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**2022 Texas Higher Education
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

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Our future. In focus.

2022 Texas Higher Education LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Presented by



Putting Texas' Future in Focus

Welcome to the 2022 Texas Higher Education Leadership Conference! We're grateful to everyone who could join us in Austin for our annual event. These two days will feature engaging conversations about credentials of value, research and innovation, higher education policy, and much more!

As the ninth-largest economy in the world, Texas is uniquely situated to drive economic competitiveness for our great state and nation. Our economy is expanding, and now more than ever, our workforce needs top talent. Together – as leaders in higher education, business, industry, policy, and more – we must commit to educating more Texans with credentials of value so they can contribute to, participate in, and benefit from our world-class economy.

With the new goals outlined in *Building a Talent Strong Texas*, we will be bold, intentional, and strategic to expand opportunities for all Texans to realize their potential and grow our economy with even stronger research, development, and innovation from Texas higher education.

We look forward to these discussions over the next two days and hope you enjoy the 2022 Texas Higher Education Leadership Conference!

Harrison Keller, Ph.D.

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Richard L. Clemmer

Robert P. Gauntt

Emma W. Schwartz

R. Sam Torn, J.D.

Welcome W. Wilson, Jr.

Daniel O. Wong, Ph.D.

Georgia A. Blackwell

Student Representative

THECB

Day 1: Wednesday, Dec. 7

8-9 a.m.	Registration	Outside Zlotnik Ballroom
9-9:10 a.m.	Opening Remarks <i>Fred Farias III, OD, MCSO, Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board</i>	Zlotnik Ballroom
9:10-10 a.m.	Panel: From Insight to Impact <i>Harrison Keller, Ph.D., Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board - Moderator</i> <i>Matthew Crommett, LH Capital, Inc./Lyda Hill Philanthropies</i> <i>Joe Elabd, Ph.D., Texas A&M University System</i> <i>Vijay Swarup, Ph.D., ExxonMobil Corporation</i> <i>Michael Webber, Ph.D., Energy Impact Partners</i>	Zlotnik Ballroom
10-10:50 a.m.	Panel: Cradle to Career: A Tri-Agency Conversation <i>Bryan Daniel, Texas Workforce Commission</i> <i>Harrison Keller, Ph.D., Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board</i> <i>Mike Morath, Texas Education Agency</i>	Zlotnik Ballroom
10:50-11 a.m.	Break	

11-11:45 a.m.		Concurrent Sessions	
Effective and Ethical Governance <i>Required for all new regents and trustees</i> <i>Nichole Bunker-Henderson, J.D., Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board - Moderator</i> <i>Amanda Cochran-McCall, J.D., The University of Texas at Austin</i> <i>Nelly R. Herrera, J.D., Texas State University System</i> <i>Augie Rivera, J.D., Del Mar College District</i>	Room 105	My Texas Future: Reskilling and Upskilling of Texas Talent <i>Laura Brennan, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board</i> <i>Vanessa Garcia, Vick Advising Excellence Center, The University of Texas at Austin</i> <i>Jeff Handy, Vick Advising Excellence Center, The University of Texas at Austin</i>	Room 106

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Lunch Service	Outside Zlotnik Ballroom
12:15-1 p.m.	Lunch Keynote <i>Sanjay Sarma, Ph.D., Author and Professor of Mechanical Engineering, MIT</i>	Zlotnik Ballroom
1-1:15 p.m.	Break	

1:15-2 p.m.		Concurrent Sessions	
<p>Higher Education Governance and Oversight Room 105</p> <p><i>Required for all new regents and trustees</i></p> <p>John Zerwas, M.D., The University of Texas System - Moderator</p> <p>K. Paul Holt, McLennan Community College Board of Trustees</p> <p>Elaine Mendoza, Texas A&M University System</p> <p>Donna Williams, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board</p>	<p>Philanthropy's Engagement in Building a Talent Strong Texas Room 106</p> <p>Scott Jenkins, Lumina Foundation - Moderator</p> <p>Kristin Boyer, Trellis Foundation</p> <p>Courtney McBeth, Ed.D., Strada Education Network</p>		
2:05-3 p.m.		Concurrent Sessions	
<p>University and HRI Budgeting and Financial Management Room 105</p> <p><i>Required for new four-year regents and trustees</i></p> <p>Sarah Keyton, J.D., Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board - Moderator</p> <p>Eric Algoe, Texas State University</p> <p>Joseph Duron, Texas A&M University System</p> <p>Andrea Marks, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio</p>	<p>Community College Budgeting and Financial Management Room 106</p> <p><i>Required for new two-year regents and trustees</i></p> <p>Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D., Amarillo College - Moderator</p> <p>Pamela Anglin, Ed.D., Paris Junior College</p> <p>Justin Lonon, Ph.D., Dallas College</p> <p>Teri Zamora, San Jacinto College</p>		

3-3:10 p.m.

Break

3:10-4 p.m.

Panel: The Texas Legislature and Higher Education

Zlotnik Ballroom

[Jim Henson, Ph.D.](#), The University of Texas at Austin - **Moderator**

[The Honorable Greg Bonnen, M.D.](#), Texas House of Representatives

[The Honorable José Menéndez](#), Texas Senate

[The Honorable Gary VanDeaver, Ed.D.](#), Texas House of Representatives

4-5 p.m.

Keynote

Zlotnik Ballroom

[James Kvaal, J.D.](#), U.S. Under Secretary of Education

5-6:30 p.m.

Star Awards Reception

Courtyard

Day 2: Thursday, Dec. 8

8:30-9:15 a.m.	Breakfast	Zlotnik Ballroom
9:15-9:30 a.m.	Opening Remarks <i>Governor Greg Abbott</i> Fred Farias III, OD, MCSO , Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	Zlotnik Ballroom
9:30-10:30 a.m.	Panel: A Closer Look at Credentials of Value David Troutman, Ph.D. , Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board - Moderator Garrett Groves , Austin Community College Bobby Jenkins , ABC Home and Commercial Services Kimberly McLeod, Ed.D. , Texas A&M University-Commerce Neera Talbert , Microsoft	Zlotnik Ballroom
10:30-11:30 a.m.	Panel: Commission on Community College Finance Ray Martinez, III, J.D. , Texas Association of Community Colleges - Moderator Brenda Hellyer, Ph.D. , San Jacinto College Woody Hunt , Commission on Community College Finance The Honorable Oscar Longoria, J.D. , Texas House of Representatives	Zlotnik Ballroom
11:30-12 p.m.	The State of Texas Higher Education Harrison Keller, Ph.D. , Commissioner of Higher Education	Zlotnik Ballroom
12-12:15 p.m.	Closing Remarks Fred Farias III, OD, MCSO , Chair, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	Zlotnik Ballroom

Speakers



Eric Algoe

Eric Algoe has served as the Vice President for Finance and Support Services at Texas State University since 2015, where he oversees the financial, physical, safety, and human resources of the university.

Algoe formerly served as Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration at Florida State University and as Vice President for Finance and Administration at Ohio Wesleyan University. He left a positive mark during his terms in leadership at one of the top public research universities in the world and one of the nation's premier private universities.

His career has focused on public service and mission-driven nonprofits, including past experience as the Chief Fiscal Officer at the Ohio Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, the inaugural chief fiscal officer for the Ohio Office of Information Technology, and 14 years of service as a military intelligence and civil affairs officer in the United States Army and Army Reserve.

Algoe holds a master's degree in business administration from Franklin University, and a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University, where he later earned the Certified Public Manager designation at The John Glenn School of Public Affairs. He also currently serves as the president of the Texas Association of State Senior College and University Business Officers.

He is an engaged citizen in the community, having served on numerous community boards, committees, and task forces with organizations such as the Austin Chamber of Commerce and the United Way, as well as serving on the executive board of professional associations.



Pamela Anglin, Ed.D.

Dr. Pamela Anglin has served as President of Paris Junior College (PJC) since 2003. She is a Certified Public Accountant, and before becoming president of PJC, she served as Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President of Grayson College, Vice President of Business Services at Blinn College, was part of the accounting faculty and Division Director at Navarro College, and Director of Managerial Finance at Texas Christian University.

Anglin has served two terms on the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Board of Directors and two terms on the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Board of Trustees. She chaired the Community and Technical College Formula Funding Advisory Committee in 2019-2020. Anglin's tenure at PJC has included the college participating in Achieving the Dream, being recognized twice as one of the 50 fastest-growing community colleges in the nation, and the college being recognized with the 2012 Excellence in Education Award from the Texas Association of Businesses. PJC was selected as one of 30 community colleges nationwide to participate in the AACC Guides Pathways Project in 2016.

Anglin's education includes an Ed.D. in education administration from Baylor University, an MBA in accounting from Texas Christian University, a BBA in finance from Texas A&M University, an ABA from Grayson County College, and she attended Harvard University's Institute for Education Management.



The Honorable Greg Bonnen, M.D.

The Honorable Greg Bonnen, M.D., is currently serving his fifth term as the state representative for House District 24 and is the chair of the House Appropriations Committee.

Before serving as chair of the House Appropriations Committee, he served as chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher and Public Education and as a member of the Insurance Committee. He has also previously served on the Energy Resources Committee; Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government, the Judiciary, and Criminal Justice; Joint Interim Committee on Coastal Barrier Systems; Texas Windstorm Insurance Association Funding Structure Oversight Board; Interim Committee on Border Security; and Interim Committee on Mental Health.

Bonnen has been named a Courageous Conservative by the Texas Conservative Coalition, Guardian of Small Business by the National Federation of Independent Business, Texas Values Faith and Family Champion, and Pro-Life Hero.

Bonnen is a practicing neurosurgeon and serves as the Chairman of the Board of Houston Physicians' Hospital.

Bonnen graduated cum laude from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biochemistry, and attended medical school at UTMB, where he also did his neurosurgery residency and served for two years as an assistant professor of neurosurgery. During college, he spent two summers working as a counselor at Texas Lion's Camp for handicapped children, which he credits with introducing him to both his profession as a doctor and his wife, Kim. He continues to devote time to his church and charitable organizations, including numerous international mission trips.



Kristin Boyer

Kristin Boyer leads Trellis Foundation's efforts to advance equitable postsecondary outcomes for students in Texas. Before her appointment as Executive Director for the Trellis Foundation, she directed the philanthropic program and activities for Trellis Company, informed by her early career as a public school teacher, admissions counselor, and development officer in higher education. She currently serves as chair of the Leadership Committee for Philanthropy Advocates, as an Advisory Committee member for the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, and as a co-chair for the Latino Student Success Funders Group.



Laura Brennan

Laura Brennan is the Assistant Commissioner for College and Career Advising at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). She leads the development and implementation of a holistic and equitable college and career advising strategy for the state. Key initiatives within this work include My Texas Future, Texas OnCourse, ApplyTexas, Advise TX, and ADVi. Before joining the THECB, Brennan served as Director for Texas OnCourse, a college and career advising initiative that currently serves over 18,000 educators across the state. She completed her master's degree in education policy from The Harvard Graduate School of Education, where her research focused on access and success in higher education for traditionally underserved students. Earlier in her career, she worked at KIPP Austin Public Schools designing and implementing programming to support students to and through college.



Nichole Bunker-Henderson, J.D.

Nichole Bunker-Henderson, J.D., serves as General Counsel for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). Before joining THECB, she served the Office of the Attorney General for 15 years, rising from law clerk to Chief of the Administrative Law Division, and most recently the Associate Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation. Henderson has worked on diverse matters as a trial and appellate attorney and general counsel to state agencies. She is a frequent speaker on administrative law topics. During her 20 years of government service, she has also served as the Deputy General Counsel at the Texas Education Agency and worked for the Texas Senate and Texas Legislative Council. She earned a bachelor's degree in government from The University of Texas at Austin and a law degree from The University of Arizona.



Amanda Cochran-McCall, J.D.

Amanda Cochran-McCall, J.D., serves as the Deputy Vice President for Legal Affairs at The University of Texas at Austin. In this role, she serves the institution as in-house counsel, guiding its course on a broad array of legal issues including constitutional, civil rights, employment, athletics, business contracts, real estate, and litigation strategy. McCall collaborates daily with university leadership in the executive administration, colleges, schools, and business units to support their needs and goals. By identifying legal issues and risk, providing a thorough analysis of options, and recommending solutions on the issues at hand, she works to support the university's goal to be the world's highest-impact public research university. She also leads the day-to-day operations of the university's Legal Affairs team.

Before joining the university, McCall served in various roles over almost a decade at the Texas Attorney General's Office. She managed and directed 12 civil litigation divisions of over 600 employees, 30,000 active litigation matters, and a \$40 million budget. She also provided strategic legal guidance and direction on various matters, including First Amendment, due process, equal protection, Title IX, employment law, and higher education issues for university systems and component institutions, state elected and appointed officials, and state agencies. As a trial attorney, she directed and performed all aspects of litigation in state and federal court.

McCall is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin and Oklahoma City University School of Law.



Matthew Crommett

As Director at LH Capital, Inc. and Lyda Hill Philanthropies, Matthew Crommett oversees a portfolio of nature and science investments and grants for entrepreneurs and Lyda Hill. In this role, Crommett leads non- and for-profit efforts to protect and conserve nature through innovative opportunities that address land, water, and wildlife challenges, prevent and treat diseases through basic science discoveries and public health interventions, inspire girls to consider STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) careers through the IF/THEN initiative, and grow a biotechnology ecosystem in North Texas.

Before this role, Crommett served as Deputy Director of Policy and Programs at the George W. Bush Institute, where he worked on issues spanning global health, economic growth, and veteran wellness. Before joining the Bush Institute, Crommett worked in the Executive Office at Goldman Sachs in New York, leading monitoring and evaluation for the \$100 million 10,000 Women initiative, which invests in underserved women entrepreneurs in more than 20 countries.

Crommett received a Bachelor of Science in international health from Georgetown University and a Master of Health Science in international health, with a concentration in social and behavioral interventions, from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. He sits on advisory boards for the Water Foundation's Water Table and Georgetown University's School of Health.



Bryan Daniel

Bryan Daniel serves as Chairman and Commissioner of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), where he works to promote and support the growth of Texas' world-class employers and talented workforce. To champion that goal, he advances innovative workforce and economic development strategies in collaboration with TWC's education partners, local officials, and industry leaders to establish Texas' competitive edge as the best place to work in the world.

Before joining TWC, Daniel served for four and half years on Texas Governor Greg Abbott's senior staff, where he led the Office of Economic Development and Tourism, which included the Texas Enterprise Fund, Events Trust Fund, Governor's University Research Initiative, Texas Tourism Office, Texas Music Office, Texas Film Commission, Texas Workforce Investment Council, the Economic Development Bank, the Texas Military Preparedness Commission, and the State of Texas Mexico Office.

Daniel's tenure as the Texas State Director for Rural Development for President George W. Bush and as Chief Administrator for Trade and Business Development at the Texas Department of Agriculture, along with his private sector experiences as a marketing executive and member of the board of directors, have provided him with valuable insights on economic development and workforce issues.

Daniel is a graduate of Texas Tech University, with both a bachelor's degree and master's degree. In 2019, Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources recognized Daniel as a Distinguished Alumnus.



Joseph Duron

Joseph Duron is the Chief Administrative Officer for the Texas A&M University System Offices. After graduating from Texas A&M University in 1992, Joseph began his career with the university as a staff accountant. In 1995, he left the university to join the Texas A&M University System Offices. There he began serving as a financial analyst for the Texas A&M System Budget Office.

As Chief Administrative Officer, Joseph is responsible for directing the overall Texas A&M System and System Offices budget and planning, coordination, and review. He is responsible for the oversight of the general comptrollership, which includes financial accounting and financial reporting. He also directs the production, review, and timely submission of various agenda items, management reports, and ad-hoc analyses that are provided to the Board of Regents, System Offices executive management, and member institutions and agencies.

Duron provides oversight of Human Resources, Procurement/HUB, Benefits Administration, centralized bookkeeping, and aircraft operations for the System Offices. He also assists the Governmental Relations Office and executive management regarding legislative issues, such as formula funding, statutory requirements related to tuition and fees, bill analysis, fiscal notes, and appropriation analysis. Most recently, he was appointed to serve on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's General Academic Formula Advisory Committee as a representative for Texas A&M University and the Research Universities accountability group. Duron has degrees in accounting and finance from Texas A&M University and is a Certified Public Accountant.



Joe Elabd, Ph.D.

Dr. Joe Elabd is the Vice Chancellor for Research at The Texas A&M University System, a system of 11 universities and eight state agencies with externally funded research expenditures exceeding \$1 billion annually. As the leader of the Texas A&M System Office of Research, Elabd is responsible for providing leadership and services to support all 19 system members in areas including intellectual property and commercialization, research compliance, research development, research partnerships, research security, and research strategy.

Elabd is also a professor and the Axalta Coating Systems Chair II in the Artie McFerrin Department of Chemical Engineering at Texas A&M University. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and served as a Senior Fellow at the Instituto di Studi Avanzati, Università di Bologna, and a Scholar in Residence at the Food and Drug Administration. He has received numerous research awards including the NSF CAREER Award, DuPont Science and Engineering Award, and the ARO Young Investigator Award. His research focuses on electrochemical energy (batteries, capacitors, fuel cells) and materials and polymer science, and he has authored over 130 research journal publications. Elabd has taught chemical engineering courses at all levels (freshmen, sophomore, junior, senior, and graduate).

Elabd received his Ph.D. and B.S., both in chemical engineering, from Johns Hopkins University and University of Maryland, Baltimore County, respectively, and was a National Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the U.S. Army Research Laboratory.



Fred Farias III, OD, MCSO

Fred Farias III, OD, MCSO, is President and CEO of 20/20 Vision Care, the chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and a member of the Texas Higher Education Foundation.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, former president of the Texas Optometric Association and the Rio Grande Valley Optometric Society, and a former member of the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees. He was the Texas Optometric Association's Optometrist of the Year in 2015 and the National American Optometric Association's Optometrist of the Year in 2016.

Farias served on the Texas Optometry Board and is a charter member of Optometry Cares - The AOA Foundation, a lifetime member of The University of Texas (UT) System Chancellor's Executive Committee and the UT-Austin Development Board, and a member of the UT Longhorn Foundation Athletic Advisory Council. He received the Outstanding Young Texas Exes Award from UT-Austin and, in 2017, received the Lifetime Achievement Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Southern College of Optometry. In 2019, he was named an Outstanding Alumnus by UT-Austin's Moody College of Communication.

Farias has served several community organizations, including the McAllen Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Council; InfantSEE, a no-cost program to provide eye care to infants nationwide; the Vannie E. Cook Cancer Center; the Rio Grande Valley Arthritis Foundation; and the Museum of South Texas History.

Farias has a Bachelor of Science from The University of Texas at Austin, a master's degree from Harvard Medical School, and a Doctor of Optometry from Southern College of Optometry.



Vanessa Garcia

Vanessa Garcia is the Academic Advising Coordinator of the Vick Advising Excellence Center at the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin), where she works to support exploratory students, students completing developmental education, and assists to help bridge inequities in advising training across campus.

Garcia started at UT-Austin in 2017 as an Associate Academic Advisor in the School of Undergraduate Studies. Before starting at UT-Austin, she was an academic coach at Texas State University, where she worked to support students through their first year in college. Additionally, she interned at Texas Lutheran University assisting with career counseling and Texas State University working with NCAA compliance.

Garcia believes that empathy plays a major part in academic advising and student-support services. She enjoys building rapport with her students to better understand their specific challenges and struggles while being as resourceful as possible. She is mindful of the importance of holistic growth of college students and wants them to feel fully supported throughout their college endeavors. Garcia strives to develop an environment that is open and inclusive to all students on campus. As the Academic Advising Coordinator of the Vick Advising Excellence Center, her goal is to provide the necessary tools for all advisors on campus to support students to the best of their abilities.



Garrett Groves

Garrett Groves is Vice Chancellor of Strategic Initiatives for the Austin Community College (ACC) District. He joined the college in February 2018 and leads the college's efforts to identify emerging needs, evaluate opportunities for collaboration, and build strategic partnerships.

Before joining ACC, Groves directed the Economic Opportunity Program at the Center for Public Policy Priorities and served as a scholar-in-residence at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, analyzing workforce practices and consumer credit conditions in the state. He has also served at the National Governors Association and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Groves has a master's degree from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin, a bachelor's degree from the University of Denver, and is expecting to complete his Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin in 2023.



Jeff Handy

Jeff Handy is the Director of the Vick Advising Excellence Center at The University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin), where he and his team aim to support academic advisors across campus by providing training, tools, and resources to empower advisors to deliver the highest levels of support to their students. He and the Vick Center team also advise students across campus who are looking for help exploring and changing majors.

Handy started at UT-Austin in 2015 as an Academic Advisor in the School of Undergraduate Studies and before that was an AmeriCorps member at the nonprofit College Forward, where he helped low-income and first-generation students earn a college degree.

Handy strives to support students in making informed decisions about their academic and career goals, and he believes excellent advising – made possible by well-trained advisors and purposeful tools and technologies – is one of the most effective resources we have to help every student feel empowered to navigate through and flourish from their experience in higher education.



Brenda Hellyer, Ph.D.

In 2009, Dr. Brenda Hellyer was appointed Chancellor of San Jacinto College, Texas' eighth-largest community college, with about 45,000 credit and noncredit students, five campuses, and several extension centers. The college opened its fifth campus at Generation Park in fall 2020. Before joining San Jacinto College, Hellyer worked in the corporate world as an accountant in both the private and public arena. She holds a Bachelor of Science in accounting from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas, a master's degree in business administration from the University of Texas at Austin, and a doctoral degree in community college leadership from the University of Texas at Austin. Hellyer is involved with various commissions, committees, and boards at the national, state, and local levels.



Jim Henson, Ph.D.

Jim Henson, Ph.D., teaches in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is the founder and Executive Director of the Texas Politics Project. The Texas Politics Project is a hub of research and public affairs work focused on providing nonpartisan resources for understanding Texas government and politics. As part of that work, in 2008, with Daron Shaw, he cofounded the longest running academic survey of public opinion in Texas; their latest work, released just a few weeks ago, was the 51st in that series of public polls.

Henson's writing about Texas politics has appeared in every major Texas media outlet, as well as a variety of publications, including *The Washington Post*, *The Hill*, *Texas Monthly*, *The Texas Tribune*, and others. He is the principal author of the *Texas Politics* textbook, published by Soomo Learning and used in introductory Texas government courses across the state, which is now in its 10th edition. He is a frequent resource for news media, researchers, and civic and interest groups.



Nelly R. Herrera, J.D.

Nelly R. Herrera, J.D., is the General Counsel for the Texas State University System (TSUS). She has been with the TSUS Office of General Counsel since July 2011. She is a magna cum laude graduate of St. Mary's University in San Antonio and received her Juris Doctor degree from the University of Texas School of Law.

Before joining TSUS, Herrera worked with the Texas Attorney General's Office, where she began her legal career as a law clerk. She first worked in the Consumer Protection Division but soon moved to the Tort Litigation Division, where she defended numerous governmental agencies throughout the state. She was promoted to Division Chief of the Tort Litigation Division, serving for 16 years under both Democratic and Republican attorneys general.

She began her career with TSUS as Associate General Counsel, assigned to the Texas State University campus, but has served as Deputy General Counsel since 2017, handling a variety of complex legal matters for the TSUS campuses and upper-level administration. She is board-certified in personal injury trial law. She received the 2009 Government Service Award from the Travis County Women Lawyers' Association.



K. Paul Holt

K. Paul Holt is currently the chair of the McLennan College Board of Trustees. He was appointed in August 1999 to fill an unexpired term. Subsequently reelected in 2002, 2008, 2015, and 2021, he was elected vice chair in 2008 and as chair in 2015. His "day job" is President/CEO of CentexAGC, the Central Texas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America. Holt attended Texarkana College before completing a Bachelor of Arts and pursuing master's work at Baylor University.



Woody Hunt

Woody Hunt of El Paso is Senior Chairman of the Board of Hunt Companies, Inc. Hunt is a member of the Texas Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors; a foundation trustee of the Texas Higher Education Foundation; a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center-Houston; Founding Chairman of the Borderplex Alliance in El Paso, where he now serves on the Board of Directors; a member and former chairman of the Texas Business Leadership Council; vice chair for the Council for Regional Economic Expansion and Educational Development.

Hunt has served numerous civic, nonprofit, and professional boards, including as chair of the Texas Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee; a board member for Complete College America; chair of the Texas Select Commission on Higher Education and Global Competitiveness; chair of the Paso del Norte Health Foundation; and as a member of the Western Governors University Texas Advisory Board, the Commission for College Ready Texas and the Texas Tax Reform Commission, the National Board of the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, the Texas Advisory committee on Higher Education Cost Efficiencies, the Task Force on Higher Education Incentive Funding, the Council for Continuous Improvement and Innovation in Texas Higher Education, and the Paso del Norte Community Foundation.

Hunt received a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance and a Master of Business Administration from The University of Texas at Austin and a Master of Arts in management from the Drucker School of Management at Claremont Graduate University.



Bobby Jenkins

Bobby Jenkins is the owner of ABC Home and Commercial Services, which employs over 1,000 people and offers a wide variety of services, including pest and termite control; lawn care and mowing; landscaping and irrigation; tree trimming and care; air conditioning and heating; plumbing and electrical; pool cleaning and repair; gutter cleaning, power washing, and window cleaning; handyman services; appliance repair; and water quality.

Jenkins is a past chair of the Austin Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; the current chair of Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority; and chair-elect of the Association of Former Students at Texas A&M University. He is a past president of both the Texas and National Pest Management Associations and the current chair of the Professional Pest Management Alliance. Jenkins currently serves on the executive committee of the Texas Business Leadership Council and is a past chair and current board member of the Better Business Bureau, Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse, and Alzheimer's Texas. He is a current board member for the American Heart Association, the United Way, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Foundation, and the E3 Alliance. He is co-founder and board chair of Recognize Good and currently serves on the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee chairing Austin Gives. He is a board member of the Moss Pieratt Foundation, the Friends of the ABC Kite Festival, and current chair of the Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood Foundation.

Jenkins is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a degree in business management.



Scott Jenkins

Scott Jenkins is the Strategy Director for State Policy at Lumina Foundation, an independent, private foundation in Indianapolis that is committed to making opportunities for learning beyond high school available to all. In that role, he leads the development and advancement of the foundation's state policy agenda.

Jenkins has an extensive background in institutional, state, and federal policy development and execution. Before joining Lumina, he served as the education policy director for two governors, John Engler of Michigan and Mitch Daniels of Indiana.

He also served as Director of External Relations for Western Governors University, and as a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the U.S. Department of Education in the George W. Bush administration.

Jenkins holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Central Florida.



Harrison Keller, Ph.D.

Dr. Harrison Keller is the Commissioner of Higher Education for the state of Texas and Chief Executive Officer for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

He is a sixth-generation Texan with more than two decades of experience in budget and policy, digital learning, senior university administration, management, fundraising, and building effective coalitions among school districts, community colleges, universities, systems, and policymakers.

Keller is a recognized innovator in policy and programs to improve college readiness and student success, especially for low-income and first-generation students. He is the founder of the OnRamps dual enrollment initiative, which provides college-level courses to tens of thousands of high school students across Texas, and the Texas OnCourse initiative, which aims to improve secondary college and career advising.

Before being appointed commissioner, he was Deputy to the President for Strategy and Policy and a Professor of Practice at The University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin). He previously served as Vice Provost for Higher Education Policy and Research, and Executive Director of the Office of Educational Innovation and the Center for Teaching and Learning at UT-Austin.

He holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Notre Dame and an M.A. and Ph.D. in philosophy from Georgetown University.

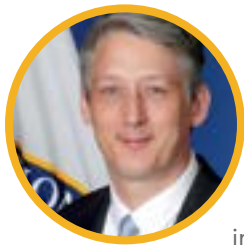


Sarah Keyton, J.D.

Sarah Keyton, J.D., is the Associate Commissioner for Administration at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), where she is responsible for advanced, senior-level planning, organization, and execution of core administrative functions. As a member of the commissioner's executive team, she is responsible for leading effective and efficient agency administration, including financial services, human resources, information technologies, and state funding to advance THECB's strategic priorities.

Before joining the THECB, Keyton served as the Associate Vice Chancellor for State Relations for the Texas Tech University System, where she was responsible for developing legislative and budget priorities and coordinating with system administration and elected officials. Keyton also worked for 14 years at the Legislative Budget Board, including four sessions as Assistant Director, where she served as the liaison to the Texas House of Representatives, oversaw the development of budget analysis and recommendations, and provided oversight and direction for agency operations.

Keyton earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Houston and received a Doctor of Jurisprudence from The University of Texas at Austin School of Law.



James Kvaal, J.D.

James Kvaal, J.D., is the U.S. Under Secretary of Education. He formerly served as the President of the Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS), a research and advocacy nonprofit dedicated to affordability and equity in higher education. TICAS is nationally recognized for its research and policy recommendations on student debt.

Kvaal served in the Obama administration as the Deputy Domestic Policy Adviser at the White House and Deputy Under Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education. He led efforts to cut student loan monthly payments, hold career colleges accountable for excessive debts, and make community colleges tuition-free. He helped organize the White House Summit on College Opportunity, which featured more than 100 college presidents and other leaders committing to actions to help more students graduate from college. He also has served in senior roles in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Kvaal taught at the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy and graduated with honors from Stanford University and Harvard Law School.



The Honorable Oscar Longoria, J.D.

The Honorable Oscar Longoria, J.D., is a member of the Texas House of Representatives, representing House District 35, encompassing Hidalgo and Cameron Counties.

In the 87th Legislative Session, Longoria was appointed to the House Energy Resources and County Affairs Committees. In previous sessions, Longoria served as vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee; chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Articles I, IV, and V on the Pensions, Investments and Financial Services Committee; a member of the Legislative Budget Board; and a member of the Local and Consent Calendars Committee.

Longoria attended South Texas College for one year before transferring to the University of Texas at Austin, where he graduated in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science in communication studies. In 2007, he graduated with his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Texas School of Law.

In fall 2017, Longoria received the 2017 Outstanding Young Texas Ex Award, awarded to Texas Exes 39 and younger who have made significant achievements in their careers and service to the university. In fall 2018, he was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award by The University of Texas at Austin School of Law, which honors a graduate, 40 or younger, who has made significant achievements in his or her career and service to the university.

Before his tenure in the Texas House, Longoria served as a board member on the Agua Special Utility District Board of Directors and as a trustee for South Texas College. He owns and operates the Law Office of Oscar Longoria.



Justin Lonon, Ph.D.

Dr. Justin H. Lonon is the Chancellor of Dallas College. He has provided executive and strategic leadership for Dallas College for more than 15 years, guiding the institution to fulfill its mission of “transforming lives and communities through higher education.”

Lonon served as a driving force in the consolidation of the 55-year-old Dallas County Community College District – and its seven colleges – into one Dallas College. With a keen focus on equity and inclusion, he championed the creation of the college’s inaugural Office of Social Responsibility and Inclusion.

Before joining Dallas College in 2005, Lonon worked in the private sector, providing public affairs counsel to local and national companies and nonprofit organizations. He began his career in Dallas at City Hall serving as Press Secretary for the Mayor’s Office.

Lonon serves on several national and local boards, including the Austin-based United Ways of Texas, the YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas’ Advancement Committee, the North Texas Crime Commission, the Dallas Father of the Year Awards, Rebuilding America’s Middle Class, COMBASE, a national consortium of leading community colleges, and as past chair of the Task Force on Higher Education Government Relations for the American Association of Community Colleges, among others.

Lonon has a bachelor’s degree in public administration from Missouri State University, a master’s degree in public administration from the University of North Texas, and a doctorate in management from the University of Maryland - Global Campus.



Russell Lowery-Hart, Ph.D.

Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart currently serves as President for Amarillo College, named a Top Five Institution by The Aspen Institute and awarded the institute’s Rising Star Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence in 2021.

Lowery’s leadership is focused on improving student success through systemic and cultural change centered on one word: love. Lowery developed the systemic Culture of Caring, targeting removal of poverty barriers that was featured in *The Atlantic* in 2018 and in the documentary *The Antidote*.



Andrea Marks

Andrea Marks is the Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UT Health San Antonio). She advises the President of UT Health San Antonio in all areas involving business and financial operations and is responsible for leading overall operations to align with the vision, strategic direction, and long-range plan of the institution. She plans, administers, and directs all day-to-day operational activities in existing facilities and programs, as well as for new ventures and sites. She directs 900 employees in strategic planning, financial management, business operations, facility operations, information management, human resources, legal affairs, compliance, public safety, internal audit, and other administrative functions within UT Health San Antonio. She oversees more than 4 million square feet of educational, research, treatment, and administrative facilities on five campuses in San Antonio and South Texas, including the development and execution of a \$992 million operating budget. Marks frequently represents UT Health San Antonio in business matters with the UT System and the state Legislature. Additionally, she is directly responsible for providing administrative and financial support systems for approximately 5,700 faculty and staff.

Marks received her Bachelor of Business Administration degree at The University of Texas at Austin in 1992 and her Master of Business Administration-Healthcare at Our Lady of the Lake University in 2008. She is a Certified Public Accountant with over 25 years of experience managing strategic, administrative, and financial operations in higher education within The University of Texas System.



Ray Martinez, III, J.D.

Ray Martinez, III, J.D., is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC). He provides leadership to advance state policy, institutional practice, and research - and develop multisector partnerships - to support Texas community colleges. Before joining TACC, Martinez was Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Workforce Education for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. He previously served as President of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas and Chancellor of Western Governors University Texas and held senior government affairs positions at Rice University and Texas A&M International University. He also served as the director of the Committee on Higher Education in the Texas Senate.

Martinez served in the Clinton administration as a Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and as Deputy Assistant to the President for Intergovernmental Affairs. President George W. Bush nominated him to serve as a commissioner on the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

Martinez was an adjunct professor of public policy at The University of Texas School of Law and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs and served on the Board of Trustees for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. He is a member of the Board of Governors for the Austin Community Foundation and the Austin PBS Board of Directors.

Martinez has a bachelor's degree from Southwestern University, a law degree from the University of Houston Law Center, and completed postgraduate studies at the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard Graduate School of Education.



Courtney McBeth, Ed.D.

Courtney McBeth, Ed.D., is the Senior Vice President and Chief Program Officer for Strada Education Network. In that role, McBeth oversees efforts related to Strada's fusion center, the organization's internal means for maximizing its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, she focuses on integrating Strada's research, work, and ideas into the broader network and coordinating additional partnerships with institutions, think tanks, universities, policy organizations, and employer groups. Additionally, she coordinates relationship building with institutions and employers, positioning Strada Education Network as an instrumental thought leader in transforming the postsecondary education-to-workforce system.

McBeth has a distinguished career in higher education, most recently as the Special Assistant to the President at the University of Utah. In that role, she led university wide strategic planning, presidential initiatives, and innovation efforts between four major research universities working to ensure the economic mobility of America's middle class. She previously managed the University of Utah's Eccles School of Business Sorenson Impact Center, a social impact and data science

center, and developed large-scale domestic and global internship programs at the Hinckley Institute of Politics.

McBeth holds a doctorate in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania. She received her bachelor's degree in political science and Master of Science in education from the University of Utah.



Kimberly McLeod, Ed.D.

Kimberly McLeod, Ed.D., is an education professional who has spent her career in public and higher education. She has served as a teacher, counselor, and administrator in public education, and her leadership experiences in higher education include serving Texas A&M University-Commerce (TAMU-Commerce), a regional rural institution in the Texas A&M System, and Texas Southern University (TSU), a historically Black university in Houston. She currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Economic and Academic Development for TAMU-Commerce, fostering external relations as the liaison to local and regional community stakeholders and representing the university in regional and statewide efforts to address educational and workforce issues facing the state, particularly issues for underrepresented groups and postsecondary credentials of value.

McLeod previously served as the Dean and Chief Academic Officer of TAMU-Commerce's College of Education and Human Services; Director of the Teaching and Learning Excellence Center; and Executive Director of Academic Affairs and Instruction and dean of a multidisciplinary university satellite campus. She is the immediate past president of the Texas Alliance of Black School Educators and the founding editor of the *National Journal of Urban Education* and has written eight academic books, three children's books, and various articles in peer-reviewed journals.

McLeod has been awarded Teacher of the Year by the College of Education at Texas Southern University and was the recipient of the YMCA Minority Achiever's Award. She is the project lead for a report on student success entitled "Reimagining Educational Achievement Cultures in Higher Education (REACH): Moving Texas Towards Student Success."



Elaine Mendoza

Elaine Mendoza is founder, President, and CEO of Conceptual MindWorks, Inc., a biotechnology and medical informatics company in San Antonio.

She has served on numerous boards and councils in the San Antonio area, including the Early Childhood Education Municipal Development Corporation Board of Directors, the P16Plus Council of Greater Bexar County, the CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health System Board of Directors, the Board of Directors for Health Care Service Corporation, The Bank of San Antonio, Mayor Castro's SA2020 Charting the Course for the Next Decade Steering Committee, the P16 Council Formation Committee, and the Task Force on Corporate Recruitment and Retention.

She served on the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board as secretary of the Board, chair of the Committee on Closing the Gaps, and as vice chair. Governor Perry also appointed her to the Commission for a College Ready Texas, and she served on Texas Governor Rick Perry's Special Commission on 21st Century Colleges and Universities. Nationally, she was appointed to the Commission on the Advancement of Women and Minorities in Science, Engineering and Technology, later being selected as chairperson.

Mendoza has served on the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents since 2011 on numerous committees and as chairman of the board. She received the Women's Legacy Award from the Aggie Women's Association in 2014 and received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Dwight Look College of Engineering at Texas A&M University in 2013.

Mendoza has a Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering from Texas A&M University.



The Honorable José Menéndez

The Honorable José Menéndez has served as the state senator for District 26 in San Antonio since 2015. Menéndez began his public service career when he was elected to the San Antonio City Council District 6 office. He was elected to serve as the state representative for House District 124 in 2000. He was later appointed to the Appropriations Committee and was appointed chair of the House Committee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs.

During his term in office, Melendez has passed over 200 bills benefitting children, seniors, veterans, and San Antonio families. He is a strong advocate for job growth, community, and business development. Along with his successful legislation, he has secured millions of dollars for advancements in education, healthcare, parks, and additional funding developments, including \$17 million for the Alamo Colleges.

Menéndez has received numerous accolades, including being named the "Texas Municipal League Legislator of the Year Award" in 2017; receiving the Mothers Against Drunk Driving "2017 Legislator of the Year" award; being named among "Leaders in Improving Mental Health Care" from the Center for Health Care Services; being named on the Texas Parent Teacher Association's "Legislative Honor Roll"; and being named "Senator of the Year" by the Combined Law Enforcement Association of Texas.

Menéndez earned degrees in business administration and Latin American studies at Southern Methodist University.



Mike Morath

Mike Morath was appointed Texas Commissioner of Education by Governor Greg Abbott in December 2015 and took office in January 2016.

As commissioner, he heads the Texas Education Agency, which oversees pre-kindergarten through high school education for more than 5 million students enrolled in both traditional public schools and charter schools.

Before becoming the state's education commissioner, Morath served on the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) Board of Trustees for more than four years. During that time, he focused on academic improvements, and by his final year on the board, DISD witnessed dramatic improvement in the areas of kindergarten readiness, fourth grade math proficiency on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, high school graduation rates, and minority student performance on Advanced Placement tests that outpaced all large urban districts in the country.

A strong advocate of public education, Commissioner Morath graduated from Garland High School in the Garland Independent School District. And thanks to the great public-school education he received in Texas, he went on to earn a Bachelor of Business Administration degree, summa cum laude, from George Washington University in two-and-a-half years.



Augustin "Augie" Rivera, Jr., J.D.

Augustin "Augie" Rivera, Jr., J.D., is the General Counsel for the Del Mar College District, where he serves as a member of the president's executive team. Rivera joined Del Mar College's administration in 2015, after more than 27 years of private practice in civil trial and appellate law throughout South Texas.

In 2008, the Corpus Christi Bar Association honored Rivera with the Judge Paul W. Nye Professionalism Award, which recognizes lawyers exemplifying high ethical standards, and in 2010, he was elected to membership in the American Law Institute. In 2011, the Texas Supreme Court appointed Rivera to serve on the Texas Board of Law Examiners, and he currently serves as chair of the board.

Rivera has presented nationally before the Association of Community College Trustees, the American Association of Community Colleges, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA). He serves as a board member of NACUA and the Texas Association of Community College Attorneys, and he is a member of the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education chapter at Del Mar College.

Rivera is a graduate of Yale University and Stanford Law School and was admitted to the Texas Bar in 1988. His professional credentials include admission to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. Federal Circuit Court of Appeals, and several U.S. District Courts.



Sanjay Sarma, Ph.D.

Sanjay Sarma, Ph.D., is a professor of mechanical engineering and was, until recently, the Vice President for Open Learning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). In his role as vice president, Sarma oversaw MIT's online education activities, including massive open online courses, new credentials, online professional education, and research in learning science. Between 2010 and 2012, he led the MIT team that helped establish the Singapore University for Technology and Design. Sarma's research spans RFID, IoT, and automotive and clean energy technologies. He serves on the boards of Aclara Resources, GS1 US, and Cleanlab and was founder of OATSystems, which was acquired by Checkpoint Systems in 2008. Sarma is the author of several books and over 200 academic papers.



Vijay Swarup, Ph.D.

Vijay Swarup, Ph.D., has led energy technology development at ExxonMobil since 2014. A 30-year veteran of ExxonMobil, he has held a variety of leadership roles in engineering, chemicals, and planning, from offices in Alberta, Canada, to Baytown, Texas.

Before his current position as Director of Technology, Swarup served as Vice President of Research and Development overseeing the company's research facility in Clinton, New Jersey. He has a doctorate in chemical engineering from Rutgers University and serves on the National Academies Board on Chemical Sciences Technology and the advisory boards for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Energy Initiative and the Singapore Energy Center.



Neera Talbert

Neera Talbert currently serves as the Managing Director of Energy and Sustainability for Microsoft's Data and AI Service Line. Her team supports customers' digital transformation agendas through the development of applied AI solutions. Previously, Talbert served as Vice President of Data and Analytics at CDK Global, as Vice President of Professional Services at Revolution Analytics, and as an Executive Director at SAS. Talbert's industry background includes energy, manufacturing, and healthcare.

Talbert holds a degree from Texas A&M University and is an active board member for the Texas A&M University College of Engineering. In her free time, she is active in her community as a volunteer in various STEM programs.



David Troutman, Ph.D.

David Troutman, Ph.D., is Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Innovation at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB). As a part of the leadership team, Troutman provides leadership on operational and strategic matters pertaining to all aspects of academic affairs and innovation, as well as to advance the goals of *Building a Talent Strong Texas* and the Governor's Tri-Agency Workforce Initiative. He has worked in Texas higher education for more than 15 years. Most recently, he served as the Chief Data Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research and Analysis at the University of Texas (UT) System, where he led a team of research and policy analysts to transform data into timely and meaningful information that supported the UT System initiatives and policy decisions across its 13 institutions.

Troutman has a national and state higher education presence, collaborating with federal and state agencies and nonprofit foundations, as well as serving on advisory boards for the National Student Clearinghouse Research Board and ACE's Carnegie Classification Technical Review Panel. This year, he was selected to serve as the inaugural Equity Value Fellow for the Institute for Higher Education Policy.

Troutman champions the use of data, policy, and practice to close success and equity gaps that exist throughout the K-12 to workforce pipeline. His work has been featured in peer-reviewed journals and various media outlets.



The Honorable Gary VanDeaver, Ed.D.

Dr. Gary VanDeaver is a representative in the Texas House of Representatives, representing House District 1. He serves on the House Committee on Appropriations, the House Committee on Public Education, and the Texas Commission on Community College Funding, which will make recommendations to the 88th Texas Legislature.

VanDeaver spent 33 years as an educator. After beginning his career as a vocational agriculture teacher, he became a school principal and completed a doctorate in educational administration. He most recently served as Superintendent of New Boston Independent School District before his initial election to the Texas House of Representatives in 2014.

While in the Legislature, VanDeaver has helped draft state budgets that held overall state spending below the rate of inflation and population growth. He has passed legislation for interests in House District 1, including bills relating to the election of trustees for Paris Junior College; appointment of bailiffs in Bowie County courts; additional powers for TexAmericas Center; and numerous public education bills. In the 87th Legislative Session, VanDeaver passed legislation to allow honorably retired peace officers to be buried in their uniforms; to align student completion of courses in high-demand, high-skilled, and high-wage programs in career and technical education with the state's accountability system; and to authorize the TexAmericas Center to issue bonds.

VanDeaver has served as president of the New Boston Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club, and has served on the board of directors of the Texas FFA, Red River County Farm Bureau, Bogata Rodeo Association, and Red River County Fair Association.



Michael Webber, Ph.D.

Michael E. Webber, Ph.D., is the Josey Centennial Professor in Energy Resources at the University of Texas at Austin (UT-Austin) and Chief Technology Officer of Energy Impact Partners, a \$3 billion cleantech venture fund. From September 2018 to August 2021, Webber was based in Paris, France, where he served as the Chief Science and Technology Officer at ENGIE, a global energy and infrastructure services company. Webber's expertise spans research and education at the convergence of engineering, policy, and commercialization on topics related to innovation, energy, and the environment. His book *Power Trip: The Story of Energy* was published in 2019 by Basic Books with an award-winning six-part companion series that aired on PBS, Amazon Prime, and iTunes, starting Earth Day 2020. He was selected as a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and as a member of the 4th class of the Presidential Leadership Scholars, a leadership training program organized by former presidents George W. Bush and William J. Clinton. Webber has authored more than 400 publications, holds six patents, and serves on the advisory board for *Scientific American*. Webber holds a BS and BA from UT-Austin, and an MS and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Stanford University. He was honored as an American Fellow of the German Marshall Fund and an AT&T Industrial Ecology Fellow on four separate occasions by the University of Texas for exceptional teaching.



Donna Williams

Donna N. Williams is a vice president and program manager for Parsons Transportation Group, Inc., a subsidiary of the Parsons Corporation, a global engineering and construction leader in facilities, advanced technology, and management processes. She has more than 30 years of program and project management, business development, and engineering design and construction experience in both government and private sectors.

Governor Greg Abbott appointed Williams to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board of Directors in 2018, where she has served as vice chair since 2021. Previously, she served 10 years on the Texas State University Board of Regents, including as vice chair and chair of the board. During her tenure, she was on the search committee for the current Commissioner of Higher Education, chaired the search committee for the chancellor of the Texas State University System, and participated in presidential search selections for several of the system's universities.

The recipient of numerous city, state, and national accolades for her work, Williams is a member of the Texas State University System Foundation Board of Directors, the Texas Higher Education Foundation Board, and the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women's Health National Advisory Board, as well as past board chair of the Justin F. Kimball High School Academy of Hospitality and Tourism. President George W. Bush appointed Williams as a director for the Corporation for National and Community Service from 2003-2006.

Williams has a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from Prairie View A&M University and is a recognized University Distinguished Alumnus.



Teri Zamora

Teri Zamora has served as Vice Chancellor of Fiscal Affairs at San Jacinto College since January 2018. She came to San Jacinto College from Houston Community College, where she served as Senior Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration.

In her role at San Jacinto College, Zamora oversees facilities services, construction, contracts and purchasing, auxiliary services, internal audit, safety and emergency management, budgets, accounting and financial services, grants management, and the police department.

Zamora has more than 20 years of increasingly responsible senior leadership experience in higher education. She has also served at South Texas College as its assistant controller, Paris Junior College as Vice President of Business Services, and in the Texas State Technical College System as Executive Vice President of Financial and Administrative Services and Associate Vice Chancellor of Institutional Research.

Zamora is excited about the role of community colleges in impacting the lives of students. She recently completed her term as president of the Texas Association of Community College Business Officers and sat for many years on the Community College Constituency Council of the National Association of College and University Business Officers.

Before entering higher education, Zamora had a career as a controller in the maquiladora industry in Mexico and was also part-owner and business manager of her family's retail business for many years.

She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting from the University of North Texas and a Master of Accountancy from the University of Texas-Pan American.



John M. Zerwas, M.D.

John M. Zerwas, M.D., is the Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs for The University of Texas System (UT System), providing oversight and guidance for the five UT System health institutions.

In 2020, Governor Abbott appointed Zerwas to the newly created Supply Chain Strike Force to assist with hospital and health care preparedness relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also serves on the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas and the State's Expert Vaccine Allocation Panel. In 2022, Zerwas received the Dr. Chuck Bauer Award from the Texas Division of Emergency Management, recognizing his contributions to emergency management through healthcare and instructional preparedness.

Before joining UT System, he served as a state representative for Texas House District 28 for seven terms, serving in several committees and earning numerous accolades, including twice being named one of the "Ten Best Legislators" by *Texas Monthly*, a Distinguished Alumnus by the University of Houston's College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and "BIO Legislator of the Year" by the Biotechnology Industry Organization. He has also received the National Distinguished Advocacy Award from the American Cancer Society Action Network and the American Medical Association's Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service.

Zerwas is past president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists, cofounded a group practice that became part of US Anesthesia Partners, and served as Chief Medical Officer and Chief Physician Integration Officer of the Memorial Hermann Hospital System.

Zerwas graduated from the University of Houston and earned his Doctor of Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine.

Thank you
for joining us for the

**2022 Texas Higher Education
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

See you next year!

THECB