

ALEO

ACADEMY for LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

SDSU

PROGRAM

MODULE 1: JANUARY 9, 2025

8:00-8:30 AM

CHECK-IN

Light breakfast available in the Grand Ballroom.

8:30-9:00 AM

OPENING SESSION

- **Roddrick Colvin, Ph.D.**, Director, School of Public Affairs
- **Janis L. McKay, D.M.A.**, Dean, College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts
- **Adela de la Torre, Ph.D.**, San Diego State University President
- **Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.**, California Secretary of State

9:00-10:00 AM

PANEL DISCUSSION:
CAMPAIGN POLITICS VS.
GOVERNING: NAVIGATING THE
TRANSITION FROM CANDIDATE
TO PUBLIC LEADER

- **Aimee Faucett**, Agenda Setting, LLC, Founder
- **Stephen Puetz**, Vice President, Axiom Strategies
- **Chris Cate**, 3MC Strategies Founder, former San Diego City Councilmember

10:00-10:30 AM

PRESENTATION:
ETHICS IN GOVERNING &
TRANSPARENCY: NAVIGATING
THE MINEFIELD

- **Sharon Spivak**, Executive Director, San Diego Ethics Commission

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MODULE 1: JANUARY 9, 2025

10:30-10:45 AM

BREAK

Enjoy the refreshments!

10:45 AM-12:00 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION:

LEGAL AUTHORITY AND
STRUCTURE: UNDERSTANDING
CHARTER CITIES VS. GENERAL
LAW CITIES, COUNCIL-MANAGER
VS. STRONG MAYOR
STRUCTURES, ELECTED AND
PROFESSIONAL ROLES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES

Panel Moderator & Panelist:

- **Leslie Devaney Esq.**, Founding and Managing Partner DPMC LLP, Former City Attorney

Panelists:

- **Rod Gould, MPA**, Ed.M Chairman, HdL Companies, Former City Manager
- **Mary Sessom**, Former Mayor, City of Lemon Grove, Former SANDAG Chair
- **Denise Zellmann**, Senior Vice President, ClayCo, Former San Diego City Council Chief of Staff

12:00-1:00 PM

LUNCH & PANEL DISCUSSION:

THE FUTURE OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT COLLABORATIONS
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SAN
DIEGO REGION: HOUSING AND
HOMELESSNESS CHALLENGES AND
SOLUTIONS

Panel moderator:

- **Stephen Russell**, President & CEO, San Diego Housing Federation

Panelists:

- **Tamera Kohler**, Chief Executive Officer at Regional Task Force on Homelessness
- **David Estrella**, Director at Housing and Community Development Services, County of San Diego
- **Lisa Jones**, President & CEO, San Diego Housing Commission

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MODULE 2: JANUARY 16, 2025

12:00-1:00 PM

LUNCH & PANEL DISCUSSION:
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS: NAVIGATING ROLES
AND RESPONSIBILITIES ACROSS
LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL
GOVERNMENTS

Module 2 Conference Opening:

- **Honorable Joe LaCava**, Council President,
City of San Diego, District One

Panel Moderator:

- **Nicole Capretz**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer,
Climate Action Campaign

Panelists:

- **Paula Forbis**, Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO),
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
- **Crystal Najera**, Sustainability Manager,
City of Encinitas
- **Colin Santulli**, Director of Programs,
San Diego Community Power

1:00-2:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION:
REGIONAL AGENCIES IN SAN
DIEGO: KEY PLAYERS AND
COLLABORATIVE DYNAMICS

Panel Moderator:

- **Mark Cafferty**, President and Chief Executive Officer,
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation

Panelists:

- **Mario Orso**, Chief Executive Officer,
San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG)
- **Sharon Cooney**, Chief Executive Officer,
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS)
- **Shawn Donaghy**, Chief Executive Officer,
North County Transit District (NCTD)

2:30-2:45

BREAK

Enjoy the refreshments!

2:45-4:00 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION:
KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN
GOVERNMENT AND
GOVERNANCE:
UNDERSTANDING INFLUENCE
AND INTERACTION

Panel Moderator:

- **Betsy Brennan**, President and CEO,
Downtown San Diego Partnership

Panelists:

- **Jim Madaffer**, CEO, Madaffer Enterprises
- **Catherine Hill**, Regional Public Affairs Manager,
League of California Cities
- **Almis Udrys**, Senior Director, OpenGov Inc

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MODULE 2: JANUARY 16, 2025

4:00-4:10 PM
BREAK

Enjoy the refreshments!

4:10-4:30 PM
PRESENTATION
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
FUTURE ENGAGEMENT
AND COLLABORATION:
SDSU'S INSTITUTE FOR
INNOVATIVE
GOVERNANCE

Presenter:

- **Megan Welsh Carroll, Ph.D.**, Professor and Director of the Institute for Innovative Governance

4:30-5:00 PM
CLOSING CEREMONY
PRESENTATION OF
CERTIFICATES

Certificate Presenter:

- **Roddrick Colvin, Ph.D.**, Director, School of Public Affairs
- **Conference Host Committee**

5:00-6:00 PM
CLOSING RECEPTION

Closing Reception Remarks:

- **Adela de la Torre, Ph.D.**, San Diego State University President
- **Honorable Sean Elo-Rivera**, Councilmember, District Nine, City of San Diego