UC CENTER SACRAMENTO CAPITOL INSIGHTS PANEL: ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE IN CALIFORNIA

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SACRAMENTO: The University of California Center Sacramento will be hosting a panel, “Addressing the Problem of School Violence in California: From Schoolyard Bullying to Mass Shootings,” on Wednesday, May 30th, 2018 from 3:30-5:00pm. The panel is preceded by an informal public reception at 3pm. The event will feature presentations by three expert panelists, followed by a discussion and questions from the audience.

The tragic event in Parkland, Florida is among the most recent in a long and troubling series of mass school shootings. While these events rightly receive national attention, there are many other unseen forms of violence occurring in schools every day, creating a spectrum of school violence that will require action on multiple fronts. UC Santa Barbara Professor Michael Furlong will explore the link between school safety and students’ social emotional health, drawing from an ongoing school-based wellness survey of California high school students. UC Davis Professor and Psychiatrist Amy Barnhorst will discuss perceptions and misperceptions of the relationship between gun violence and serious mental illness in schools. California Department of Education Administrator Tom Herman will discuss state and local efforts to increase school safety, as well as share state-wide data on bullying and substance use. Debbie Look, Senior Consultant for the Assembly Committee on Education, will moderate the panel.

**Distinguished Professor Michael Furlong (UC Santa Barbara)** is Associate Dean for Research in the Gervitz School of Education. He is past Editor of the *Journal of School Violence* (2008-2015), and a co-editor of the *Handbook of School Violence and Safety* (2006, 2012), and a co-author of the original California Department of Education school safety planning guide (*Safe School: A Planning Guide for Action, 1989)*.

**Dr. Amy Barnhorst (UC Davis)** is Vice Chair for Community Psychiatry in the UC Davis Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. She is a member of the Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society Mental Health Task Force, and the Consortium for Risk-Based Firearm Policy. Dr. Barnhorst’s academic interests include violence and suicide prevention, firearm policy, and community mental health.

**Tom Herman (CA Department of Education)** is the senior administrator for the California Department of Education’s Coordinated School Health and Safety Office.

To attend the reception and panel, please RSVP by May 28th at: uccs.ucdavis.edu/events. For questions contact Brooke Miller-Jacobs at (916) 445-5161 or bmmillerjacobs@ucdavis.edu.