



UC Center Sacramento

Workforce Development Policy in California

Wednesday, January 13th

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 January 12th to those that have registered by 5:00 pm on Monday, January 11th at uccs.ucdavis.edu.

“What Have We Learned From the Past 40 Years of Anti-Poverty and Job Training Programs in California.” *In the late 1970s, California policymakers were focused on the big economic issues facing the state: the growing wage inequality, the declining middle of jobs, technology eliminating jobs, and growing benefit rolls. These are the same big economic issues in California government today. Why is this, despite billions of dollars in government programs. Mr. Bernick will discuss the job training and anti-poverty programs that our state government has undertaken, and lessons for California going forward.*

“Coordinating Programs to Support Marginalized Workers: Lessons from Los Angeles County.” *Based on an evaluation of workforce development for the County of Los Angeles, Dr. Hinkley will talk about the most promising strategies for helping people who face significant barriers to sustainable employment and economic security. Counties oversee or are home to a complex range of programs: social services, parole and reentry, housing supports, general relief, federal TANF, workforce development, and more. How can these programs be leveraged to provide comprehensive support for people trying to enter or reenter the labor force, or to find careers that offer living wages? What are the obstacles to integrating multiple streams of financial and program support to make it easier for people to access those resources? In a very short time period, we have gone from one of the lowest-unemployment periods in the U.S. to an unprecedented economic shock, in which low-income people and people of color have been particularly affected. Dr. Hinkley will also discuss what this means for workforce development and related programs.*



Michael S. Bernick is a former director of the state Employment Development Department, who has been involved on the community level with job training and anti-poverty programs for more than forty years. As EDD director, he oversaw the administration of the state’s employer tax collection system, unemployment insurance system, and disability insurance system. He currently is counsel with the international law firm of Duane Morris LLP, a Fellow in employment policy with the Milken Institute, and an adjunct professor at Stanford University. Mr. Bernick is a 1979 graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law. He also holds a B.Phil. from Balliol College of the University of Oxford and a B.A. from Harvard College.



Dr. Sara Hinkley is a lead researcher at the UC Berkeley Labor Center and a lecturer in City and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley. Her research focuses on the public sector and on how technology affects public sector work. She has an extensive research background in labor, workforce, and economic development policy in California and nationally. She has worked for the California Labor Federation, Justice for Janitors, and Good Jobs First developing policies to improve opportunities for workers. She has consulted for the Institute of Urban and Regional Development, the Center for Community Innovation, the County of Los Angeles, Groundwork Collaborative, and Inclusive Economics. Sara holds a Ph.D. in city and regional planning from UC Berkeley.

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

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