



2017 Texas Higher Education Leadership Conference:
Working with Industry to Increase Skills and Manage Student Debt

**Crowne Plaza Austin Hotel
6121 IH-35 North
Austin, Texas**

**ORIENTATION & CONFERENCE AGENDA
November 30 – December 1, 2017**

Orientation Day One: Thursday, November 30, 2017*

7:00 a.m. Registration/Check-in/Breakfast Buffet (Grand Ballroom, Salon E)

8:00 a.m. Welcome to Conference Participants (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Robert Jenkins, Jr., Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

THECB Chair Robert Jenkins, Jr. will provide some opening remarks and welcome participants to Day One of the conference.

8:15 a.m. Panel Discussion – “What I Wish I Had Known as a New Governing Board Member (and What I Wish My New Board Members Would Have Known): Mutual Expectations” (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Panel Facilitator: Stuart W. Stedman, J.D., Vice-Chair, THECB

Panelists:

- *Carolyn Johnson, Chair of the Board of Regents, Brazosport College*
- *J. Michael Lewis, Member of the Board of Regents, Texas Tech University System*
- *Michael L. Reeser, Chancellor, Texas State Technical College System*

Governing board members who serve public colleges and universities fulfill their considerable responsibilities in an increasing complex political, economic, and social environment. THECB Vice-Chair Stuart W. Stedman will facilitate a panel discussion of the biggest concerns of new regents and trustees, relations among governing board members and senior administrators, and the evaluation of board and executive performance.

* This full-day orientation on November 30 satisfies the training requirement for newly appointed regents and elected trustees (Texas Education Code, Section 61.084, Training for Members of Governing Boards).

Concurrent Sessions

University Leaders (Grand Ballroom, Salons F-H)	Community & Technical College Leaders (Grand Ballroom, Salon E)
<p>Presenters will discuss the process of budget planning at public universities and state colleges in Texas, roles and responsibilities, information needed for effective campus monitoring and oversight, the process used in Texas to audit public institutions, and tools available online at: http://www.thecb.state.tx.us, http://www.60x30TX.com, and http://www.txhighereddata.org/.</p>	<p>Presenters will discuss the process of budget planning at Texas public community and technical colleges in Texas, issues related to the appropriation process and the various sources of revenue that are available to community colleges, financial management issues and best practices, reporting, and tools available online at: http://www.thecb.state.tx.us, http://www.60x30TX.com, and http://www.txhighereddata.org/.</p>
<p>9:00 a.m. The Budgeting Process for Public Universities in Texas</p> <p><i>Presenter: Mary E. Knight, CPA, CISA, Associate Vice President for Finance, The University of Texas at Austin</i></p>	<p>9:00 a.m. Understanding the Revenue Mix for Texas Community Colleges and the State Budgeting Process</p> <p><i>Presenters: Brenda Hellyer, CPA, Ed.D., Chancellor, San Jacinto College Betty A. McCrohan, M.Ed., President, Wharton County Junior College</i></p>
<p>9:45 a.m. Basic Board Member Roles and Responsibilities: Sustaining Institutional Autonomy and Board Independence</p> <p><i>Presenter: George P. Pernsteiner, Senior Fellow, Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB); Former President, State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO); Chancellor Emeritus, Oregon University System</i></p>	<p>9:45 a.m. The Budgeting Process for Public Community Colleges in Texas</p> <p><i>Presenters: Diane E. Snyder, CPA, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, Alamo Colleges Neil Vickers, CPA, Executive Vice President, Finance and Administration, Austin Community College</i></p>
<p>10:30 a.m. Break (Pre-function outside Salons D-E)</p>	<p>10:30 a.m. Break (Pre-function outside Salons D-E)</p>
<p>10:45 a.m. Monitoring and Oversight: What is Good Information?</p> <p><i>Presenter: George P. Pernsteiner, Senior Fellow, AGB; Former President, SHEEO; Chancellor Emeritus, Oregon University System</i></p>	<p>10:45 a.m. Campus Financial Management – Panel Discussion</p> <p><i>Facilitator: Rose Martinez, Ph.D., Director of Trustee Strategies, Community College Association of Texas Trustees</i></p> <p><i>Panelists: James Henry Russell, CPA, President, Texarkana College W. Myles Shelton, Ed.D., President, Galveston College</i></p>
<p>11:30 a.m. The Auditing Process for Public Universities in Texas</p> <p><i>Presenter: Mark A. Poehl, BBA, CPA, Director, Internal Audit and Compliance, THECB</i></p>	<p>11:30 a.m. Financial Reporting and Ratio Analysis</p> <p><i>Presenter: Thomas Keaton, MPA, Director of Finance and Resource Planning, THECB</i></p>

Conference Day One: Thursday, November 30, 2017
(Orientation Day One Continued)

12:00 noon Luncheon and Keynote Speaker – Raymund Paredes: The State of Higher Education in Texas (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Raymund A. Paredes, Ph.D., Commissioner of Higher Education

The aim of the *60x30TX* higher education strategic plan is to help all students achieve their educational goals, which, in turn, will help Texas remain globally competitive for years to come. *60x30TX* is entirely student-centered: Its overarching goal is that 60 percent of young adults (ages 25-34) in Texas will hold some type of postsecondary credential by 2030. Other goals are that by 2030, more students (regardless of age) will complete a certificate or degree; graduates will have identifiable marketable skills irrespective of major; and that, statewide, students will not graduate with debt exceeding 60 percent of their first-year wages. Successful achievement of these four, interrelated goals will require unprecedented collaboration among K-12, higher education, and the workforce, as well as the local creativity of Texas two- and four-year institutions. Higher Education Commissioner Raymund A. Paredes will provide an overview of the state of higher education in Texas, a brief overview of *60x30TX*, and the progress being made with respect to achieving the plan's goals and targets.

1:00 p.m. Break (Pre-function outside Salons D-E)

1:15 p.m. Introduction of the 60x30TX.com Website and Monitoring Progress toward Achieving the Goals of 60x30TX through the Texas Public Higher Education Accountability System (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Julie A. Eklund, Ph.D., Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Planning and Funding, THECB

Jenna Cullinane Hege, Ph.D., Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Planning, THECB

Part of the communication strategy for the state's higher education strategic plan, *60x30TX*, is a consumer-friendly website that provides an overview of *60x30TX*, key data, and discussions of topics critical to achieving the goals and targets of the state's higher education strategic plan. A consumer can go directly from the *60x30TX.com* website to the recently redesigned Higher Education Accountability System. The system has been in place for nearly 13 years and is used to track performance on critical measures that exemplify the missions of Texas higher education institutions. Assistant Commissioner Julie A. Eklund will provide an overview of *60x30TX.com*, the Accountability System, and the accountability data that can be used by higher education leaders to assist them in advancing their institutional missions and moving the state of Texas forward in accomplishing the state's higher education goals. Deputy Assistant Commissioner Jenna Cullinane Hege will provide an overview of the THECB's work to date with regions and institutions to develop "regional targets" in 2017 for regions in three areas of *60x30TX* – the Educated Population goal, the Completion goal, and the high school-to-college direct enrollment target.

2:00 p.m. Effective Trusteeship, Ethics (including Ethical Issues in Financial Management), and the Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Panel Facilitator: William M. Franz, J.D., LL.M., General Counsel, THECB

Panelists:

- *Cobby A. Caputo, J.D., School Lawyer, Bickerstaff Heath Delgado Acosta, LLP*
- *Dona H. Cornell, J.D., Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, University of Houston System*
- *Fernando C. Gomez, J.D., Ph.D., Vice Chancellor and General Counsel, Texas State University System*

Governing Board members who serve public colleges and universities fulfill their considerable responsibilities in an increasingly complex legal environment. Practitioners of management accounting and financial management have an obligation to the public, their profession, the organization they serve, and themselves to maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct. In recognition of these obligations, General Counsel William M. Franz will lead a panel of legal experts who will provide an overview of open meetings/records laws in Texas and engage in an interactive discussion of effective trusteeship, ethics (including ethical issues in financial management), the avoidance of conflicts of interest, and other topics of interest.

3:00 p.m. Break (Pre-function outside Salons D-E)

3:15 p.m. Effective Trusteeship, Ethics (including Ethical Issues in Financial Management), and the Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest (Continued)
(Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

4:00 p.m. Leadership Dynamics in Public Higher Education – Effectively Working with the Texas Legislature to Achieve the Goals of 60x30TX
(Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Panel Facilitator: George P. Pernsteiner, Senior Fellow, AGB; Former President, SHEEO; Chancellor Emeritus, Oregon University System

Panelists:

- *The Honorable Paul Bettencourt, Texas Senate, District 7*
- *The Honorable Donna Howard, Texas House of Representatives, District 48*
- *The Honorable John Zerwas, M.D., Texas House of Representatives, District 28*

Texas has become increasingly engaged in a global economy dependent on skilled and knowledgeable workers. Given the mission of higher education, the needs of the state and its communities, the expectations of students, and the reality of a global marketplace, Association of Governing Boards Senior Fellow George P. Pernsteiner will facilitate a panel discussion of how Texas institutions of higher education can work together and with the executive and legislative branches of government to achieve their missions and educate students to supply the workforce needed to compete in a global economy.

4:55 p.m. Concluding Remarks (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Robert Jenkins, Jr., Chair, THECB

THECB Chair Robert Jenkins will provide some concluding remarks about the day's activities and encourage conference participants to enjoy relaxed conversation at a special reception for conference participants and other invited guests in the Crowne Plaza's Crossroads Lounge.

5:00 p.m. Adjournment

5:00 p.m. Reception (Crossroads Lounge)

7:00 p.m. Dinner on Your Own

Conference Day Two: Friday, December 1, 2017

7:00 a.m. Registration/Check-in/Breakfast Buffet (Grand Ballroom, Salon E)

8:00 a.m. Welcome (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Robert Jenkins, Jr., Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

THECB Chair Robert Jenkins, Jr. will provide some opening remarks and welcome participants to Day Two of the conference.

8:15 a.m. Keynote Speaker – Jeffrey Selingo: Guiding Students toward Beneficial Programs Using Efficient Pathways (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Jeffrey J. Selingo, Author and Washington Post Columnist

The path from college to career is not as obvious as it once was. Changes in the economy mean that colleges and universities will need to educate the next generation of students in different ways, providing them improved and more efficient pathways toward the broad education needed for good citizenry in a democratic society and the skills needed for the job market of tomorrow. Best-selling author and award-winning columnist Jeffrey J. Selingo will explore how today's young adults need to navigate college to best succeed in a fast-changing economy, and how college and university leaders might imagine the colleges and universities of the future.

9:15 a.m. Break (Pre-function outside Salons D-E)

9:30 a.m. Making College More Affordable for Students (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Panel Facilitator: Bruce H. Leslie, Ph.D., Chancellor, Alamo Colleges

Panelists:

- *Carine M. Feyten, Ph.D., Chancellor/President, Texas Woman's University*
- *Peter Lyons, Ph.D., Vice Provost and Dean of Perimeter College, Georgia State University*
- *Joe May, Ed.D., Chancellor, Dallas County Community College District*

With finite budgets and multiple priorities, institutions are constrained in terms of their ability to offer need-based aid and other programs that support low- and moderate-income students. Yet even with those constraints, some colleges and universities have enhanced their commitment to serving low- and moderate-income students, and have found the financial means to do so. Chancellor Bruce H. Leslie will facilitate a panel discussion of strategies that can be pursued by leaders of higher education institutions to reallocate funds in ways that are financially sustainable, maximally effective, and broadly supported by institutional stakeholders.

10:45 a.m. Partnering with Industry to Further the Development of a Highly Skilled Workforce (Grand Ballroom, Salons A-D)

Panel Facilitator: Peter L. Beard, J.D., Senior Vice President for Regional Workforce Development, Greater Houston Partnership

Panelists:

- *Michael Bettersworth, Vice Chancellor and Chief Policy Officer, Texas State Technical College; Executive Director, C4EO; and Founder, SkillsEngine*
- *Carlena Harris, Talent Acquisition Manager, Recruiting Operations, National Instruments, Inc.*
- *Vistasp M. Karbhari, Ph.D., President, The University of Texas at Arlington*
- *Cesar Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E., Chancellor, Houston Community College System*

Business and postsecondary education have found common cause in recent decades in the preparation of a highly skilled workforce to preserve the nation's competitiveness and economic opportunity in response to rapid technological change and increasing global competition. Greater Houston Partnership Senior Vice President Peter L. Beard will facilitate a panel discussion of how colleges and universities can collaborate with one another and with industry on strategies that help students progress through their programs of study successfully and efficiently.

12:00 p.m. Luncheon and 2017 Star Awards Ceremony (Grand Ballroom, Salons E-H)

Texas Higher Education Star Awards Finalists

Members of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Raymund A. Paredes, Ph.D., Commissioner of Higher Education

The Texas Higher Education Star Award recognizes exceptional contributions toward achieving one or more of the goals of the state's higher education strategic plan, now *60x30TX* (previously, *Closing the Gaps by 2015*). Each year since being created by the THECB in 2001, nominations and subsequent applications for the Star Award are accepted by the THECB from eligible institutions and organizations across Texas. During the ceremony, the eight Star Award finalists for 2017 will provide summaries of their programs, and members of the Coordinating Board and the Commissioner of Higher Education will announce and honor the 2017 Star Award winners.

1:15 p.m. Adjournment

1:15 p.m. Portrait Photo Sessions for Star Award Finalists (Grand Ballroom, Salons E-H)

All 2017 Star Awards finalists will be invited to join members of the Coordinating Board and the Commissioner of Higher Education for some additional photographs.