California Education Leadership Summit:
Ensuring Strong Leadership for Our Public Schools

Saturday, November 21, 2009, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Anaheim Marriott Grand Ballroom, Salon E

The California Education Leadership Summit provides an exceptional opportunity to participate in a discussion of the most challenging issues confronted by distinguished educational leaders. The nationally recognized Superintendents from Los Angeles and Orange County Departments of Education and Long Beach and Santa Ana Unified School Districts and the Deans of Education at California State University Long Beach, the University of San Diego, and the University of Southern California share perspectives on creating alliances across institutions to sustain strong public schools in extraordinarily difficult times. Join the discourse with these prominent educational leaders as they reflect on their leadership and learning strategies and share their visions of the keys to meeting the challenges we all face.

One Day Registration Available for California Administrators, Including Access to the Leadership Summit

Moderators
Anthony H. Normore, California State University, Dominguez Hills
Louise C. Adler, California State University, Fullerton
Joan Bissell, California State University, Chancellor’s Office

Panelists

Paula Cordeiro, Dean, School of Leadership and Education Sciences, University of San Diego

Paula A. Cordeiro has been Dean of the School of Leadership and Education Sciences at the University of San Diego since 1998. Previously Dr. Cordeiro was the Coordinator of the masters and doctoral programs in Educational Leadership at The University of Connecticut. Cordeiro is a former teacher, principal and school head in international schools in Venezuela and Spain. She is a past president of the University Council of Educational Administration (UCEA), and in 1998 was awarded a fellowship by the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management (FCCEAM). Dr. Cordeiro has published three books and recently finished the fourth edition of her co-authored text: An Introduction to Educational Leadership: A Bridge to Improved Practice. Paula's research is in the areas of school leadership, cross-cultural leadership and international education. Under Dean Cordeiro's leadership, the Educational Leadership Development Academy (ELDA), a partnership with the San Diego Unified School District that prepares and provides professional development for school administrators, was created. She is a former member of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, past President of the San Diego Council on Literacy, a founding member of the Academy of International School Heads, and a board member of the International Council for the Education of Teachers (ICET). In 2007 Paula was appointed to the board of The James Irvine Foundation in San Francisco.

Marquita Grenot-Scheyer, Dean, College of Education, California State University, Long Beach

Marquita Grenot-Scheyer completed all of her educational degrees at CSULA. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology in 1977, two teaching and one administrative credential (1979-1983), a Master of Arts in Education in 1981 and her Ph.D. in Special Education from the Joint Doctoral Program with UCLA in 1990. Marquita began her career at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) in 1988 as a part-time lecturer. She was awarded early tenure and promotion to full professor. She was appointed dean of the College of Education at CSULB in December 2008. She has served in a variety of leadership roles in the college including Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research and Program Coordinator of the Masters and Credential Programs in Special Education. Her areas of expertise and research include the following: inclusive models of education for students with disabilities; collaboration with families of children with disabilities; friendships and other social relationships of children with and without disabilities; and inclusive models of teacher preparation. She has written and presented extensively in these areas. She is an active contributor to the educational community and has served on a number of professional boards throughout her career. Most recently, she was asked to be the CSU Chancellor’s Office Representative to two state wide committees: Superintendent O’Connell’s Autism Advisory Committee and the California Department of Education, Improving Special Education Services Stakeholder Group.
William M. Habermehl, Orange County Superintendent of Schools

William M. Habermehl serves as the Orange County Superintendent of Schools Dedicated to World Class Education…Where Every Child Succeeds. With over 2900 full and part-time employees, the Orange County Department of Education, working with the local Orange County school districts serving over a half million students, provides money-saving centralized services including alternative education, special education, outdoor education, instruction, business, human resources, and technology. Better schools mean better communities. His goal is to continue working towards high achieving schools in safe environments for all students. The rich cultural environment of Orange County offers expanding opportunities and challenges, and his work is focused on providing alternatives for every student. With nearly thirty-five years in education have afforded Superintendent Habermehl experience in teaching, coaching, site and district administration as well as twenty-three years of work with the senior management team of the Orange County Department of Education as Associate Superintendent of Instruction, Technology, Child Development and Outdoor Education Services. Among his many service affiliations are: Chairman of the Board for Ocean Institute; Moderator for the Executive Leadership Series in Orange County Forum; and involved with the California Curriculum Commission. He has lectured at University of California, Irvine, and invited as a national speaker at several national conferences including the National Technology and Learning Conference, National Conference on Education, National School Conference Institute and National School Technology Leadership Conference. Superintendent Habermehl earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at California State University, Long Beach and his Masters degree at California State University, Fullerton.

Darline P. Robles, Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools

Darline P. Robles, Ph.D., was appointed County Superintendent of Schools in June, 2002. As executive officer for the Los Angeles County Office of Education, she leads the nation’s largest regional education service agency, serving 80 K-12 school districts that educate 1.7 million students. She also serves as ex-officio member of Los Angeles Universal Preschool and, over her 30-plus-year career, has received many recognitions and honors for service to her community and her work to ensure a quality education for all children. Earlier, Robles was chief of the Salt Lake City School District, where she was successful in closing the achievement gap and significantly reducing the dropout rate. She received her Bachelor’s degree in history at California State University, Los Angeles; her Master’s Degree in education from Claremont Graduate School; and her Doctorate in education policy and administration from the University of Southern California. As a dedicated professional and leader at SAUSD for more than 20 years, she understands the community at large and is passionate and dedicated about the students, staff, and parents she serves.

Jane Russo, Superintendent, Santa Ana Unified School District

Jane Russo is a history maker as the first woman to be appointed Superintendent for the Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) - founded in 1888 and one of the most influential business enterprises in the State of California. With direct reporting responsibilities to an influential Board of Education, which sets policies and operating procedures, Superintendent Russo manages a $500 million operation with several billion dollars in real estate investments. She supervises all curricular, financial, maintenance, construction and personnel functions of a school district that serves a 94% Latino student population, of which 60% includes English Learners. With approximately 55,000 students, 63 schools, and more than 4,500 employees under her realm, she manages the largest school district in Orange County - the second most populous area in the state of California with three-plus million residents - and the seventh largest school district in California. Her illustrious career began more than three decades ago and is marked by several accolades including, Administrator of the Year - the Association of California School Administrators; Woman of the Year - the Assistance League of Santa Ana, and Partners in Education Award - Rancho Community College District. Superintendent Russo earned a Bachelor’s Degree in English and a Master’s in Education from the University of Arizona. As a dedicated professional and leader at SAUSD for more than 20 years, she understands the community at large and is passionate and dedicated about the students, staff, and parents she serves.

Christopher Steinhauser, Superintendent, Long Beach Unified School District

Christopher J. Steinhauser, Superintendent of the Long Beach Unified School District, is a long-time Long Beach resident and 26-year veteran educator in local schools. He has earned a well-deserved national reputation for improving student achievement here in America’s Best Urban Schools. Steinhauser has a strong track record of boosting achievement in all geographic areas of the school district — central, west, north and east Long Beach, Signal Hill, Lakewood and on Catalina Island. Beginning as an outstanding teacher at an inner-city elementary school in Long Beach, Steinhauser went on to attain very high student achievement as a school principal. He worked his way up to the position of Deputy Superintendent in 1999 before his unanimous appointment as Superintendent in 2002. During his years as Deputy Superintendent, students in all major racial and ethnic groups throughout the district made unprecedented gains on rigorous state tests. He is a product of the Long Beach Unified School District, where he attended continuously from kindergarten until his graduation from Wilson High School in 1977. He attended Long Beach City College and California State University Long Beach, earning a bachelor’s degree in liberal studies and a master’s degree in educational administration. He earned multiple subject and administrative services credentials at the university. With this background, no one is more committed to the success of all students here in California’s third largest school district than Chris Steinhauser.

Karen Symms Gallagher, Dean, Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California

Karen Symms Gallagher is the Emery Stoop and Joyce King Stoops Dean of the USC Rossier School of Education. Since assuming this role in 2000, she has led her faculty, students, staff and alumni in a strategic plan with a mission of strengthening urban education locally, nationally and globally. Under her leadership, the USC Rossier School has risen in national rankings (US News and World Report) and has created highly innovative masters and doctoral programs that prepare educational leaders to be change agents in the fields of teaching, administration and research. Dr. Gallagher has published two books and dozens of scholarly articles. She has served as a member of the National Science Foundation’s Commission on 21st Century Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Dr. Gallagher has been a professor, scholar and academic administrator at both public and private research universities throughout the United States. Before joining USC, she was the dean of education at the University of Kansas and prior to Kansas, she directed Ohio’s Commission on Educational Improvement.