The Future of Publicly Funded Education

Wednesday, October 7th
12:00 - 1:00pm

In light of the community concerns regarding COVID-19, this talk will be given as a webinar. The link will be provided on October, 6th to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Monday, October 5th at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

The governor and legislative leaders struggle to weigh competing priorities with shrinking revenues. In their first pandemic-era budget, they backstopped poor families and the jobless, along with protecting efforts to support young children. Higher education fared poorly, while K-12 schools fell in between. Going forward how can Sacramento (a) guard against ever widening disparities in learning, (b) aid teachers to innovate with blended learning, and (c) entertain new revenue options as corporate earnings rebound?

Superintendent Delaine Eastin, was in the California State Assembly from 1986 to 1994 representing the 18th and 20th district. She served as the 25th Superintendent of Public Instruction of California from 1995 to 2003. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of California Davis and a Master of Arts in political science from the University of California Santa Barbara, as well as a California Lifetime Community College credential. She held positions such as an instructor at California Community Colleges, accounting manager of Pacific Bell, city council member of Union City, California, corporate planner of the Pacific Telesis Group and assemblywoman of the California State Legislature. Ms. Eastin's strong reputation in these roles led her to be elected to the post of superintendent of public instruction at the California Education Department, where she served two terms for a total of eight years. She was notably the first and only woman to be elected to the post, and was the fourth woman to be a constitutional officer in California. After this, Ms. Eastin became the executive director of the National Institute for School Leadership and a distinguished professor of educational leadership at Mills College. One of the highlights of Ms. Eastin's career was orchestrating a class size reduction in the state of California for kindergarten through third grade. Another highlight was writing the biggest landfill clean-up bill in California's history. She was named Legislator of the Year by the California School Boards Association three times, an Outstanding Public Official by the California Teachers Association and an Outstanding Business Woman by the American Business Women's Association, among many others. She is also particularly proud to have an elementary school in Union City named after her, as well as an early childhood developmental center in Fremont and a high school art gallery in Healdsburg.

Bruce Fuller is Professor of Education and Public Policy at UC Berkeley. His work focuses on the early learning of young children and how families and schools advance their development. He was trained in the sociology of education at Stanford University. A former researcher at the World Bank, he taught at Harvard University before returning to California. Professor Fuller is author of Standardized Childhood and Organizing Locally. He is finishing a book on the history of civic activism and school reform in Los Angeles.

For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu

The views and opinions expressed during this lecture are those of the speaker and do not necessarily represent the views of UCCS.