill is a policy director and senior fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California. Her areas of expertise are K–12 education and immigration. She is currently researching English Learners in California schools, special education, and ESL students in community colleges. Her recent publications examine student achievement on the state's K–12 assessments and the link between language reclassification policies and student success. Prior to joining PPIC, she was a research associate at the SPHERE Institute and a National Institute of Aging postdoctoral fellow. She holds a PhD in demography and an MA in economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Eloy Ortiz Oakley is chancellor of the California Community Colleges. Under his leadership, the California Community Colleges published the *Vision for Success*, which lays out a focused strategy for increasing the social and economic mobility of all Californians. He was appointed as the superintendent-president of the Long

Beach Community College District in 2007, where he co-founded the Long Beach College Promise. He received the 2014 Leadership Award from the James Irvine Foundation. Also in 2014, Governor Brown appointed him to the University of California Board of Regents. He was a 2016 White House Champion of Change for his work promoting and supporting the national college promise movement. In addition to serving on the PPIC Higher Education Center Advisory Council, he serves on the boards and committees of the Rework America Taskforce, the California Chamber of Commerce, the Fair Shake Commission, the College Futures Foundation, and the LA 2028 Advisory Board. He served in the US Army and earned both his MBA and bachelor's degrees from the University of California, Irvine.