



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON TEACHER RETIREMENT

95th Annual Conference: Partners in Excellence

October 2017 ♦ Tucson, Arizona

General Session Presiding Officer: Tuesday, October 10, 2017

NCTR PRESIDENT-ELECT, JACK EHNES



Jack Ehnes is the chief executive officer of the California State Teachers' Retirement System. Mr. Ehnes provides leadership for the largest educator-only pension fund in the world. CalSTRS administers a hybrid retirement system, consisting of a traditional defined benefit, cash balance and defined contribution plans, as well as disability and survivor benefits. CalSTRS serves more than 914,000 members and benefit recipients. The asset value of the investment portfolio was \$213.5 billion as of July 31, 2017. CalSTRS administers retirement benefits for California's public school educators in grades kindergarten through community college.

Mr. Ehnes came to CalSTRS in 2002 from Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company (Denver, Colorado). Among his duties as vice president for corporate affairs, Mr. Ehnes served as the trustee/plan administrator for Great-West's employees' defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Prior to Great-West, Mr. Ehnes served as the Colorado Insurance Commissioner, deputy insurance commissioner and board trustee for the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association, which included six years as chair and vice chair of the board.

Mr. Ehnes is currently chairman of the FTSE Environmental Markets Advisory Committee and a member of the FTSE4Good Advisory Committee. He also serves on the boards of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, Ceres (a national network of investors and environmental organizations working to address sustainability challenges), the Sustainability Accounting Standards Foundation Board, and the Public Employees Board of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans.

As a recognized leader and public servant, Mr. Ehnes has served on high-profile national task forces throughout his career including those with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and on various healthcare and insurance commissions and advisory boards. He was also a board member of the National Institute on Retirement Security and board chair of the Council of Institutional Investors.

Mr. Ehnes is a native of Rochester, New York, and holds a Bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a Master's degree from Vanderbilt University.





**NATIONAL COUNCIL ON TEACHER RETIREMENT
KEYNOTE SPEAKER, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017**

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Princess Moss

Secretary-Treasurer, National Education Association

Princess R. Moss, an elementary school music teacher from Louisa County, Virginia, is secretary-treasurer of the National Education Association, the nation's largest professional organization. She ranks third among NEA's leadership team, with primary responsibility for managing and maintenance of the Association's multimillion dollar budget.

A champion of children and public education at the local, state, and national levels, Moss distinguished herself with two terms on the NEA Executive Committee, where she served on the Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) Advisory Committee, steering the Association's strategy for the law's pending reauthorization, and the Dropout Prevention Advisory Committee, helping develop relevant tools for NEA members. She also served on the Board of Directors for the NEA Health Information Network, a non-profit dedicated to providing school communities with vital and timely information that supports successful learning environments and student achievement.

Under her direction as president, the 62,000-member Virginia Education Association increased its membership and advocated successfully for greater investment in public education at the state and local levels. She also served as VEA Vice President and on the Board of Directors for NEA and VEA for over 10 years.

In 2006, Moss was tapped by Virginia Governor Tim Kaine to serve on the Commonwealth's P-16 Education Council, tasked with coordinating education reform from preschool through higher education. She also served on the Executive Committee of the Foundation for Virginia, a 501(c)4 bipartisan coalition of organizations, business leaders, and public officials promoting a better future by ensuring quality education, public safety, and other priorities. Through her wide range of experiences, she has developed a recognized expertise on women's issues, minority concerns, political action, school finance, and professional development.

Moss earned her Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Mary Washington, and received the university's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2006. She also earned a Master's degree in elementary and secondary administration and supervision from the University of Virginia.

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Introduction by: Dana Dillon is a kindergarten through eighth grade school teacher from Weed. She has served on the CalSTRS board since her election in 2003, including stints as chair and vice chair. Ms. Dillon has been active in the California Teachers Association for more than 34 years, serving as a state council representative and a member of the CTA Board of Directors.

Dana Dillon serves on the following committees: Compensation Committee (Chair); Appeals Committee; Benefits & Services Committee; and Investment Committee.

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“Cyber Security: Ransomware” Panel



MODERATOR Diann Clift is the Business Development Manager at Sagitec Solutions and has extensive experience in the public pension industry. As a product evangelist, Diann spearheads acquisition activities and is responsible for executing Sagitec Solutions’ corporate strategy for its Neospin™ pension administration solution. With more than 35 years of technology and project management experience in the government sector, private sector and the public pension fund market, Diann has served on the Boards of the Public Retirement Information Systems Management association as well as Indiana Pension Systems, Inc. Diann is a member of the Project Management Institute where she maintains a PMP certification and actively participates in many public pension fund organizations including NCTR, SACRS, NASRA, PRISM, NPEA, CALAPRS, and Missouri MAPERS.



Brian J. Bartow is General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of the California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS), the largest educator-only pension fund in the world. As of May 31, 2017, CalSTRS had assets of approximately \$208.7 billion and a membership of over 900,000. As General Counsel, Mr. Bartow is legal counsel to the Teachers’ Retirement Board and heads CalSTRS’ Legal Services Division, as well as its Office of Ethics and Compliance, Information Security Office, Enterprise Information Management Program and Enterprise Compliance Program. Mr. Bartow also serves as CalSTRS’ Chief Compliance Officer.

Mr. Bartow is a member of the California State Bar, the American Bar Association, the National Society of Compliance Professionals and the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys where he chairs the Cyber Security Committee. Mr. Bartow serves on the Advisory Board for Institutional Investors Forums, is a member of the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics and is a Certified Compliance and Ethics Professional (CCEP). Mr. Bartow has served as an Adjunct Professor for Cyber Security Law at Elon University School of Law.

Mr. Bartow received his Juris Doctorate from Martin Luther King, Jr. Hall School of Law, University of California at Davis and holds a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of California at Riverside and an associate’s degree in nursing from Queensborough Community College, City University of New York. He is a veteran of the United States Army Military Police Corps.



Beverly Pratt serves on the Board of Trustees of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System. Beverly was appointed trustee on Board of the Kansas City Public School Retirement System in February, 2016, to fulfill a vacancy on the Board, but was elected to a four-year term on her own merits in November, 2016. She is a former teacher in the Kansas City Missouri Public School District and retired in 2012. She is also a graduate of the District and returned to her alma mater, Central Computer/Greek Magnet School, in 1994 to teach Computer Programming languages and Mathematics. She graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Mathematics, where she also began work





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toward a Master’s degree in mathematics. She completed Missouri’s Education certification requirements at Park University, Parkville, Missouri.

She is no stranger to technology. Following college graduation, she accepted a position at American Telephone & Telegraph in Kansas City where she received training as a computer programmer. She later joined Fireman’s Fund Insurance Companies in San Francisco, California as a senior programmer analyst, where she was promoted to programming instructor, and subsequently to employment manager at the data processing facility. Upon returning to Kansas City, she joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City as an analyst and became a technical support representative to banks in western Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

She had a passion to share the valuable skills learned in private industry with students who might not, otherwise, realize such opportunities were available to them. Therefore, when the prospect of teaching computer programming languages in the school district became available, she eagerly pursued it and was hired by the District in 1994. Through the grace of God, she inspired many students, changing some “I can’t’s” to “I can’s.” She believes there is no greater legacy in life.

Beverly wants to contribute the same tenacity, and commitment to excellence as she attempted to share in the classroom to her work on the Board. She also believes her knowledge of technology, her analytical and research skills, along with an attention to detail can be an asset to the Board, its retirees and active members. She looks forward to continuing to serve the Board in any capacity needed.



Gregory W. Smith became Executive Director and CEO of Colorado PERA in November 2012. He is the sixth Executive Director of the retirement system, which has over \$44 billion in defined benefit assets and over \$3.5 billion in defined contribution assets. Established by the Colorado General Assembly in 1931, Colorado PERA administers retirement and other benefits to more than 500,000 current and retired Colorado public employees, including teachers state troopers, snow plow drivers and many others serving in roles that are vital to the state. Colorado PERA is also one of the largest healthcare plan providers in the state. In addition to providing leadership for the nation’s 22nd largest public pension plan, Mr. Smith oversees 288 employees and a \$68.3 million

annual budget.

Mr. Smith joined Colorado PERA in February 2002 and served as General Counsel and Chief Operating Office prior to his current role. Under Mr. Smith’s leadership and direction, Colorado PERA remains involved in many innovative ventures in the pension arena that keep Colorado PERA in the national forefront. Mr. Smith currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Institute on Retirement Security (NIRS). In addition, he is on the Administrator Education Committee for the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR). He also serves as a Co-Chair of the Board of Directors for the Council of Institutional Investors (CII). Mr. Smith also is on the Board of Directors at the South Metro Denver Chamber and Board of Governors at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce. He also currently serves on the Board of the Center for Improving Value in Health Care (CIVHC) where he works to promote the Triple Aim plus one: better health, better care, lower costs, and transparent data.





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As a recognized leader in the pension arena, Mr. Smith has presented and moderated on matters related to pension funds for a variety of organizations including the Fiduciary College at Stanford Law School, National Council on Teacher Retirement, Government Finance Officers Association, and the United States Treasury Department to name a few. Mr. Smith has also testified before various committees, subcommittees, and roundtables of the U.S. House of Representatives, U.S. Treasury Department, and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

In addition to his involvement in the financial and governmental sectors, Mr. Smith has been a member of the Anti-Defamation League’s Mountain States Regional Board since 2014, and has been a proud member of the Rotary Club of Denver Mile High for nearly three decades. He is a fourth generation Colorado native and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Colorado and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Denver.



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“Challenges and Hard Decisions” Panel



MODERATOR Mary Beth Braitman is a Partner at Ice Miller LLP. She works with governmental retirement and health systems on compliance with federal law, federal tax questions, fiduciary issues and plan design innovations. Recent projects include financing/designing health benefits; fiduciary audits on governance and investment practices; innovative pick-up programs; qualified excess benefit arrangements; correction projects; and design of comprehensive compliance strategies. In the last several years, a number of complex "change" questions have arisen, often in connection with sustainability and design projects. Ice Miller's Employee Benefits Group strives to be creative and constructive in these projects.

She is a frequent writer and speaker on public plan issues. She presented the following: "DC Affinity Group" – NAPPA Annual Conference – June 2016; "Federal Legal Developments – P2F2 Annual Conference – October 2015; "Representing Governmental and Tax Exempt Employers: Attorney-Client Privilege, and the Fiduciary Exception, the Work-Product Doctrine, Public Record Laws, and Privilege Logs – ALI-CLE – September 2015; and "Governmental Plan and Charter School IRS Notice 2015-07 – NCTR Webinar – February 2015.

Ms. Braitman is a member of the Emeritus Board of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys (NAPPA), the Advisory Board of the National Council of Teachers Retirement (NCTR), the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators (NAGDCA), and the American College of Employee Benefits Counsel.



Leura G. Canary has served as General Counsel for the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA), which consists of the Teachers' Retirement System and the Employees' Retirement System, since January 2012. Her responsibilities include acting as chief counsel to the RSA, a 350,000-member, \$36 billion public pension fund for Alabama's teachers, educational support employees, state employees and local employees. Her duties include supervision of RSA's legislative activities and other government relations. Ms. Canary also serves as chief counsel to the Alabama's Public Education Employees Health Insurance Program (PEEHIP), a group health insurance plan that covers 300,000 lives and RSA-1, a \$2 billion deferred compensation plan.

Before going to RSA, Ms. Canary served as U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Alabama from 2001 to 2011. While U.S. Attorney, Ms. Canary chaired the Child Exploitation Committee and created a national program to prevent and deter child sexual exploitation and abuse. She also served on the Attorney General's Advisory Committee, which provides policy advice to the U.S. Attorney General. Prior to her tenure as U.S. Attorney, Ms. Canary had extensive experience as a civil litigator for the U.S. Department of Justice and the Alabama Attorney General's Office.

Ms. Canary serves on the Board of Trustees of Huntingdon College and chairs the Academic Affairs Committee. She also serves on the boards of trustees of the Montgomery Academy and the Capri Theatre.

Ms. Canary is married to William J. Canary and has two children, Will, 23, and Margaret, 19.





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Michael (Mike) J. Nehf is the Executive Director of the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio (STRS Ohio). He began leadership of STRS Ohio in 2008 as the retirement system’s ninth executive director and provides leadership and direction for one of the largest public retirement systems in the country. He had previously served as executive director of 10 State of Georgia retirement systems, including Employees’ Retirement System of Georgia from 2005 to 2008, and in the executive director and other roles for the Chicago Public School Teachers’ Pension & Retirement Fund and Chicago Municipal Employees’ Annuity & Benefit Fund from 1987 through 2004. His public service also includes serving as an elected school board member and also as a pension board trustee during his years in Illinois. His wife, Kathy, is a public school teacher and they have three sons.

Mr. Nehf is a certified public accountant, and he earned a Bachelor’s degree in accounting from Western Illinois University and a Master of Management degree in finance from Northwestern University’s John L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management.



Melva Vogler is Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Pennsylvania Public School Employees’ Retirement System (PSERS), where she represented active members for 20 years and subsequently was elected to represent PSERS retired members beginning in January 2014. She has served as Board Chairman since January 2007.

Ms. Vogler is a graduate of Susquehanna University. She also earned a Master’s degree from Marywood College and received her supervisory certificate from the University of Scranton. She recently completed a distinguished career in teaching and retired from Wallenpaupack Area High School in March 2013.

Ms. Vogler served in various capacities with the Pennsylvania State Education Association (PSEA), including membership on the Association’s Board of Directors from 1988 until August 2004. On the national level, she was also generous in contributing her time and expertise to NCTR. In addition to numerous NCTR committee duties, Ms. Vogler served on the Executive Board, as well as serving a term as the Council’s President. She also served on the National Institute on Retirement Security Board and on the Executive Committee of the Council of Institutional Investors. Ms. Vogler is currently a member of PSEA-Retired and Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees.

PSERS has served the public school employees of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania since 1917. It is a mandatory defined benefit plan for all public school employees; a qualified trust under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. PSERS has approximately 482,000 members (3/31/17) and holds approximately \$52.7 billion in assets (3/31/17).





NATIONAL COUNCIL ON TEACHER RETIREMENT
2017 NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

DINNER IN HER HONOR: 7:00–9:00 PM, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017

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Sydney Chaffee

As Teacher of the Year, Sydney Chaffee is committed to taking risks for her students and, as National Teacher of the Year, will encourage all educators to take risks—on their students, on each other, and on themselves.

As a humanities teacher at Codman Academy Charter Public School in Boston, Sydney takes risks every day to improve learning for all of her students. In the classroom, she strives to create lessons that demonstrate how education can be a transformative tool for social justice, and she encourages her students to see themselves as having the power to make change in the world based on lessons from the past.

"Education must be authentic. There is no use in studying history if we believe it to be static and irrelevant to the future," she says. "Authentic learning enables students to see and create connections in the world around them."

She tries to infuse the hard work of learning with joy, not only in her classroom but throughout the school. For example, she is the coordinator of a schoolwide Community Circle every Thursday where all students in the school come together to celebrate successes, share good news, and dig into serious conversations together.

As the 2017 National Teacher of the Year, Sydney is looking forward to advocating for all teachers to take risks on behalf of their students and giving a voice to the issues that affect her students.

"When smart, driven teachers are given time and space to collaborate, we can help all of our students in all of our schools succeed. We have a lot of work to do, but we can achieve so much for kids when we commit together to being simultaneously optimistic and daring," she says.

Sydney has taught for the past 10 years, 9 of which have been in her current role. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from Sarah Lawrence College and a Masters of Education from Lesley University. Sydney is a National Board Certified Teacher.

The National Teacher of the Year program, run by the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and presented by Voya Financial, Inc., identifies exceptional teachers in the country, recognizes their effective work in the classroom, engages them in a year of professional learning, amplifies their voices, and empowers them to participate in policy discussions at the state and national levels.

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Introduction by: In July 2012, Meredith Williams became the Executive Director of the National Council on Teacher Retirement (NCTR), where he serves as CEO and administrative head, and reports to NCTR's ten-member Executive Committee. Meredith has been active in NCTR for many years and served as President from 2006 to 2007. Prior to his NCTR appointment, Meredith served 12 years as Executive Director of the Public Employees' Retirement of Association of Colorado (Colorado PERA), a \$39 billion association that, at the time of his departure, served as the pension fund for 485,000 current and retired Colorado public servants.

Meredith started his professional career as a junior accountant with the Kansas Legislative Division of Post Audit, the audit arm of Kansas government. He served as Kansas Legislative Post Auditor from 1983 until his 1991 appointment as Executive Secretary of the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System.

Meredith is a graduate of the University of Kansas with a degree in business administration and economics. He received his law degree in 1975 from Washburn University School of Law, Topeka.

Meredith is an active member of several professional organizations. He has served on the Editorial Board for the Journal of Government Financial Management and as the national president of the Association of Government Accountants. Meredith is the past chair of the Council of Institutional Investors. Meredith has published and lectured widely on the subject of public sector accountability and oversight. He co-authored the John Wiley & Sons text, *Auditing Performance in Government*. He has also served as an adjunct professor on the faculty of the University of Kansas. Meredith has served on the Governmental Accounting Standards Board's Post Employment Benefits Task Force and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board's Investor Advisory Group.

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