



SACRS FALL CONFERENCE 2024



NOV. 12-15 • HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY HOTEL AND SPA • MONTEREY, CA

AGENDA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

2:00 PM - 6:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK

3:00 PM - 5:00 PM | PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

OPERATIONS TRAINING – LEVERAGING STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS FOR YOUR RETIREMENT SYSTEM

▶ LOCATION: Windjammer 1-4

In a time where there are shorter attention spans and information overload, it's never been more important to think outside the box. In this session, we'll talk about the importance of having a strategic communications plan, using surveys to improve member communication, how to benchmark member engagement, and strategies for ongoing optimization. You will also learn about the power of storytelling and how SBCERA has used this method to connect with our members, while building trust and credibility.

SPEAKERS: Olivia Applegate, Director of Communications and Stakeholder Relations, San Bernardino CERA and Christina Cintron, Chief of Member Services, San Bernardino CERA

ETHICS TRAINING FOR TRUSTEES AND STAFF: MORE THAN A CONCEPT ▶ LOCATION: Big Sur 1-3

This ethics training provides the information required for bi-annual training of public officials in California by AB 1234, and it also addresses key considerations for those public officials whose responsibilities arise from their role as trustees or executives of public retirement systems. *This class is approved for MCLE credit.

SPEAKERS: Ashley Dunning, Partner, Nossaman, LLP and Amber Maltbie, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION TRAINING FOR LOCAL AGENCY OFFICIALS ▶ LOCATION: Cypress 1-3

Nossaman, LLP attorney John Kennedy will present "Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Local Agency Officials (AB 1661)." AB 1661 requires that if a local agency provides any type of compensation, salary, or stipend to its officials, then all local agency officials of the agency shall receive at least two hours of sexual harassment prevention and education training within the first six months of taking office or commencing employment and every two years thereafter. This interactive training session will meet the requirements under AB 1661 and AB 1825 (sexual harassment prevention training to employees who perform supervisory functions) and assist attendees in preventing inappropriate conduct in the workplace.

*This class is approved for MCLE credit.

SPEAKER: John Kennedy, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS NETWORKING RECEPTION

Get pumped for the conference days ahead, as you build interactive collaborations, uncover new opportunities, and enjoy a great networking experience. All registered attendees welcome.



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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

AGENDA

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Mark Thomas Foyer

SACRS WELLNESS SESSION – YOGA

Ready your mind for an incredible conference day with a centering yoga class at the Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa, designed exclusively for SACRS attendees and guests. The session, led by a certified yoga instructor, is intended for everyone from beginner to expert. Water and towels are provided. Pre-registration onsite and a \$15 fee are required of all participants.

7:30 AM - 6:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS BREAKFAST

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

SACRS WELCOME – David MacDonald, Trustee, Contra Costa CERA, SACRS President; Presentation of the Flags; National Anthem Performed by SACRS Affiliate Sophia Santore, Hines; Pledge of Allegiance; Pipes and Drum Band; and Community Hero Award GI JOSIE

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

KEYNOTE GENERAL SESSION – POLITICIAN, AUTHOR, AND ANALYST JULIÁN CASTRO

Julián Castro has been at the forefront of some of the most innovative partnerships, programs, and achievements in the public sector. He is the Chief Executive Officer of the Latino Community Foundation, former Mayor of San Antonio, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development serving under President Barack Obama, and former Democratic Candidate in the 2020 Presidential Race. In this fireside chat, Julián will share his views on affordable housing, economic equality, and community revitalization. He will give a candid account of race and poverty in America, discuss his insights on neighborhood investments and resident connections to educational and economic opportunity in America's cities, and share his view that anyone can pursue their passion to change not only their own lives, but also their community, country, and world for the better.

SPEAKER: Julián Castro, Chief Executive Officer, Latino Community Foundation, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, former Mayor of San Antonio, Political Analyst and Author

MODERATOR: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – INVESTING IN THE ENERGY TRANSITION AS A RETURN SEEKING OPPORTUNITY

John Anderson from Manulife is a 30-year investor in the clean energy/renewable energy transition in the United States and sits on the investment committee of Manulife's \$310 billion global life insurance group, which includes John Hancock in the United States. In this fireside chat, John will share the investment experience that has led investors to overweight this sector, and how it has benefited their overall portfolio construction. John will focus on return-seeking strategies for generalist investors, how we have seen this investment activity take place in California, and where opportunities present themselves today and looking forward.

SPEAKER: John Anderson, Global Head of Corporate Finance and Infrastructure, Manulife Investment Management

MODERATOR: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications

11:40 AM - 12:40 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER'S PANEL - THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Join us for a fireside chat with Vince Smith, Chief Investment Officer from New Mexico State Investment Councils, and Tom Masthay, Deputy Chief Investment Officer at Texas Municipal Retirement System. This candid discussion will be led by Sam Austin with NEPC.

SPEAKERS: Robert "Vince" Smith, Chief Investment Officer, New Mexico State Investment Councils and Tom Masthay, Deputy Chief Investment Officer, Texas Municipal Retirement System

MODERATORS: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications and Sam Austin, Partner, NEPC



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AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 CONTINUED

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS LUNCH

2:00 PM - 4:30 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

ADMINISTRATORS BREAKOUT – Closed Session ▶ LOCATION: Oak Tree Room

MODERATOR: Amy Herron, Retirement Administrator, Ventura CERA

AFFILIATE BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

FAMILY FEUD – SACRS EDITION

Join us for an informative and highly entertaining session pitting Plan Sponsors against Consultants in this “SACRS-Style” Family Feud. With a line-up of Senior Investment professionals from the SACRS Plan Sponsors community competing against a team of leading Institutional Consultants, we’ll explore topics ranging from asset allocation and funded status to hot new strategies, overheated / oversold sectors and the market outlook across various asset classes. Audience participation is a must for this session with live Q&A surveys fueling the contest, so come prepared to be engaged!

MODERATOR: Michael Bowman, Managing Director, Marketing and Client Relations, ICG

ATTORNEYS BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Big Sur 1-3

DISABILITY RETIREMENT FOR RECIPROCAL MEMBERS UNDER CERL

This panel will review the law applicable to calculation of disability retirement allowances for members who are reciprocal with another CERL system or CalPERS

SPEAKERS: Frank Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel, Los Angeles CERA and Lori Nemiroff, General Counsel, Ventura CERA

PSYCHIATRIC DISABILITY IN RETIREMENT LAW

Overview of the law and a practical guide to evaluating psychiatric disability claims.

SPEAKER: Joon Kim, Staff Attorney, Orange CERS

DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDERS

SPEAKER: Christina Milligan, Assistant Chief Legal Officer, San Diego CERA

LITIGATION UPDATE

SPEAKER: Ashley Dunning, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

MODERATORS: Aaron Zaheen, General Counsel, San Joaquin CERA and Karen Levy, General Counsel, Contra Costa CERA

**This class is approved for MCLE credit.*

INTERNAL AUDITORS BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Spyglass Room

CYBERSECURITY RISKS AND TRENDS: PROTECTING RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND THEIR MEMBERS

This session will discuss how artificial intelligence has changed the cybersecurity landscape and what new threats retirement systems should be ready for.

SPEAKERS: Vijay Jagar, Chief Technology Officer, Alameda CERA and Peter Dewar, President, Linea Secure, LLC

EXECUTIVE RESPONSE TO A CYBER ATTACK

This session will run through a cybersecurity threat scenario and provide practical tips and best practices for mitigating the threat and ensuring business continuity.

SPEAKER: Marlon Montenegro, Security Analyst, Alameda CERA

MODERATOR: Harsh Jadhav, Chief of Internal Audit, Alameda CERA



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AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 CONTINUED

INVESTMENT BREAKOUT – Closed Session ▶ LOCATION: Windjammer 3-4

MODERATOR: SACRS Volunteer

OPERATIONS/BENEFITS BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Cypress Room

POWER BI

Power BI is a unified, scalable platform for self-service and enterprise business intelligence (BI), connect to and visualize any data. Learn how Los Angeles CERA retrieves valuable data, their processes, and how it helps with forecasting operational needs.

SPEAKERS: Maggie Luong, Los Angeles CERA, and Patti Montoya, Deputy Retirement Administrator, Fresno CERA

MODERATOR: Carlos Barrios, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Benefits, Alameda CERA

SAFETY BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Windjammer 1-2

MODERATOR: Skip Murphy, Trustee, San Diego CERA

TRUSTEE BREAKOUT ▶ LOCATION: Regency 4-6

Experience the Affiliate Breakout presentation "Family Feud – SACRS Edition" then follow up with the scheduled presentation. This is a two-part session with roundtable to follow presentations.

HOW TO SURVIVE THE "POLYCRISIS": NOTES ON LEADING AN ORGANIZATION THROUGH A CRISIS

Whether it's a pandemic, a data breach, or a legal or HR issue, every organization will face a crisis situation in coming years – or has already faced one. Crisis response is emerging as a required skill set for leaders of all important institutions, including pension funds.

SPEAKER: Michael Troncoso, Attorney, Robbins Geller Rudman and Dowd LLP

MODERATORS: Rhonda Biesemeier, Trustee, Stanislaus CERA, SACRS Board Member and Adele Lopez Tagalao, Trustee, Orange CERS, SACRS Vice President

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS ANNUAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT EVENT

How do you celebrate an incredible 70 years as an association? With a 70s themed party featuring a Neil Diamond tribute by special guest Steve Waddington! How good is he? Neil Diamond's own Mother said, "You sound and look so much like my son!" So, get ready to sing along with Steve and help SACRS celebrate this important milestone by dressing up and putting on your boogie shoes. After a day loaded with great information and insights, relax a little, network with colleagues, and join your SACRS family as we bring disco back! Prizes for best dressed individual, best dressed couple, and most original will be awarded.

SACRS 70th ANNIVERSARY

FALL CONFERENCE 2024

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 | 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

DRESS IN YOUR FAVORITE 70s ATTIRE
Special musical tribute to Neil Diamond by singer, guitarist, and vocal impressionist Steve Waddington!

PRIZES FOR ATTENDEES IN 70s ATTIRE:
Best dressed • Best dressed couple • Most original

NETWORKING • DINNER • DANCING • MUSIC



SACRS FALL CONFERENCE 2024

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AGENDA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS WELLNESS SESSION – FUN RUN

Slay your fitness goals, while taking in the beautiful Monterey Bay Ocean views, with a 3-mile course designed for the walker, jogger, or runner. This SACRS tradition is an additional opportunity for teambuilding and networking as you traverse an easy course down to the water's edge and back. Pocket maps, Fun Run swag, water, and a snack at the end of the run will be provided. Pre-registration onsite and a \$15 fee are required of all participants

7:30 AM - 6:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DESK

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS BREAKFAST

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

SACRS VOLUNTEER AWARDS – David MacDonald, Trustee, Contra Costa CERA, SACRS President

SACRS Volunteer Award recipients - Women In Institutional Investments Network (WIIIN), accepting award on behalf of WIIIN, Mary Ruth Newman, President, WIIIN; and the National Association of Securities Professional - Southern California Chapter (NASP SoCal Chapter), accepting the award on behalf of NASP SoCal Chapter, Norice Rice, Chapter President.

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Join us for a dynamic panel discussion on the urgent issue of affordable housing. With elevated mortgage rates impacting the demand for for-sale housing and a critical shortage of rental homes nationwide, the affordability gap between home ownership and rental is widening. Chronic underproduction of housing post-GFC has led to an all-time high in rental un-affordability, with 50% of US rental households facing cost burdens. Additionally, over 25% of all US households are grappling with energy cost concerns, while persistent inflation in shelter and services is eroding household savings. Don't miss this timely and insightful session as we delve into the challenges and solutions surrounding affordable housing in today's market.

SPEAKERS: Jennifer Keith, Managing Partner, Ethos Real Estate; Nadir Settles, Global Head of Impact Investing Sector, Nuveen; and Eric Smith, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner, Locust Point

MODERATORS: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications and Onay Payne, Portfolio Manager, Manulife Investment Management

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS NETWORKING BREAK

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – INTEREST RATES STILL HIGHER FOR LONGER, NOW WHAT?

Despite the Fed's rate cut this year, some anticipate a new normal of higher interest rates for longer. This presents both risks and opportunities for public pension plans. In this session, Shawn Wooden, Partner and Chief Public Pension Strategist at Apollo Global Management and former Treasurer of the State of Connecticut, discusses the state of public pension plans, current macro-economic conditions and how public pension CIOs, investment officers, and trustees should think about optimizing portfolio construction for today and tomorrow.

SPEAKER: Shawn Wooden, Partner and Chief Public Pension Strategist, Apollo Global Management

MODERATOR: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications

11:40 AM - 12:40 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – HOW TO INVEST IN THE GREATEST ASSET IN YOUR COMPANY – YOURSELF!

Former Colorado Rockies player and cancer survivor, Chris Vasami, will help equip the audience with the tools to work through their adversity, take action, realize what we are capable of and win their make-or-break moments. With spirited honesty, unique perspective, and soul-searching questions, everyone in the room will leave feeling encouraged, empowered, and inspired!

SPEAKER: Chris Vasami, Owner, Vasami Training and Vasami Method

MODERATOR: Kellie DeMarco, President, Kellie DeMarco Communications



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AGENDA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 CONTINUED

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS LUNCH

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CONCURRENT SESSION A – PRIVATE CREDIT; BALANCING YIELD AND RISK IN TODAY’S ECONOMY ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

This session will examine the latest trends in private credit, focusing on growth opportunities and risk management in a changing economic environment. Two experts will provide insights on the private credit landscape, discussing how the industry is evolving across economic, regulatory and other factors.

SPEAKERS: Brian D’Arcy, Partner, Sixth Street and Jason Breaux, Managing Director, Crescent Capital

MODERATOR: Scott Whalen, Executive Managing Director, Senior Consultant, Verus Investments

CONCURRENT SESSION B – PRIVATE MARKETS; GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE ▶ LOCATION: Regency 4-6

You’ve decided to add or adjust the private markets in your investment program, how should you go about it? Pros and cons of different approaches to investment program construction, useful guidelines to consider, and common pitfalls to avoid.

SPEAKER: Daniel Hennessy, CFA, CAIA, Senior Consultant, NEPC, LLC

MODERATOR: Vivian Gray, Trustee, Los Angeles CERA, SACRS Past President

CONCURRENT SESSION C – NAVIGATING THE TURBULENCE; FINDING OPPORTUNITIES IN GLOBAL REAL ESTATE

▶ LOCATION: Cypress Room

We are living in the aftermath of a global pandemic, an unprecedented set of interest rate hikes, and some property investors that made exuberant growth assumptions. Listen to four seasoned real estate investment professionals as they discuss how they’re finding pockets of opportunity in a landscape of uncertainty and turmoil.

SPEAKERS: Thomas Wagner, Head of North American Real Estate and Senior Managing Director, Cerberus Capital Management; Krysto Nikolic, Global Head of Real Estate, ICG; and Kevin Ng, Head of US Structured Credit, Tilden Park Capital

MODERATOR: Chae Hong, Partner, AON

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS NETWORKING BREAK

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CONCURRENT SESSION A – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2024 ▶ LOCATION: Cypress Room

This session will provide an update on the recently concluded 2024 legislative session and Governor’s bill signings, California election analysis, and a preview of the 2025 legislative session.

SPEAKERS: Cara Martinson and Laurie Johnson, SACRS Legislative Advocates

MODERATORS: Eric Stern, Chief Executive Officer, Sacramento CERS and Dave Nelsen, Chief Executive Officer, Alameda CERA

CONCURRENT SESSION B – CURRENT STATE OF AI IN THE PUBLIC PENSION INDUSTRY OPERATIONS AND MEMBER SERVICES

▶ LOCATION: Regency 4-6

This interactive session explores how AI is currently being adopted in the public pension industry to improve operations and member services. Attendees will review case studies and real-world examples that demonstrate how AI automates tasks, boosting efficiency, and enhancing data and technical capabilities within public pension funds. Participants will gain practical knowledge on how AI is transforming the public pension landscape.

SPEAKERS: Peter Dewar, President, Linea Secure and Nathan Haws, Associate Principal Consultant, Linea Solutions



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AGENDA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14 CONTINUED

CONCURRENT SESSION C – PRIVATE EQUITY THEN AND NOW ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

This session will explore how private equity has changed over the past several decades, the current state of the industry, and considerations for what the future may hold in terms of performance, governance and its role in asset allocation.

SPEAKER: Tom Masthay, Deputy Chief Investment Officer, Texas Municipal Retirement System

MODERATOR: Christian McCormick, Senior Consultant, NEPC, LLC

CONCURRENT SESSION D – DOES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IMPACT THE INVESTMENT WORLD AND FIDUCIARY DECISIONS?

▶ LOCATION: Big Sur Room

A thought provoking and audience-driven discussion on the issues and considerations facing fiduciaries as AI is integrated into the investment process.

SPEAKER: Renaye Manley, Fellow, Harvard Center for Labor and a Just Economy

MODERATOR: Michael Ring, Assistant Director, Strategic Initiatives Department, SEIU

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Spyglass Room

SACRS EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Mark Thomas Room

SACRS NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEETING

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS NETWORKING RECEPTION

As SACRS Fall Conference nears its close, come together for our last evening together to discuss all that you have learned and to meet up with new colleagues and friends. All registered attendees welcome.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Monterey Ballroom

SACRS BREAKFAST

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

GENERAL SESSION – CORPORATE GOVERNANCE IN EMERGING MARKETS

Join as international thought leader on private equity, mergers & acquisitions, operational value creation, and corporate governance, Peter Goodson, shares his take on Corporate Governance in Emerging Markets. A lively discussion all Trustees won't want to miss. The discussion will be led by Greg LaBlanc, SACRS resident professor from the UC Berkeley Program held each July.

SPEAKERS: Peter Goodson, Distinguished Teaching Fellow, UC Berkeley, Haas School of Business and Greg LaBlanc, Lecturer, Distinguished Teaching Fellow, Economic Analysis and Policy, Finance, UC Berkeley, Haas School of Business

MODERATOR: David MacDonald, Trustee, Contra Costa CERA, SACRS President

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Foyer

SACRS NETWORKING BREAK

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM ▶ LOCATION: Regency Ballroom

SACRS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

SPEAKERS: SACRS Board of Directors - David MacDonald, Contra Costa CERA, President; Adele Lopez Tagalao, Orange CERS, Vice President; Jordan Kaufman, Kern CERA, Treasurer; Zandra Cholmondeley, Santa Barbara CERS, Secretary; David Gilmore, San Diego CERA, Board Member; Rhonda Bieseimeier, Stanislaus CERA, Board Member



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AGENDA

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