



To the  
**Promised Land**  
Immigrants in California and Israel

Monday, June 16, 2003  
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Milken Institute

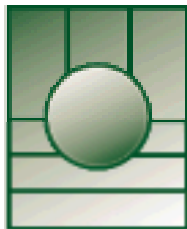
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POLICY INSTITUTE



THE  
JEWISH  
FEDERATION  
JEWISH COMMUNITY  
RELATIONS COMMITTEE

# Program

## **Continental Breakfast and Registration**

8:30 – 9:15 a.m.

## **Opening Plenary Session**

9:15 – 10:00 a.m.

- The Honorable Rocky Delgadillo, Los Angeles City Attorney
- The Honorable Jack Weiss, Los Angeles City Councilmember

## **First Concurrent Sessions:**

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

### **THE POLITICS OF ABSORPTION: IMMIGRATION AND OUR POLITICAL SPHERE**

- *Dr. Raphael Sonenshein, California State University, Fullerton, moderator*
- Dr. Lou DeSipio, University of California, Irvine
- Dr. Menachem Hofnung, Hebrew University in Jerusalem
- Hani Zubida, New York University

### **THE MECHANISMS OF ABSORPTION: THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT**

- *David Lehrer, Community Advocates, Inc., moderator*
- Dr. Fernando Guerra, Center for the Study of Los Angeles, LMU
- Dr. H. Eric Schockman, Little Hoover Commission
- Sylvia Temkin, Israel Education Fund, United Jewish Communities

## **Second Concurrent Sessions:**

11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### **MELTING POT OR MOSAIC? IDENTITY AND IMMIGRATION**

- *David Ayón, Center for the Study of Los Angeles, LMU, moderator*
- Dr. Samuel Edelman, California State University, Chico
- Moctesuma Esparza, Esparza/Katz Productions
- Aviva Zelter-Zubida, City University of New York Graduate Center

### **THE BOTTOM LINE: ECONOMIC BENEFITS AND COSTS OF IMMIGRATION**

- *Dr. Glenn Yago, Milken Institute, moderator*
- Joel Kotkin, Milken Institute
- Dr. Anat Lechner, New York University
- José de Jesús Legaspi, The Legaspi Company

## **Luncheon and Closing Plenary Session**

12:15 – 2:00 p.m.

- *Dr. Raphael Sonenshein, CSU Fullerton, moderator*
- David Ayón, Center for the Study of Los Angeles, LMU
- Moctesuma Esparza, Esparza/Katz Productions
- Zvi Vapni, Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles
- Dr. Glenn Yago, Milken Institute

# Biographies

## **The Honorable Rocky Delgadillo Los Angeles City Attorney**

Los Angeles City Attorney Rockard J. (Rocky) Delgadillo was elected in June 2001, making him the highest-ranking Latino to win citywide office in Los Angeles in over 100 years. His top priorities include improving public safety and quality of life in LA's neighborhoods through crime prevention, implementing positive and effective police reform, and reducing the City's liability expenditures allowing the city to use precious taxpayer dollars to fund after school programs and other city services.

Prior to being elected City Attorney, Delgadillo served as Deputy Mayor of Economic Development for Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan. Before entering public service, Delgadillo was a Senior Attorney at O'Melveny and Myers in Los Angeles. He left the firm in the wake of the 1992 civil unrest to join in the efforts to re-build Los Angeles as Director of Business Development for Rebuild LA.

Rocky Delgadillo is a native Angeleno. Raised in Los Angeles' Highland Park neighborhood, he attended public schools and graduated from Franklin High School. He earned a scholarship to Harvard University where he graduated with honors, achieving the University Nomination for a Rhodes Scholarship, and earned recognition as an All-American football player. After a brief career as a professional football player, Rocky returned home to Los Angeles to teach and coach the City's public schools. He earned his Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School.

## **The Honorable Jack Weiss Los Angeles City Councilmember, Fifth District**

Jack Weiss was elected to the Los Angeles City Council in June 2001 to represent the Fifth Council District, which spans the hillsides to include parts of the San Fernando Valley and West Los Angeles. His top priorities are to strengthen City services and to respond to community concerns. This dedication to creating a better Los Angeles guides his service as Chair of the Council's Arts, Health and Humanities Committee, which oversees the City's extensive system of parks and recreation facilities, libraries, senior centers, the zoo, and cultural and historic affairs. He also serves as Vice Chair of the Council's Budget and Finance Committee and is on the Council's Public Safety Committee. Prior to his election, Councilmember Weiss served as an Assistant United States Attorney in Los Angeles, where he was assigned to the Public Corruption and Government Fraud Section.

Councilmember Weiss received his law degree from UCLA, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the UCLA Law Review. He served as a law clerk to United States District Court Judge Lourdes G. Baird and practiced law in Century City prior to his service in the United States Attorney's Office. Councilmember Weiss received his undergraduate degree with honors from

Princeton University, where he majored in the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Before returning to law school, he worked as a foreign policy adviser on Capitol Hill and as an arms control researcher in Washington, D.C.

**David R. Ayón**

**Center for the Study of Los Angeles, Loyola Marymount University**

David R. Ayón is Senior Research Associate at The Center for the Study of Los Angeles of Loyola Marymount University, and an independent political analyst, writer and lecturer. He has been Associate Director of the California-Mexico Project of the USC School of International Relations and research fellow of the UCSD Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies; taught politics and U.S.-Latin American relations at six colleges and universities, including two campuses of the University of California, Stanford, and USC; worked as analyst, consultant, and special producer for Spanish language television news during seven electoral cycles in the U.S. and three in Mexico from 1992-2001, and contributed numerous essays on Mexican and Latino politics to the op-ed and Sunday Opinion pages of Los Angeles Times since 1983 . Ayón is currently working on a book on the presidency of Vicente Fox, in collaboration with Pamela Starr of the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM).

**Louis DeSipio, Ph.D.**

**University of California, Irvine**

Louis DeSipio, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Chicano/Latino Studies Program at the University of California, Irvine. He is the author of *Counting on the Latino Vote: Latinos as a New Electorate* (1996, Charlottesville, VA: University Press of Virginia) and the co-author, with Rodolfo O. de la Garza, of *Making Americans/Remaking America: Immigration and Immigrant Policy* (1998, Boulder, CO: Westview Press). He is also the author and editor of a six-volume series on Latino political values, attitudes, and behaviors. The seventh volume in this series, on Latino politics in the 2000 election, will be published in 2004. DeSipio's research focuses on Latino politics, on the process of political incorporation of new and formerly excluded populations into U.S. politics, and on public policies such as immigration, immigrant settlement, naturalization, and voting rights.

From 1995 to 2002, Professor DeSipio was on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he served as Interim Director of the Latina/Latino Studies Program and associate professor in the Department of Political Science.

**Samuel Edelman, Ph.D.**

Dr. Samuel M. Edelman is a professor of Jewish and Holocaust Studies as well as rhetoric and Communication Studies. He is the founder of the program in Modern Jewish and Israel Studies at the California State

University Chico in Northern California and its current director. Dr. Edelman is also the coordinator of the California State University Statewide Modern Jewish Studies BA Degree. Dr. Edelman has just been appointed Director of the California State Center of Excellence in Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Tolerance Education and chief liaison to the State Taskforce on Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights and Tolerance Education.

His Ph.D. is in Communication Studies and Jewish Studies from the University of Arizona and his BA and MA are from the Pennsylvania State University. He has been an academic for 33 years. Dr. Edelman has been a consultant in public speaking, intercultural communication and organizational communication to numerous companies and governmental organizations in the United States, Israel and South Africa. He lectures on the topics of Jewish rhetoric, the Arab Israeli Peace negotiations, the Holocaust as well as on the use of modern technology for distance learning.

**Moctesuma Esparza  
Esparza/Katz Productions**

Moctesuma Esparza, award-winning filmmaker, producer, entertainment executive and entrepreneur is well known for his contribution to the movie industry and his commitment to providing access and opportunities for Latinos in Hollywood. A partner in the highly successful Esparza/Katz Productions, his production credits include: *Introducing Dorothy Dandridge*; *Gettysburg*; *The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez*; and *The Milagro Beanfield War*. He has won over 200 awards, including an Emmy for *Cinco Vidas* and an Academy Award nomination for *Agueda Martinez - Our People, Our Country*. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Esparza has maintained his commitment to the Latino Community from his first *Only Once in a Lifetime* (1979) to one of his best-known efforts, *Selena*. As an entrepreneur he acquired the franchise for the first all Latino owned Cable Company, Buenavision Cable TV in East L.A., Today, in addition to producing films he is also establishing a chain of Latino theatres called Maya Cinemas. Mr. Esparza now chairs the *New America Alliance Institute*, an organization of American Latino business leaders united to promote the economic advancement of the Latino Community in America.

**Fernando J. Guerra, Ph.D.**

**Center for the Study of Los Angeles, Loyola Marymount University**

Fernando J. Guerra, Ph.D., is Director of the Center for the Study of Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University. He is a tenured Associate Professor of Political Science. Dr. Guerra earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science from the University of Michigan, and his B.A. in International Relations, with a University Certificate in Latin American Studies, from the University of Southern California in 1980. Dr. Guerra has written several scholarly articles and has also contributed to popular publications. His area of scholarly work is in state and local politics and

urban and ethnic politics. He is currently working on a book on the political empowerment of Latinos in California.

Dr. Guerra previously served as a Mayoral appointee to the Board of Transportation Commissioners and previously served on the Board of the Rent Adjustment Commission for the City of Los Angeles. He has also served as a board member of the Los Angeles-Mexico City Sister Cities Committee, the Board of Directors of Days of Dialogue, the Skirball Institute, the California Center for Education in Public Affairs, Inc., and the Center for Non-Profit Management. Dr. Guerra is also general partner of Guerra & Associates, which provides strategic planning for political, civic, business and non-profit entities.

**Menachem Hofnung, Ph.D.**  
**Hebrew University in Jerusalem**

Menachem Hofnung has a Ph.D. degree in political science and a law degree from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Since 1990 he has been teaching at the

Department of Political Science of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Dr. Hofnung also taught at the University of California at Irvine San Francisco State University, and was a Research Fellow at the Center for Law and Society at the University of California at Berkeley.

Currently Dr. Hofnung is on sabbatical at the University of Florida at Gainesville where he is also teaching in Political Science and Law. Dr. Hofnung specializes in constitutional politics and comparative campaign finance.

**Joel Kotkin**  
**Milken Institute**

Joel Kotkin is a Senior Fellow at the Milken Institute in the Regional and Demographic Studies group examining the relationship between metropolitan real estate markets and high-tech startups. He is an expert on global and regional economic, political and social trends. Kotkin is also a Senior Fellow at the Davenport Institute for Public Policy at Pepperdine University. He is the author of numerous books *including Tribes: How Race Religion and Identity Determine Success In the New Global Economy* and *The New Geography: How the Digital Revolution Is Reshaping the American Landscape*. Kotkin is a contributing editor to the *Los Angeles Times* Opinion section as well as a frequent contributor to *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Kotkin attended the University of California, Berkeley.

**Anat Lechner, Ph.D.**  
**New York University**

Anat Lechner is a Professor of Management at the Stern School of Business, New York University. During the past 14 years, Dr. Lechner has developed a

diverse teaching portfolio of organization management courses customized to meet the learning needs of domestic and international Executives and MBA students. Prior to coming to NYU, Dr. Lechner has taught on the executive program of Cornell University SILR and Rutgers Business IEMBA. She has been acknowledged as an outstanding educator and is the recipient of the GE teaching excellence award.

Dr. Lechner also served as a research fellow with McKinsey & Co. where she conducted cross-industry best organizational practices research, and developed consulting and training materials for McKinsey's engagement teams worldwide. Dr. Lechner's research focuses on identifying new knowledge creation mechanisms within networked and multidisciplinary organization designs. Dr. Lechner's consulting projects involve leading firms within the financial services, chemicals and pharmaceuticals industries on organizational design and practices related to the transition towards solution oriented and collaborative systems. She holds an MBA and a Ph.D. degree in Organization Management awarded by Rutgers University, and a B.Sw. from Tel-Aviv University.

**José de Jesús Legaspi**  
**The Legaspi Company**

José de Jesús Legaspi is Owner and President of the Legaspi Company, a full service commercial development and brokerage firm, specializing in retail project development, sales and leasing, econometric consulting and retail tenant representation. He represents national U.S. companies as well as retailers from Mexico such as Gigante, a 250+ supermarket store chain and FAMSA, a 280+ furniture, appliance and electronics retail chain. Over the past 20 years, Legaspi developed an inner city market niche, especially in areas with high densities of Hispanic consumers. He is an expert on Hispanic consumerism with a reputation for the successful marketing and revitalization of urban/downtown areas. He is involved in many creative mixed-use projects throughout Hispanic America involving housing, retail and educational components. Legaspi's civic endeavors include the Board of Regents for Loyola Marymount University and chairman of the board of directors for the Los Angeles Community Design Center, a low income housing developer, among many others. Legaspi holds a B.Sc. degree from Loyola Marymount University of Los Angeles.

**David A. Lehrer**  
**Community Advocates, Inc.**

David A. Lehrer is the president of Community Advocates, Inc., a new, Los Angeles based human relations organization chaired by former mayor Richard J. Riordan and affiliated with USC. For seventeen years he served as the Director of the Pacific Southwest Region of the Anti-Defamation League, after having been its counsel for eleven years. Mr. Lehrer is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UCLA where he received a B.A. in Political Science. He attended UCLA Law School and earned a Juris Doctor degree in 1973. He is

a leading expert on inter-group relations and extremist group activities. He has served on governmental commissions dealing with the issues of hate crimes and terrorism. In 1997, he was appointed by then Mayor Riordan to the Board of Library Commissioners of Los Angeles and served for two years as its president, overseeing the 67-branch Los Angeles Public Library system with an annual budget approaching \$90 million.

**H. Eric Schockman, Ph.D.  
Little Hoover Commission**

H. Eric Schockman, Ph.D. is the Executive Director of MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger, a position he has held since January 2001. A public policy expert and an authority on hunger and poverty issues, Dr. Schockman was appointed by California State Assembly Speaker Emeritus Antonio Villaraigosa to serve on the Little Hoover Commission, a bipartisan, independent body whose function is to promote efficiency, effectiveness and economy in state programs. He has also written several books and edited many articles on politics in California and presented on panels on this same topic. Dr. Schockman holds a Ph.D. in Political Science and International Relations and both a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, all from the University of California. Dr. Schockman lives in Sherman Oaks, California.

**Raphael J. Sonenshein, Ph.D.  
California State University, Fullerton**

Raphael J. Sonenshein, professor of political science at California State University, Fullerton, received his B.A. in public policy from Princeton University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from Yale University. He has written extensively on the politics and governance of Los Angeles, particularly the relationships among racial and ethnic groups. His book *Politics in Black and White: Race and Power in Los Angeles* (Princeton University Press, 1993) received the 1994 Ralph J. Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association as the best political science book of the year on the subject of racial and ethnic pluralism.

Dr. Sonenshein served as Executive Director of the City of Los Angeles (Appointed) Charter Reform Commission between 1997 and 1999. In 1999, he was selected as consultant to the City of Pasadena Charter Reform Task Force on School District Governance. In 2001, Dr. Sonenshein was selected as the second Fellow of the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation to serve an 18 month term beginning in July, 2001. In both 1997 and 2001, Dr. Sonenshein served as the political consultant to the election-day Los Angeles Times Poll.



## **Sylvia Temkin**

### **Israel Education Fund, United Jewish Communities**

Born in Mexico, Sylvia Temkin immigrated to Israel in 1971. She holds a degree in Psychology and did graduate studies in Psychology and Education at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Columbia University in New York. In 1985, Ms. Temkin was appointed Pedagogic Coordinator of the Young Leaders Training Institute at the Jewish Agency's Kiryat Moriah Education Campus in Jerusalem. Shortly afterwards she was promoted to Assistant Director General of the Youth Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency. In 1992 she became Director of Overseas Relations for Youth Aliyah, a position she held until her recent appointment as Western Area Director of the Israel Education Fund in the United States. Fluent in English, Hebrew and Spanish, she lectures on Jewish and Israeli topics, with expertise in social and educational issues.

## **Zvi Vapni**

### **Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles**

Zvi Vapni assumed the position of Deputy Consul General in the Consulate General of Israel in Los Angeles as of August 2000.

Mr. Vapni arrived in Los Angeles after heading the Congressional Desk of the North American Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this capacity, he coordinated relations between the Israeli government and the American Congress, and followed the Congressional arena, with specific emphasis on legislative activity regarding Israel and the Middle East. During his career as a professional diplomat, Mr. Vapni served as Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of Israel in Sofia, Bulgaria, and as Deputy Consul General in the Consulate General of Israel in Atlanta.

Born in Petach Tikva in 1963, Mr. Vapni served with the Israeli Defense Forces in Military Intelligence from 1982 to 1985. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in both Jewish and European History from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he received his Master's Degree in European History in 1991. While working for his degrees, he led tours specializing in the history and archaeology of Jerusalem, and he lectured at the Open University, which afforded him the opportunity to teach and travel throughout Israel.

## **Glenn Yago, Ph.D.**

### **Milken Institute**

Glenn Yago is Director of Capital Studies at the Milken Institute. He specializes in financial innovations, financial institutions and capital markets, and has extensively analyzed public policy and its relation to high-yield markets, initial public offerings, industrial and transportation concerns, and public and private sector employment. Yago has worked on financial innovations transfer and privatization projects in the Middle East since 1996, primarily in Israel, Jordan and in cooperation with the Palestinian Authority.

Yago's efforts were instrumental in the issuance of the first municipal bond in the country's history to finance a development project in Tel-Aviv, and in spurring significant legislative amendments to democratize Israel's capital markets. Yago received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**Aviva Zeltzer-Zubida**  
***City University of New York***

Aviva Zeltzer-Zubida was born in Russia, raised in Israel and is currently living in the United States. She earned her B.A in Sociology from Tel-Aviv University, her M.A in Sociology from Queen College and is a Ph.D candidate at the Sociology Program at Graduate Center of the City University of New York. For the past 5 years Aviva was part of a research team conducting a large-scale study of second-generation immigrants in New York City. As a researcher for this project she interviewed second generation Russian Jews in the New York area, and analyzed the survey data for the study. Aviva's interest in immigration issues is partly due to personal experiences and partly because of her sociological interest in social inequality, race and ethnicity. Her work on the identity of second generation Russian Jews was published in *Common Quest* and is about to be published in a forthcoming book.

**Hani Zubida**  
***New York University***

Hani Zubida was born in Baghdad, Iraq and was raised in Israel. Mr. Zubida completed his B.A. at Tel Aviv University majoring in Political Science and Sociology. He worked as a statistical analyst concentrating on the Israeli society and electoral system. He then received an M.A. at Tel Aviv University in Political Science.

Currently Hani is a Ph.D. candidate at New York University in the Politics department where he also earned a masters degree. He is specializing in comparative politics, methodology, voting behavior, specifically social mobility, Israeli democracy and its socio-economic and political realms, and the Middle East peace process. Mr. Zubida is the co-author of two publications, recipient of several grants and prizes, and has taught in Israel.

