KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Robert E. Lang

Director, Brookings Mountain West, UNLV

Robert E. Lang, PhD is a Professor of Sociology and the Director of Brookings Mountain West at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In addition, Dr Lang is currently a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution and a Fellow of the Urban Land Institute, both in Washington, DC. Dr. Lang's work includes the books Edgeless Cities: Exploring the Elusive Metropolis (2003) and Boomburbs: the Rise of America's Accidental Cities (2007), The New Politics of Planning (2009). He is also a co-author of three

edited volumes on the census titled Redefining Urban and Suburban America: Evidence from Census 2000. His latest book is Megapolitan America, published by the American Planning Association fall 2011.



Jack August

Author and Historian

Jack August is a distinguished historian and author of numerous books and articles on the history of the New American West and is a recognized expert on the legal and political history of water resource development. He is currently Visiting Scholar in Legal History at the Phoenix-based law firm of Snell & Wilmer and serves as Executive Director of the Barry Goldwater Center for the Southwest.

SPEAKERS/MODERATORS



Lisa A. Atkins

Vice President, Greater Phoenix Leadership

Lisa A. Atkins is the Vice President for Public Policy for Greater Phoenix Leadership (GPL), a group of the region's top business and industry leaders whose focus is improving the economic vitality and quality of life in the greater Phoenix region and the State of Arizona. As an Arizona native, Lisa combines a well-rounded understanding of the State with more than 35 years of work in the federal and State legislative policy arenas, having served for more than twenty-three years as Chief of Staff to Congressman Bob

Stump (R-AZ) and as the Executive Director of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona. Among her current community activities, Lisa represents Maricopa County as an elected member of the Board of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.



Maria Baier

Commissioner, Arizona State Lands Department

Maria Baier serves as Arizona's State Land Commissioner. As such, she oversees the management of 9.3 million acres of Trust land across Arizona. Prior to her tenure as Land Commissioner, Maria served on the Phoenix City Council, as President and CEO of Valley Partnership, and as the Director of the Arizona Office of the Trust for Public Land. She also spent a decade on the executive staff of the Arizona Governor's Office. Maria earned her undergraduate degree from Arizona State University and her law

degree from the University of Arizona. She participates in many civic organizations, including serving as the President of the Board of the Foundation for Blind Children and as a board member for the wildly successful charter school organization, Great Hearts Academies.



Errol V. Blackwater

Director, Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning, Gila River Indian Community

Mr. Blackwater is an enrolled member of the Gila River Indian Community and currently the Director of the Department of Land Use Planning and Zoning for the Gila River Indian Community. Errol has an extensive 26 years of background experience in environmental management and land use planning experience. He is a voting member of the Flood Control Management Task Force authorized via Community Council. Mr. Blackwater and the department have been delegated to administer the planning

components of the Seven District Master Plan, as adopted by the Gila River Indian Community Council. This serves as a planning tool to provide future guidance and direction for land use and development decisions.



David A. Brown

Attorney, Brown & Brown Law Offices

David is the Co-Chairman of ADWR's Water Resources Development Commission. He specializes in Arizona water rights law and is heavily involved in both the Gila River and Little Colorado River adjudications and Indian water rights settlements. David's practice consists primarily of representing irrigation companies and districts, municipalities, various commercial and industrial water users, Arizona Cattlegrowers Association and many other individual ranchers and farmers in water matters.



Marshall Brown

Executive Director, Scottsdale Water Resources Department

Marshall Brown has been the Executive Director for the city of Scottsdale's Water Resources Department since November 2007. His primary areas of responsibility include Scottsdale's water and wastewater policies, water and wastewater treatment, water distribution, wastewater collection, water conservation, water reclamation and reuse, recharge, recovery, planning and engineering. In addition to the time Mr. Brown has spent focusing on water resources for the city of Scottsdale, he gained additional

experience working in the Arizona mining industry, as a consultant (primarily focused on groundwater remediation and modeling), and as a Geohydrologist for Salt River Project.



James Buizer

Deputy Director for Climate Adaptation & International Development, Institute of the Environment, UA

Jim Buizer is Director of Climate Adaptation and International Development in the Institute of the Environment, and Professor in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment of the University of Arizona. His work focuses on climate adaptation, sustainability, institutional transformation, and science for international development. Previously Jim was Science Policy Advisor to Arizona State University's

President Michael Crow, where he also was Senior Sustainability Scientist in the Global Institute of Sustainability and Professor of Practice in Climate Adaptation Policy in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning. Jim led the establishment of the ASU Global Institute of Sustainability and its School of Sustainability. Prior to ASU he was Director of the Climate and Societal Interactions Office at NOAA, in Washington, D.C. He serves on a number of Boards and Advisory Councils.



Rebecca Comstock

Senior Director, Land and Water Department, Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc.

Rebecca Comstock is the Senior Director of the Land & Water Department for Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc., based in Phoenix, Arizona. Freeport-McMoRan is the world's largest, publicly traded, copper mining company, with operations in North and South America, Indonesia and Africa, including five operating mines and significant land and water resources in Arizona. The Freeport-McMoRan Land & Water Department is responsible for long and short term strategic water rights and

water supply planning for its mining operations, including water asset acquisition, preservation and management.



David Daugherty

Director of Research, Morrison Institute for Public Policy, ASU

As director of research, veteran market research analyst David Daugherty, Ph.D., oversees and manages many of the ongoing and single-project research studies conducted by Morrison Institute for Public Policy. During his career, Dr. Daugherty spent 25 years as a senior research professional including seven years as vice president for research at Gannett Co. Inc., preceded by 10 years as director of research services at Gannett, the nation's largest news and information company. Prior to his

work at Gannett, he spent seven years working for market research company Frank N. Magid Associates in a variety of capacities, including as vice president for its print division and as director of research. He also has extensive academic experience, serving as communication department chairperson, graduate adviser and as a teaching/research faculty member at North Dakota State University.



Grady Gammage

Senior Research Fellow, Morrison Institute for Public Policy, ASU

Grady Gammage, Jr. is a part time academic, a practicing lawyer, an author, a sometime real estate developer and a former elected official. In his academic role, Mr. Gammage is a Senior Fellow at ASU's Morrison Institute and is the lead author of Watering the Sun Corridor: Managing Choices in Arizona's Megapolitan Area. His work at Morrison focuses on urban growth and development, quality of life, and local economic issues. He also teaches at the College of Law and at the College of Architecture and

Environmental Design. As a lawyer, he has represented real estate projects ranging from master planned communities to sprawling subdivisions to high rise buildings and intense urban mixed use redevelopment.



John W. Graham

President & CEO, Sunbelt Holding

John Graham joined Sunbelt Holdings in 1982 and became President in 1990. John's background in asset management, development and real estate investment provides a solid foundation of knowledge and experience in the real estate field. Under John's direction Sunbelt has become a dominant force, in both community affairs and real estate activities. John obtained an Economics Degree from Stanford University after graduating from Brophy College Preparatory in 1975. His commitment to the

community is demonstrated through active affiliations with many communities groups some of which are the Brophy College Preparatory Board of Regents and Trustees, The Nature Conservancy, Valley Partnership and Greater Phoenix Leadership.



Jim Holway

Director, Western Lands and Communities, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy/Sonoran Institute

Jim Holway is the director of Western Lands and Communities, the Sonoran Institute's Joint Venture with the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy. This program supports research, tool development, demonstration projects, education and publications focused on managing growth, sustaining regions, protecting resources and empowering communities in the intermountain west. Prior to joining the Sonoran Institute in 2009, Jim Directed the Sustainability Partnership in the Global Institute of Sustainability and taught

as a Professor of Practice in the School of Sustainability and in the School of Sustainable Engineering and the Built Environment at Arizona State University. Jim previously served as Assistant Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources. He was recently elected to the Board of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.



Michael Lacey

Deputy Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources

Prior to his current position, Mr. Lacey practiced as a consulting Hydrologist in Arizona for over 22 years, founding two successful water resource consulting firms and serving as the lead technical practitioner during much of this tenure. His practice focused on hydrology, groundwater recharge investigations and facility development, wastewater reuse, land and water resource evaluations, fluvial geomorphology, climatology, and water rights assessments. He was an active participant in efforts to reform ADWR

and to refine and streamline its regulatory programs, including the Recharge and Assured and Adequate Water Supply programs. Mr. Lacey serves as ADWR's representative to the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority and the Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee. Prior to entering private practice, he had tenures with the Arizona Department of Water Resources, Adjudications Division and the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station.



Dale Larsen

Professor of Practice, School of Community Resources & Development, ASU

Dale is Professor of Practice and Director of Administrative Operations in the College of Public Programs at ASU. Previously he was Director of the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department following a 26 year career there. He has worked in the public parks, recreation, tourism and conservation sectors for 40 years. Dale is a Fellow in the prestigious American Academy for Parks and Recreation Administration and actively involved in public policy discussion and research on behalf of the National Parks and

Recreation Association, Trust for Public Land and the City Parks Alliance. Dale was instrumental in leading Phoenix's adoption of a comprehensive Tree and Shade Master Plan, to achieve a shade canopy for Phoenix of 25% by 2030.



Sharon B. Megdal

Director, Water Resources Research Center, UA

Sharon B. Megdal is Director of The University of Arizona Water Resources Research Center, C.W. and Modene Neely Endowed Professor, and Distinguished Outreach Professor. She serves as Co-Director of The University of Arizona Water, Environmental and Energy Solutions program. Her work focuses on water resources management and policy, on which she writes and frequently speaks. She places particular emphasis on how to achieve desired policy objectives in terms of institutional structures

and possible changes to them. Current projects include: comparative evaluation of water planning and management in growing arid and semi-arid regions; meeting the water needs of the environment; water pricing; and transboundary aquifer assessment. Dr. Megdal teaches the multi-disciplinary graduate course Arizona Water Policy. She serves as an elected member of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board of Directors.



Richard Morrison

Attorney, Salmon, Lewis & Weldon, PLC

Richard Morrison is an attorney at Salmon, Lewis & Weldon, PLC in Phoenix, Arizona. He has practiced law in Arizona since 1978, with emphasis on water law and environmental law. In addition to his practice, he has taught water resources management as a faculty associate at the Morrison School of Agribusiness and Resource Management at Arizona State University. His practice has traditionally involved representation of irrigation districts in Arizona. At present, he is Special Water Counsel to the

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Town of Gilbert. Much of his work since 1984 has fostered negotiated settlements of Indian water rights claims, including those of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Ft. McDowell Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, and the Gila River Indian Community. In addition, he has substantial legislative experience on the state and federal levels in dealing with the enabling legislation required to implement Indian water rights settlements.



Luther Propst

Executive Director, Sonoran Institute

Luther Propst founded and directs the Sonoran Institute, with ten offices around the Intermountain West and Northwest Mexico. The Sonoran Institute's mission is to inspire and enable community decisions and public policies that respect the land and people of the West. The Institute focuses on conserving public lands, promoting "smart growth," better managing water, reforming local and state energy and climate change policies – the core issues that define how the West is growing and changing. Previously,

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Propst practiced law, where he represented landowners, local governments, and organizations nationwide in land-use matters, and with World Wildlife Fund in Washington D.C. Propst has co-authored three books, including Balancing Nature and Commerce in Gateway Communities, published by Island Press. He frequently speaks and writes on Western conservation, land use, economic development, and state trust lands.



Holly Richter

Director of Conservation, The Nature Conservancy

Holly Richter is the Director of Conservation for The Nature Conservancy in Arizona. She is charged with overseeing all aspects of community-based conservation, land and water protection, land stewardship and restoration, and preserve management in the state. Richter's passion for western rivers began in 1987 when she served as the first preserve manager along the Hassayampa River near Wickenburg. She later worked for the Conservancy along other rivers in the Colorado River Basin including the

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Yampa and San Miguel Rivers in Colorado, and most recently as the director of the Upper San Pedro River Program in southeastern Arizona. She also served as chair for the Technical Committee and the Partnership's Executive Committee.



David Rousseau

President of the Board, Salt River Project

David Rousseau is a fourth generation Arizonan whose family arrived here in the late 1800's. The Rousseau family saw SRP in Phoenix grow from farm fields to supplying water and energy to the sixth largest city in the U.S. A constant has been family involvement in the Valley's agriculture industry and in SRP governance. David's great-grandfather, LD Rousseau, served on the original SRP council, which successfully petitioned the federal government to build Roosevelt Dam under the newly adopted

Reclamation Act. David's father, Bill Rousseau, served on the SRP board in the 1970's. After serving on the SRP Council and Board for twenty years, David was elected SRP president in 2010.



Karen L. Smith

Fellow, Grand Canyon Institute

Currently, Dr. Smith is an adjunct professor at Arizona State University and a research fellow for the Grand Canyon Institute. She authored the recent report, Arizona at the Crossroads: Water Scarcity or Water Sustainability. Dr. Smith's work centers on strategic planning, water sustainability and public policy development, and has worked in business at the Salt River Project, a major electric utility and water provider in the metropolitan Phoenix area, and in public service, as the Director of the Water Quality

Division at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and as Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources.



David Snider

District 3 Supervisor, Pinal County Board of Supervisors

David Snider was first elected to the Pinal County Board of Supervisors in November 2004 and took office on January 1, 2005 – he is currently in his second term of office. He also serves as the Vice Chair of the Groundwater Users Advisory Council (Pinal Active Management Area) and he is Vice Chair of the Pinal County Governmental Alliance, Inc. Mr. Snider is also: Chair of the Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority and a Board Member of the Central Arizona Regional Economic Development

Foundation. He was a member of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability; the Arizona Water Resources Development Commission.



Warren Tenney

Assistant General Manager, Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District

Warren Tenney, an Arizona native, is the Assistant General Manager for Metro Water District, where he has worked for the last eighteen years. In 2008, he was elected to a six-year term representing Pima County on the Central Arizona Project Board of Directors. He currently serves as the Chair of the Public Policy Committee for the CAP Board. He also serves as chairman of the Water Conservation Alliance of Southern Arizona (Water CASA) and is a member of the Southern Arizona Water Users Association

Board of Directors. He is also an active member of the AZ Water Association. Warren first got his feet wet in water by working for the Santa Cruz Valley Water District.



Nan Stockholm Walden

Vice President, Farmer's Investment Company

Currently, Nan Stockholm Walden serves as Vice President and Counsel at Farmers Investment Co.(FICO), the largest pecan growing and processing farm in the world, located in Sahuarita, Arizona. She serves in the same capacity for Farmers Water Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of FICO. Among her previous positions Nan served as Counsel to the U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and Counsel for Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan on the Water Resources Subcommittee.

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She was Chief of Staff for Senator Bill Bradley who served on the Senate Finance, and Energy and Natural Resources Committees. She was Director of the Presidio Council, a national group of distinguished citizens who advised the Department of Interior. She also served as Director of the Western Conference of Attorneys General, and Counsel to the Western Conference of State Legislators. In Arizona she has been Associate Vice President for Federal Relations at the University of Arizona in Tucson.



Gary Yaquinto

President, Arizona Investment Council

Gary Yaquinto was named President of Arizona Investment Council in December 2006. Prior to AIC, Mr. Yaquinto served as a member of Governor Janet Napolitano's cabinet in the position of Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting, with responsibility for preparing the Executive Budget. Previously, Mr. Yaquinto was Chief Economist, Arizona Attorney General's Office. Between 1984 and 1997, Mr. Yaquinto served on the staff of the Arizona Corporation Commission where he was Director,

Utilities Division. Mr. Yaquinto also served as Vice President, Government & Regulatory Affairs with a telecommunications company and has worked as an independent consultant in the areas of utility regulation, economic and demographic forecasting and public affairs. Gary also served as Chief Economist with the Arizona House of Representatives from 1977 to 1980.