Public Sector Pension Reform: Addressing Pressing Fiscal Realities from a Long-Term Perspective

Speaker Biographies
Stephanie Bell-Rose  
Senior Managing Director and Head of the TIAA-CREF Institute, TIAA-CREF

Stephanie Bell-Rose serves as TIAA-CREF Senior Managing Director and Head of the TIAA-CREF Institute, a knowledge building and public engagement organization focused on financial security and organizational success in the education, charitable and public sectors. Prior to her appointment at TIAA-CREF, Bell-Rose served as President of the Goldman Sachs Foundation and as Counsel and Program Officer for Public Affairs at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Bell-Rose earned an A.B. from Harvard College, a J.D. from Harvard Law School, and an MPA from the Kennedy School of Government.

Donald J. Boyd  
Senior Fellow, Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government

Donald J. Boyd is a senior fellow at the Rockefeller Institute of Government, where he conducts research on state and local government fiscal issues. Boyd also is co-executive director of the second phase of the State Budget Crisis Task Force, and was executive director of the first phase. His past positions include deputy director of the Rockefeller Institute of Government and director of its fiscal studies program; deputy director of the Center for Policy Research at the State University of New York at Albany; director of the economic and revenue staff for New York State’s budget office; and director of the tax staff for the New York State Assembly Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Boyd holds a Ph.D. in Managerial Economics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Jeffrey R. Brown  
William G. Karnes Professor of Finance, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, TIAA-CREF Institute Fellow

Jeffrey R. Brown is the William G. Karnes Professor of Finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he also serves as the Director of the Center for Business and Public Policy. He is also a Research Associate for the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), and since 2003 he has been Associate Director of the NBER Retirement Research Center. He has previously served as a member of the Social Security Advisory Board. He is a director of the American Risk and Insurance Association. Dr. Brown earned a B.A. from Miami University, an M.P.P. from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Robert L. Clark,  
Zelnak Professor, Poole College of Management, North Carolina State University;  
TIAA-CREF Institute Fellow

Robert Clark is the Zelnak Professor at Poole College of Management at North Carolina State University. Professor Clark is also a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. He has conducted research examining retirement decisions, the choice between defined benefit and defined contribution plans, the impact of pension conversions to defined contribution and cash balance plans, the role of information and communications on 401(k) contributions, government regulation of pensions, and Social Security. Professor Clark earned a B.A. from Millsaps College and a M.A. and Ph.D. from Duke University.

Roger W. Ferguson, Jr.  
President and Chief Executive Officer, TIAA-CREF

Roger W. Ferguson, Jr., is President and Chief Executive Officer of TIAA-CREF. Mr. Ferguson served as Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Federal Reserve System. He was a voting member of the Federal Open Market Committee, served as Chairman of the Financial Stability Forum, and chaired Federal Reserve Board committees on banking supervision and regulation, payment system policy, and reserve bank oversight. Prior to joining TIAA-CREF, Mr. Ferguson was head of financial services for Swiss Re, Chairman of Swiss Re America Holding Corporation, and a member of the company’s executive committee. From 1984 to 1997, he was an Associate and Partner at McKinsey & Company. He began his career as an attorney at Davis Polk & Wardwell. Mr. Ferguson holds a B.A., J.D., and Ph.D. in economics, all from Harvard University.

Joshua M. Franzel  
Vice President, Research, Center for State and Local Government Excellence

Joshua Franzel is the vice president of research for the Center for State and Local Government Excellence and works on public policy issues for the International City/County Management Association. He has worked for both the Delaware and Florida Legislatures and was a Presidential Management Fellow with the International Trade Administration and the Office of Management and Budget. He holds a Ph.D. from American University.

Thomas L. Gais  
Director, Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government

Thomas Gais is director of the Rockefeller Institute of Government. He has conducted research and written on American federalism; the implementation of social programs, by state and local governments; state spending on social programs and the effects of state fiscal capacity and economic changes; nonprofit social service organizations and their relations with state and local governments; campaign finance reforms and their implementation and effects; state constitutional reform processes; and interest groups in the U.S. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.
Daniel R. Liljenquist
Former Member, Utah State Senate

Dan Liljenquist is a former member of the Utah State Senate. He served as a member of the state senate from 2008 to 2011. Prior to this he held several roles in the private sector. Most recently, Mr. Liljenquist has consulted on pension reform with the John and Laura Arnold Foundation. Previously he has held positions with Affiliated Computer Services, FOCUS Services, LLC, and Bain Consulting. Mr. Liljenquist earned his B.A. in economics from Brigham Young University and a J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School.

H. Carl McCall
Chairman, Board of Trustees, The State University of New York

H. Carl McCall is the Chairman of the State University of New York Board of Trustees. Mr. McCall has been active in both the public and private sectors. In the public sector, Mr. McCall served as Comptroller of the State of New York; three terms as a New York State Senator; as an Ambassador to the United Nations; as a Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey; and as the Commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights. Additionally, he served as President of the New York City Board of Education and as the Chairman of the Public Higher Education Conference Board. In the private sector he has held several roles including: Vice President of Citibank, Corporate Director of the New York Stock Exchange, Tyco International, New Plan Realty Corporation and presently Ariel Investment. He was educated at Dartmouth College, Andover Newton Theological Seminary and the University of Edinburgh.

David M. Morrell
University-Wide Benefits Administrator, The State University of New York

David Morrell is the University-Wide Benefits Administrator in the Central Administration office for the State University of New York (SUNY). In addition to his service at SUNY Central Administration, Mr. Morrell is a professor of Human Resources, Employment Law, and International Cross-Cultural Management at Empire State College. He previously worked as a human resources administrator for Empire State College and for the Research Foundation of SUNY. Mr. Morrell holds a B.A. in Human Development and a Master of Arts in Labor and Policy Studies from Empire State College.

Earl Pomeroy
Senior Counsel, Alston & Bird LLP; Former member U.S. House of Representatives

Former Congressman Earl Pomeroy is Senior Counsel at Alston & Bird LLP. He brings 26 years of regulatory and legislative experience to his present position and his practice focuses on matters before the legislative and executive branches of government at the federal level as well as work before financial regulators at the state government level. Previously, Mr. Pomeroy has served as North Dakota Insurance Commissioner, President of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, nine term Member of Congress and senior member of the House Ways and Means Committee.
Chuck R. Reed
Mayor, City of San Jose, California

Chuck Reed is the Mayor of San José, California. He has held this role since 2006 and has been committed to improving the quality of life in the city, boosting the public’s trust in local government, and eliminating the City’s structural budget deficit. Since being re-elected in 2010, Mayor Reed’s top priorities have been to restore police services, bring new jobs to San José, and implement fiscal reforms to solve the City’s budget problems. In 2012, he successfully pushed for a comprehensive set of pension reforms.

Lawrence Schwartz
Secretary to the Governor, The State of New York

Lawrence S. (Larry) Schwartz was appointed as Secretary to the Governor on July 8, 2011, serving as Special Advisor to the Governor January to July 2011. Prior to serving as Special Advisor and Secretary to Governor Cuomo, Mr. Schwartz served as Secretary to Governor Paterson and brings to the job a reputation for intensity as well as competence. Before joining the Paterson Administration, Mr. Schwartz served as Deputy County Executive for Westchester County, a position he held since 1998. In that time, he has acted as chief operating officer for County Executive Andrew Spano, overseeing the daily operations of Westchester County government.

Lois Scott
Chief Financial Officer, City of Chicago

Lois Scott is currently serving as the first female Chief Financial Officer for the City of Chicago. Before joining the city, she was co-founder and President of the firm, Scott Balice Strategies LLC. Ms. Scott is one of the founders of Women in Public Finance, a national conference that now brings together 500 people in the public finance industry. She also was one of the driving forces behind the creation of the “Women of the Year” event honoring the accomplishments of women in the public finance industry. Ms. Scott earned her B.A. and MBA at Cornell University.

Garrick Utley
Senior Fellow SUNY Levin Institute

Garrick Utley is currently a Senior Fellow and the Director of New York in the World, an initiative of the Institute. He previously served as founding president of the Levin Institute of the State University of New York from 2003-2011. Utley also serves as a professor in the School of Communications, Media and the Arts at SUNY Oswego. Prior to his present position, Utley worked as a broadcast journalist on NBC, ABC, CNN, as well as Public Radio and Public Television. Utley received his B.A. from Carleton College, served in the U.S. Army and then spent a year of graduate study at the Free University in Berlin before beginning his work as a journalist.
Yvonne R. Walker
President, Local 1000, Service Employees International Union; Chair, Retirement Security Committee of the SEIU Executive Board

Yvonne R. Walker serves as president of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1000, California’s largest state employee union representing about 93,000 employees from a wide range of professions serving the state of California. Walker is also chair of the SEIU International Retirement Security Committee. Prior to being elected president in 2008, Walker served as SEIU Local 1000 vice president for bargaining.

Randi Weingarten
President, American Federation of Teachers

Randi Weingarten is president of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, which represents teachers; paraprofessionals and school-related personnel; higher education faculty and staff; nurses and other healthcare professionals; local, state and federal employees; and early childhood educators. Prior to this she held the position of AFT vice president for 11 years. Before joining AFT, Weingarten served for 12 years as president of the United Federation of Teachers, representing approximately 200,000 nonsupervisory educators in the New York City public school system, as well as home child care providers and other workers in health, law and education. She has also held roles with the New York City’s Municipal Labor Committee, taught at Clara Barton High School, and worked as a lawyer at the Wall Street firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. Weingarten holds degrees from Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations and the Cardozo School of Law.

Paul J. Yakoboski
Senior Economist, TIAA-CREF Institute

Paul Yakoboski is a senior economist with the TIAA-CREF Institute. He is responsible for the development and execution of Institute forums on such issues. Yakoboski serves as director of the Institute's Fellows Program and editor of the Institute’s Trends and Issues and Advancing Higher Education publication series. Prior to joining the TIAA-CREF Institute, Yakoboski held positions as Director of Research for the American Council of Life Insurers, Senior Research Associate with the Employee Benefit Research Institute and Senior Economist with the U.S. Government Accountability Office. Yakoboski previously served as Director of Research for the American Savings Education Council. He was an adjunct faculty member at Nazareth College (Rochester, NY) from. Yakoboski earned his Ph.D. and M.A. in economics from the University of Rochester (Rochester, NY) and his B.S. in economics from Virginia Tech (Blacksburg, VA).