

# **Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy**

## *Building an Inclusive Economy: The State's role in Closing California's Opportunity Gap*

Thursday, November 12, 2015, Ontario, California 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### **Witnesses Biographies (alphabetical order)**

#### **Melina Duarte; STEM Education Consultant**

Melina Duarte is an independent education consultant who specializes in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics issues. Melina worked previously with the University of California Office of the President and was an integral part of the team that designed, launched, and implemented the California State Summer School for Mathematics and Sciences (COSMOS), a comprehensive four week science and math enrichment program housed on the campuses of UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, and UC Santa Cruz.

Melina is very active in various science, technology, math, and engineering (STEM) activities and has helped organize and presented at various national and international STEM-related conferences; and she conducts presentations at all the local Coachella Valley K-12 schools annually to help nurture and foster the next generation of college-bound students and is always connecting new educational opportunities for Coachella students; and a goodwill ambassador and active in her hometown of Coachella. Melina is also past Chairwoman of the National Advisory Council for Educational Excellence of the Society of Mexican American Engineers and Scientists (MAES).

#### **Paul Granillo; Inland Empire Economic Partnership President and CEO**

A native of the Inland Empire, Paul was born and raised in Redlands. In 2010, Paul became President & CEO of IEEP, and restructured the organization with a vision for bettering the quality of life and business climate of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. He currently serves as Chair of Mobility 21, a coalition that pursues regional solutions to transportation challenges. He also serves as Chair of the California Stewardship Network; and is a sitting member of the Regional Economic Alliance Leaders of California. Additionally, he serves on the Southern California Association of Governments Global Land Use and Economics Committee and sits on the Board of Directors for The Community Foundation serving Riverside and San Bernardino counties, and Cal State San Bernardino's Foundation Board.

Paul received his Bachelors of Arts from California State University San Bernardino, his Master of Divinity from St. John's Seminary in Camarillo and holds a Licentiate in Canon Law from the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. Paul is married to Dr. Christina Granillo, Ph.D.; they are the proud parents of baby Monica Marie.

#### **Paul S. Leon; Mayor of Ontario**

Mayor Paul Leon was first appointed to the Ontario City Council in 1999. He was later elected to the City Council in 2000 and re-elected in 2004. He served as Mayor pro Tem from December 2002 until January 2005. Paul was elected to Mayor in a special election in June 2005 and re-elected to a

four year term in November 2006. In addition to his Mayoral duties, Mayor Leon also serves as Senior Pastor of Hope Chapel Foursquare Church.

Over the years Mayor Leon has represented Ontario on regional boards with Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), and Omnitrans, and has served as the City Council liaison to the Los Angeles World Airports Board of Airport Commissioners.

A native of Southern California, Paul is a graduate of Nordhoff High School in Ojai, the U. S. Army Security Agency Training Center & School at Ft. Devens, Massachusetts, and attended the Cleveland Institute of Electronics. Since completing military service in 1977, Paul has been a resident of Ontario. His professional life included: 3½ years in the U.S. Army, five years on the staff of Bilingual Family Counseling Service, Inc.; Outreach Coordinator for the Focus West county wide collaboration; Accounts Manager for Direct Trucking, Direct Home Delivery, Competitive Home Delivery; Owner of PSL Delivery Service.

Dedicated to the betterment of youth in his home region, Paul has contributed thousands of volunteer hours to area organizations including the Ontario Salvation Army, San Bernardino Communities Against Drugs, San Bernardino County Gangs and Drugs Task Force, Ontario Gangs and Drugs Task Force, Chaffey Joint Union High School District C.A.T. Council, Family Solutions Collaborative, Vernon Middle School, and the West Valley Family Violence Council. He also served as the coordinator for the highly successful Christian Okoye/Focus West Youth Football Camps, the Annual Focus West Positive Alternatives Youth Formal, and Red Ribbon Week Elementary School Assemblies. In 1998, Paul received the Montclair/Inland Valley Soroptimist President's Award, in 1999 the Positive Choices for Youth "Exemplar" Award, the Chaffey Joint Union High School District Community Service Award and in 2006 was selected by the Ontario Chamber of Commerce Latino Business Council as the Community Leader of the Year.

**Dr. Yasuyuki ‘Yas’ Motoyama; Director in Research and Policy at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation**

Yasuyuki (Yas) Motoyama is a director in Research and Policy at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. His main research areas are regional ecosystem of entrepreneurship, drivers of high-growth companies, and university-industry relations.

Motoyama is the author of a number of peer-reviewed journal articles, including articles in Technological Forecasting and Social Change, the Economic Development Quarterly, Review of Policy Research, Technology in Society, and the Journal of Small Business and Entrepreneurship. He is the author of Global Companies, Local Innovations: How Engineering Aspects of Innovation Making Require Geographical Proximity, and a co-author of Local and Global Networks: Immigrant Professionals in Silicon Valley. An avid speaker, Motoyama has presented at numerous conferences in the United States and Japan. He also is the recipient of several honors and research grants.

Prior to joining the Kauffman Foundation, Motoyama was a postdoctoral fellow with the Center for Nanotechnology in Society at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where he was researching the process of commercialization and globalization of nanotechnology.

Motoyama earned a Bachelor of Arts with triple majors in history, international relations, and political science from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. He earned a Master of Public Administration from Cornell University, and a PhD in city and regional planning from the University of California, Berkeley.

### **Victor Rubin; Vice President of Research at PolicyLink**

Victor Rubin is Vice President for Research at PolicyLink, a national nonprofit institute for policy change. He has been a researcher, teacher, and consultant in urban planning, workforce development, educational equity, and child development policy for 35 years. Recently he has led engagements by PolicyLink regarding strategies for equitable economic growth and workforce inclusion in Detroit, Baltimore, San Diego and Oakland.

Recent publications include, “Economic Inclusion: Advancing an Equity-Driven Growth Model,” (with Sarah Treuhaft), a report for the Big Ideas for Job Creation project of the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment at the University of California, Berkeley and “Equitable, Inclusive Growth Policies for America’s Cities” (with Angela Glover Blackwell and Chris Schildt) in *Building Shared Prosperity in America’s Communities*, S. Wachter and L. Ding, editors, Penn Press, forthcoming 2016.) He has also written several recent reports documenting the evolution of efforts across California to improve community health through a focus on the built environment.

Dr. Rubin was a researcher at the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Berkeley and co-authored two books, *High School Career Academies: A Pathway to Educational Reform in Urban School Districts?* (with Nan L. Maxwell, 2000) and *The Serious Business of Growing Up: A Study of Children’s Lives Outside School* (with Elliott Medrich, et al, 1982.) He has served as a guest editor of the *Journal of the Community Development Society* and reviewer for several other journals. Victor joined PolicyLink in 2000 after serving as Director of the Office of University Partnerships of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Rubin served as Director of the University-Oakland Metropolitan Forum, a partnership for community revitalization based at UC Berkeley. He is a member of the California Planning Roundtable and was formerly Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the UC Berkeley, the department where he earned his MCP (1975) and PhD. (1986.)

### **Dr. Alma Salazar; Vice President of Education and Workforce Development for the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**

Alma Salazar oversees the Chamber’s education and workforce development programs and also directs the Chamber’s higher education and workforce development policies. In 2012, Salazar was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown to serve on the California Workforce Investment Board. Since 2000, Salazar has worked to build business/education partnerships to improve academic achievement and life-long learning for California’s students. Salazar has demonstrated success at convening diverse groups of stakeholders to promote systems-change and strengthen the region’s workforce development system by expanding/enhancing relationships that build pathways to high demand, high growth industries, and sustainable careers. Serving as an intermediary, Salazar looks to create and support effective collaboration among education, business, civic and workforce development leaders to influence policies that strengthen regional education and workforce development systems.

Salazar graduated from California State University, Long Beach with a bachelor's degree in speech communication, a master's degree in public policy and administration and doctoral degree in Educational Leadership. Salazar was also awarded the prestigious 2012 American Memorial Fellowship by the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

### **Helen Iris Torres; Executive Director of HOPE**

Helen Torres is the Executive Director of Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE) where she supervises and manages the day-to-day operations. Under her leadership HOPE has grown into one of the leading women's leadership and advocacy organizations in California and United States.

Ms. Torres has over twenty years of alliance building, community relations, marketing, and fundraising experience and expertise. Ms. Torres works with community, corporate, and political leaders to create and promote opportunities that advance Latinas by establishing "Latina Smart" policy recommendations. In partnership with the HOPE Board of Directors and staff, Ms. Torres produces statewide and national conferences that educate and train over three thousand Latinas per year. She also has been instrumental in the development and implementation of the HOPE Leadership Institute (HLI) - a program that prepares adult Latinas for their next level of civic participation. HLI has resulted in over 130 Latinas being appointed to state and local commissions, and over 200 Latinas serving on nonprofit boards improving local communities. To date over 446 Latinas have graduated from HLI.

Helen is currently serving as an advisory board member for LA Opinion, the nation's largest Spanish language newspaper, BizFed a leading Los Angeles nonprofit supporting businesses, and serves on the board of Alliance for a Better Community whose mission is to coalesce an alliance of leaders to serve as the "Latino Voice" on the critical issues facing the Greater Los Angeles region. She is the past Chair of on California Volunteers; a statewide commission focused on volunteerism and past Vice Chair of the Zero Divide Foundation whose mission was to erase the digital divide. Ms. Torres is a proud graduate of The HOPE Leadership Institute.

Ms. Torres earned a Masters degree in Urban Studies and Communications from Michigan State University. She holds a Bachelors degree in Communication from Michigan State University as well. She has been honored by her high school, John Glenn High School, as alumni of the year in 2003. Ms. Torres is a sought out speaker on women issues and an advisor to key projects such as "The Shriver Report: A Women's Nation Changes Everything" and is featured in "Life Moments for Women" a book supporting The Women's Foundation of California. In 2012, Torres on behalf of HOPE received the "advocate" of the year from Latina Style magazine and was also honored by the California Hispanic Chamber as "advocate" of the year in 2013. She is also one of Hispanic Lifestyle's "Latinas of Influence" honorees in 2013 and been recognized by Los Angeles Dodgers as a "community hero."

Helen lives in San Bernardino County with her husband Jonathan Schumperli they team-up to raise their high spirited twin boys Adam and Joshua.