



LOS ANGELES AREA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## **Diversity, Equity, and Excellence** **College Learning and America's Unmet Promise**

**A LEAP\* Centennial Forum Cosponsored by**  
*The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and*  
*The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce*

Millennium Biltmore Hotel  
506 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

April 15, 2015

*"Students of color and students from low-income families will soon form the majority of the nation's college-eligible learners. Their fortunes will shape – for better or worse – America's economic and global future. These students are democracy's hope and America's future. They need and deserve the advantages of a horizon-expanding higher education. They need and deserve a twenty-first-century liberal education."*

Carol Geary Schneider, President of AAC&U

This forum is the second in a series of events AAC&U is sponsoring as part of its Centennial Year. It will bring together educational, policy, civic, and business leaders to examine the learning all college students need to thrive in a knowledge economy and participate actively and responsibly in a diverse and global society. Participants will examine economic trends both nationally and in the state of California and the implications of those trends for educational policy and practice.

Central to the forum will be a searching dialogue on "the equity imperative" – the need for stronger leadership to ensure that all students, including those from groups traditionally underserved by our educational systems, receive the kinds of experiences – high-impact educational experiences – that will position them for success in a complex and volatile world. The forum will also feature the best examples of promising programs, practices, and policies in California – programs and policies that deserve support and that can be scaled to serve more of California's traditionally underrepresented students.

The Forum is supported by gifts from the following foundations: Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Charles Englehard Foundation, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, The Kresge Foundation, Lumina Foundation, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and The Teagle Foundation.

*\*LEAP is an acronym for Liberal Education and America's Promise, AAC&U's ongoing effort to provide the most empowering forms of learning to all college students, especially those from underserved communities. Through LEAP, hundreds of institutions and many state systems are making far-reaching educational changes to help all their students – whatever their chosen major field of study – achieve a set of "essential learning outcomes" that are fundamental both to success in work and to problem-solving in democracy.*

## AGENDA

- 8:00 – 8:30 am **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
- Bowl Room Foyer* AAC&U's Centennial Video will be shown in the ballroom, featuring the voices of educators, business leaders, and students at AAC&U member institutions and shining a spotlight on twenty-first-century liberal education practices and institutions at their best.
- 8:30 – 8:45 am **WELCOME ADDRESS**
- Bowl Room* **Gary Toeppen**, *President, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce*  
**Carol Geary Schneider**, *President, AAC&U*
- 8:45 – 9:30 am **PLENARY SESSION**  
**The Learning That Matters in Today's Economy and for Our Global Future**
- Bowl Room* **Christopher Thornberg**, *Founding Partner, Beacon Economics, LLC*  
**Debra Humphreys**, *Vice President for Policy and Public Engagement, AAC&U*
- 9:30 – 9:40 am **BREAK**
- 9:40 – 10:10 am **PLENARY SESSION**  
**Leadership for Meeting the Equity Imperative**
- Bowl Room* Moderator: **Tia Brown McNair**, *Senior Director for Student Success, AAC&U*  
**Estela Bensimon**, *Professor of Higher Education and Co-director of the Center for Urban Education, University of Southern California*
- 10:10 – 10:30 am **COFFEE BREAK**
- Bowl Room Foyer* Coffee and tea will be available outside of the ballroom.
- 10:30 – 11:15 am **PLENARY SESSION**  
**The State We're In: California Leading The Nation?**
- Bowl Room* Moderator: **Ken O'Donnell**, *Senior Director, Student Engagement and Academic Initiatives & Partnerships, CSU Office of the Chancellor*  
**Mildred García**, *President, California State University, Fullerton*  
**David Rattray**, *Executive Vice President, Education & Workforce Development, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, and President & Executive Director, UNITE-LA*
- 11:20 am – 12:10 pm **ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS**  
**Setting Quality and Equity Priorities for Educational Practice and Policy**
- Bowl Room* Please see the roundtable guidelines in your Forum packet for additional information.
- 12:15 – 1:45 pm **LUNCHEON ADDRESS**  
**Leading for Equity: A Conversation**
- Gold Room* Moderator: **Debra Humphreys**, *Vice President for Policy and Public Engagement, AAC&U*  
**Luis Faura**, *President and CEO, C&F Foods, Inc., and Chair, University of La Verne Board of Trustees*  
**Devorah Lieberman**, *President, University of La Verne*

2:00 – 3:15 pm

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Rising to the Equity Imperative: High-Impact Practices and Partnerships That Make a Difference**

*Tiffany Room*

**K-16 Partnerships and Aligning Outcomes Frameworks**

Moderator: *Debra Humphreys*, Vice President for Public Policy and Engagement, AAC&U  
*Jean McGlaughlin Blatter*, Articulation and Extended Learning Coordinator, Linked Learning, Los Angeles Unified School District  
*Patricia Prado-Olmos*, Vice President for Community Engagement and Director of the Alliance to Accelerate Excellence in Education, California State University San Marcos

*Emerald Room*

**Guided Pathways To and Through the Curriculum**

Moderator: *Ken O'Donnell*, Senior Director, Student Engagement and Academic Initiatives & Partnerships, CSU Office of the Chancellor  
*Suzanne Scheld*, Associate Professor of History, California State University, Northridge  
*Raymond Lim*, Associate Professor of Psychology, Pierce College  
*Jonathan Reed*, Provost, University of La Verne

*Bowl Room*

**Scaling High-Impact and Applied Learning Opportunities**

Moderator: *Carol Geary Schneider*, President, AAC&U  
*Cheryl Ney*, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, California State University, Los Angeles  
*Rennie Schoepflin*, Director of Semester Conversion and Professor of History, California State University, Los Angeles  
*Erin Kimura-Walsh*, Associate Director, LEAD Scholars Program, Santa Clara University  
*Andrea Brewster*, Curriculum Manager for Experiential Learning for Social Justice, Santa Clara University  
*Georgina Santiago*, Student, Santa Clara University  
*Lydia Ku*, Student, Santa Clara University

*Heinsbergen Room*

**Getting on the Right Path: Summer Bridge and First-Year Experiences**

Moderator: *Tia Brown McNair*, Senior Director for Student Success, AAC&U  
*Savita Malik*, Director of Curriculum and Faculty Development, Metro College Success Program, San Francisco State University  
*Gloria Aquino Sosa*, Assistant Professor and Faculty Co-Director, High Potential Program, Saint Mary's College of California

*Bernard's Room*

**Mapping Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Creativity into the College Curriculum**

Moderator: *Bethany Sutton*, Chief of Staff and Coordinating Director for the LEAP Initiative, AAC&U  
*Fernando Lozano*, Associate Dean of the College and Associate Professor of Economics, Pomona College  
*Amanda Sabicer*, Vice President of Development, LA Cleantech Incubator

3:15 – 3:30 pm

**BREAK**

3:30 – 4:15 pm

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS**

**Committing to Equity and Excellence: Identifying Priorities for Increasing Underserved Student Success**

*Bowl Room*

Participants will use a newly released campus self-study guide to evaluate their own campus progress to date and priorities for future work. We encourage you to sit with members of your team for these discussions.

4:20 – 5:15 pm

**CLOSING PLENARY**

**Bringing Quality and Equity Together: Can High-Impact Pathways Become a Policy Priority?**

*Bowl Room*

*Carol Geary Schneider, President, AAC&U*

*Eduardo Ochoa, President, California State University, Monterey Bay*

*David Oxtoby, President, Pomona College*

5:15 – 6:15 pm

**RECEPTION**

*Tiffany Room*

Please join us for hors d'oeuvres and informal conversation.