

ADMIN201

Transformational Leadership Program

2019 Program Panelists and Facilitators

Facilitators/Panelists Contact Roster

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Diana Z. Rodriguez , President	San Bernardino Valley College	drodriguez@sbccd.edu
Jose Fierro , Superintendent/President	Cerritos College	jfierro@cerritos.edu
Byron Breland , Chancellor	San Jose Evergreen CCD	Byron.breland@sjeccd.edu
Tammeil Gilkerson , President	Laney College	tgilkerson@peralta.edu
Keith Curry , President	Compton College	kcurry@elcamino.edu
Samia Yaqub , Superintendent/President	Butte-Glenn CCD	Yaqubsa@butte.edu
Frank Chong , Superintendent/President	Santa Rosa Jr. College	fchong@santarosa.edu
Sunita Cooke , Superintendent/President	MiraCosta CCD	scooke@miracosta.edu
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Dan Schwab , LPI Facilitator	Leadership Practices Inventory	danjschwab@gmail.com



Dan Schwab, Leadership Educator and Coach

With over 30 years of experience, Dan Schwab has consistently made leadership education his expertise, passion and focus. As an accomplished coach, Dan works with leaders to recognize and interpret their individual strengths and growth areas, and supports teams of leaders as they work together to lead increasingly successful organizations.

In 1987, Dan began working with leadership experts and co-authors of The Leadership Challenge Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner. As an adventure course guide, and helped develop many of the activities that are part of the Leadership Challenge Workshop now delivered around the world. As a certified Master Facilitator of The Leadership Challenge, Dan has delivered this material to hundreds of audiences and authored the Vision Book, a key component of the Leadership Challenge program.

Previously Dan served as Director of Staff Development for the Trust for Public Land (TPL), where his expertise in adult learning contributed to the success of one of America's most effective conservation organizations. He also has experience as an internal training consultant with Franklin Templeton Investments, and was a key member of pioneering experiential training provider Pro-Action Associates, guiding thousands of people through outdoor team building programs nationwide.

Dan holds a B.A. in Human Resource Management from the Dominican University of California as well as a Certificate in Training and Human Resource Development from the University of California, Berkeley. He is also certified as an Integral Coach through New Ventures West in San

Francisco. He has worked extensively with other evaluation systems, such as StrengthsFinder, DiSC and the Leadership Circle Profile.

Dan's recent clients include the University of California at Sacramento, Davis and Santa Cruz, Southern California Gas, Washington Department of Ecology, Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program, Comcast Executive Development Program, Natural Resources Defense Council, Mandela Washington Fellowship, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Wilburforce Foundation and many groups working to preserve the ecologic integrity of landscapes across western North America.

An intrepid outdoorsman, Dan regularly shares his love of the nature by leading whitewater and sea kayaking adventures with at-risk youth, college students and people with special needs. He has traveled to more than 40 countries in search of adventure, inspiration and service. Additionally, Dan and his wife, Diann Grimm, operate a for-purpose organization, Partners in Sustainable Learning, which is engaged in training preschool teachers in rural Nepal. Learn more about their work at partnersinsustainablelearning.org.

Dan's diverse experience in the business, public and philanthropic arenas, combined with his extensive world travels and community activism, have made him a seasoned consultant and workshop leader. Known for his thoughtful delivery and keen sense of humor, Dan brings insight and expertise to any meeting, retreat or organizational change effort.

Dan lives in Richmond, California. He can be reached at danjschwab@gmail.com, or 510-685-0722. Visit him on the web at danschwabconsulting.com.



Diana Z. Rodriguez, President

San Bernardino Valley College

Diana Z. Rodriguez is the President of the San Bernardino Valley College. Since assuming leadership of the college in 2016, she has established a track record of increasing student enrollment, advocating for institutional innovation and professional development, and successfully mobilizing campus-wide support for student success-related initiatives. In 2017, San Bernardino Valley College graduated the largest class in its 90-year history, thanks in part to initiatives promoted by Rodriguez.

In 2018, Dr. Rodriguez was named *Woman of the Year* by California's 47th Assembly District—an award that recognizes women for accomplishments in their respective fields and for their dedication to improving the lives of others. The award is one of several recognitions Rodriguez received since becoming the first Latina president of San Bernardino Valley College. In 2017, she received the Legacy of Service Award from the Librería Del Pueblo, a local community services agency.

She earned a BA, MA and MBA from California State University, San Bernardino and is currently a doctoral candidate at Northcentral University in Scottsdale, AZ. Dr. Rodriguez is a native of Southern California, a second-generation Mexican-American and a first-generation community college student, which mirrors the social and cultural background of a vast majority of the community college students in the region.



**Dr. Jose Fierro, President/Superintendent
Cerritos CCD**

Dr. Jose Fierro began his tenure as President/Superintendent of the Cerritos Community College District in July 2015. He is committed to increasing access to education, thereby lifting the community's underserved population from personal hardship to success. Dr. Fierro launched Cerritos Complete in 2016, which increases graduation rates and velocity of completion through wraparound student services and a merit-based scholarship component. Cerritos Complete won the 2018 Examples of *Excelencia* Award in the Associate Level category, which is the only national effort to identify and promote evidence-based practices that help accelerate Latino student success in higher education. The program was also selected as a finalist for the 2018 Bellwether Award.

Dr. Fierro serves on various boards at the local, state, and national levels, including the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges (CEOCCC) Board, Community College League Board of Directors, National Community College Hispanic Council Board of Directors, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Alliance Executive Committee, Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Consortium Governance Council, and Coast Plaza Hospital Board of Directors in Norwalk.

Dr. Fierro earned his D.V.M. from the University of Applied Sciences in Bogotá, Colombia and his Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership from Northcentral University in Prescott, Arizona. He also holds an M.S. in Leadership and Management of Educational Programs from Nova Southeastern University.



**Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland, Chancellor
San Jose – Evergreen CCD**

Dr. Byron D. Clift Breland serves as Chancellor of San Jose – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD). Prior to being appointed Chancellor, he served as President of San Jose City College and held various positions at the University of Maryland at College Park and the University of Southern California.

As a leader working in the field of education, Dr. Clift Breland has always known the importance of being engaged in the broader community, having served on a number of boards to promote equity in housing and economic opportunities, as well as gains in educational outcomes for traditionally underrepresented groups. Dr. Breland holds a Bachelor of Science degree in consumer economics and a Master of Science degree in family studies from the University of Maryland, College Park. He also has a Master of Science degree in education and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in counseling psychology, both from the University of Southern California.



**Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson, President
Laney College**

Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson is currently the president of Laney College in Oakland, California. Prior to her current role, she served as vice president of academic and student affairs at Contra Costa College and as the first diversity, inclusion and innovation officer for the Contra Costa Community College District. Dr. Gilkerson has also served as the vice president of academic affairs at San José City College and dean of counseling and matriculation at Evergreen Valley College.

She began her community college career as a faculty member in psychology-counseling at Chabot College, serving as the coordinator for the TRIO Student Support Services program. In addition to her work in community colleges, Dr. Gilkerson served as the Academy and Education Policy Director at The Greenlining Institute and in positions at UC Berkeley in the Office of Student Life and the Early Academic Outreach Program.

One of seven children, Dr. Gilkerson, grew up in Hayward, CA. The first in her family to graduate from college, she holds a bachelor's degree in history, a master's degree in counseling with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy and pupil personnel services, and a doctorate in organizational leadership with an emphasis in higher education. Dr. Gilkerson lives with her family in Oakland, CA.



**Dr. Keith Curry, President
Compton College**

Dr. Keith Curry is the President/CEO of the Compton College and Compton Community College District. Compton College is the 114th California Community College and achieved initial accreditation status on June 7, 2017. Dr. Curry is responsible for overseeing all departments and functions of Compton College and Compton District and serves as secretary to the Board of Trustees. Dr. Curry brings an abundance of energy and innovative ideas to Compton College, along with a wealth of experience as a postsecondary education administrator.

Dr. Curry is an active member of the Foundation for Compton Community College District, the Association of California Community College Administrators, the California Community College Athletic Association, the Statewide Association of Community Colleges (SWACC), and the President's Roundtable.

Dr. Curry earned his Bachelor's Degree in American Studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz and his doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of California at Irvine. Dr. Curry is an adjunct faculty member at California State University Fullerton College of Education.



**Dr. Samia Yaqub, Superintendent/President
Butte-Glenn CCD**

Dr. Samia Yaqub was appointed Superintendent/President of Butte-Glenn Community College District effective July 1, 2016 after serving as the Interim President the year before. She has worked at Butte College for over thirty years, most recently serving as the Vice President for Student Learning and Economic Development.

Prior to moving into administration, Samia taught English as a Second Language and developmental reading and writing for fifteen years. Dr. Yaqub received her doctorate in education with an emphasis on Community College Leadership from Oregon State University. Her dissertation, *Latina Student Perceptions of Learning Communities*, won the RP Group Excellence in Dissertation award in 2011. She also holds a master's degree in English from CSU, Chico and a bachelor's degree in English from UC Davis.

Dr. Yaqub has served on the board of directors for the Inspire School of Arts and Sciences and serves as an advisory board member of the California Writing Project. She served on the ACCCA board of directors from 2008 - 2014 and co-chaired the ACCCA Mentor Program from 2011-2015. She is currently on the ACCCA Board representing CEOs. She also serves on the board of directors for the Boys and Girls Club of the North Valley and a board member of the Chico Chamber of Commerce. Her professional interests include leadership development, student equity, and faculty/staff diversity.



**Dr. Frank Chong, Superintendent/President
Santa Rosa Junior College/Sonoma CCD**

Dr. Frank Chong is Superintendent/President of Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC). Under his leadership, Measure H, the \$410 million bond to support SRJC technology and facilities, passed in 2014 and in 2015, SRJC also received full accreditation.

Prior to his CEO role at Santa Rosa, Dr. Chong served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Community Colleges at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, D.C. under Secretary Arne Duncan. He has also served as President of Laney College (Oakland) and Mission College (Santa Clara), and as Special Assistant to Willie Brown, Speaker of the California Assembly.



**Dr. Sunita "Sunny" Cooke, Superintendent/President
MiraCosta CCD**

Dr. Sunita "Sunny" Cooke began her tenure as the superintendent/president of MiraCosta Community College District in 2015. A recognized community college leader, Dr. Cooke came to MiraCosta from Grossmont College, located in east San Diego County, where she served as president for nearly eight years. She started as a faculty member and has been an educator for over 24 years after receiving her Ph.D. in Biology from Georgetown University.

Dr. Cooke has worked at local and state levels in economic and workforce development in Texas and California. In 2015, she chaired the Statewide Task Force on Workforce and a Strong Economy, ensuring that California state and the community college system remain vital leaders in this work. The work has resulted in an ongoing annual investment of approximately \$248 million to enhance CA community college career education.

Dr. Cooke is an active member of the greater San Diego community and national boards, including the San Diego Workforce Partnership, San Diego Economic Development Council, Biocom, and the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce. She also serves on the board of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) and National Academy of Science Board of Science Education.



**Charlie Ng, Vice President, Human Resources
MiraCosta CCD and 2019 Program Coordinator for Admin 201**

Charlie Ng is currently the Vice President of Human Resources for MiraCosta College (Oceanside, CA) where he has served since 2013. He has over 20 years of experience with higher education institutions in California including serving 6 years at the Associated Student UCLA, 3 years at Los Angeles Pierce College, and 8 years at the San Bernardino Community College.

Mr. Ng serves as a Board member for the Association for California Community Colleges Administrators (ACCCA), and as a member of the Association's Commission on Finance and Legislative Advocacy (CFLA). Mr. Ng also serves as a Board member alternate for the Schools Excess Liability Fund (SELF), and as a committee member on the San Diego County Treasury Oversight Committee.

Mr. Ng has facilitated strategic plans for MiraCosta College, the San Bernardino Community College District, Crafton Hills College, and the Crafton Hills College Foundation and has led two community college districts in receiving the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. Mr. Ng possesses a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from San Diego State University, an MBA from the University of Redlands, a master's degree in advanced management from the Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University, and a graduate certificate in negotiations and dispute resolution from the Werner Institute at Creighton University's School of Law.



**Dr. Joi Lin Blake, Superintendent/President
Palomar CCD, and Co-Coordinator of the 2019 Admin 201 Program**

Dr. Joi Lin Blake is the 10th Superintendent/President of the Palomar Community College District/Palomar College. Dr. Blake has a passion and focus on building programs and services that embody social justice, equity and inclusion. At Palomar College she has been instrumental in fostering strong campus and community relationships; securing grant funding and strengthening the Palomar Foundation; advancing the tenets of collective impact through a variety of key initiatives such as expansion of the Palomar Promise tuition-free program for high school students and funding to address food insecurities on college campuses. Under her leadership the college has opened the Education Centers in Rancho Bernardo and Fallbrook.

Her previous administrative and leadership positions include serving as president at College of Alameda in the Peralta Community College District; Vice President of Student Services at Skyline College; Dean of Student Development and Matriculation at San Diego Mesa College; and Academic Senate President at Southwestern College. She also formerly served as a tenured Professor/Counselor.

At the national level, Blake served as Policy Assistant for the U.S. Department of Education, in the Offices of the Under Secretary, and Vocational and Adult Education. She has served on the California Community Colleges statewide Chief Student Services Officers Board and she is currently on the State Advisory Committee on Legislation, the CEO Student-Centered Funding

Formula Task Force, and the President's Advisory Committee on African American Presence at UC.

She holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership with an emphasis in Post-Secondary Education and a Master of Arts in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from San Diego State University, and a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Health Science and a minor in Spanish from San Francisco State University.