



**The Colorado Fiscal Institute's 2016 Fiscal Forum
"The Road to Prosperity Starts with Equity"**

Featuring Dr. Manuel Pastor

Friday, Jan. 15, 2015

History Colorado Center

Speakers' Bios

Speakers:

Axel Aubrun, co-founder, Topos Partnership

Axel Aubrun, Ph.D., is a psychological anthropologist who focuses on long-term culture change. He has authored articles in publications ranging from the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* to *Non-Profit Quarterly*. Aubrun is a graduate of Amherst College, Oxford University and the University of California, San Diego, where he spent a year lecturing in cultural anthropology before co-founding Topos.

Stephanie Clayton, Kansas state representative

Stephanie Clayton is a state representative from Overland Park, Kansas. She serves on a working group with the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and on the board of the Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce.

Natalie Mullis, chief economist, Legislative Council

Natalie Mullis has been one of the Colorado General Assembly's economists since November 1998 and has served as chief economist since February 2009. She holds a Masters of Arts and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Natalie's primary job responsibilities include forecasting the Colorado economy, forecasting state government revenue, analyzing the fiscal impacts of legislative bills and educating legislators and the public about the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights, Referendum C and the state budget.

**Dr. Manuel Pastor, professor of sociology and American studies & ethnicity,
University of Southern California**

Dr. Manuel Pastor is Professor of Sociology and American Studies & Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. Founding director of the Center for Justice, Tolerance and Community at the University of California, Santa Cruz, Pastor currently directs the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity (PERE) at USC and USC's Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration (CSII). He holds an economics Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and is the inaugural holder of the Turpanjian Chair in Civil Society and Social Change at USC.

Dr. Pastor's research has generally focused on issues of the economic, environmental and social conditions facing low-income urban communities — and the social movements seeking to change those realities. His most recent book *Equity, Growth, and Community: What the Nation Can Learn from America's Metro Areas*, co-authored with Chris Benner (UC



Press 2015), argues how inequality stunts economic growth and how bringing together equity and growth requires concerted local action. Combining data, case studies, and narratives on multi-sector collaborations in 11 metro regions, the book offers a powerful prescription not just for metros but for our national challenges of slow job growth, rising economic inequality and sharp political polarization.

His previous volumes include: *Just Growth: Inclusion and Prosperity in America's Metropolitan Regions*, co-authored with Chris Benner (Routledge 2012), argues that growth and equity can and should be linked, offering a new path for a U.S. economy seeking to recover from economic crisis and distributional distress; *Uncommon Common Ground: Race and America's Future* (W.W. Norton 2010; co-authored with Angela Glover Blackwell and Stewart Kwoh), documents the gap between progress in racial attitudes and racial realities and offers a new set of strategies for both talking about race and achieving racial equity; *This Could Be the Start of Something Big: How Social Movements for Regional Equity are Transforming Metropolitan America* (Cornell University Press 2009; co-authored with Chris Benner and Martha Matsuoka) highlights a promising set of organizing efforts across the U.S.; *Staircases or Treadmills: Labor Market Intermediaries and Economic Opportunity in a Changing Economy* (Russell Sage 2007, co-authored with Chris Benner and Laura Leete) which offers a critique of current employment strategies and argues for a new "high road" approach to connecting demand and supply in labor markets; and *Regions That Work: How Cities and Suburbs Can Grow Together* (University of Minnesota Press 2000; co-authored with Peter Dreier, Eugene Grigsby, and Marta Lopez-Garza), a book that has become a standard reference for those seeking to link neighborhoods and regions.

Dr. Pastor has received fellowships from the Danforth, Guggenheim, and Kellogg foundations, and grants from the Irvine Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the Hewlett Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the W.T. Grant Foundation, The California Endowment, the California Air Resources Board, and many others.

Dr. Pastor speaks frequently on issues of demographic change, economic inequality, and community empowerment and has contributed opinion pieces to such outlets as the Los Angeles Times, the San Jose Mercury News, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Sacramento Bee, the Huffington Post, and many others. He served as a member of the Commission on Regions appointed by California's Speaker of the State Assembly. In 2012, he was awarded the Wally Marks Changemaker of the Year award from the Liberty Hill Foundation in recognition of his many research partnerships with social justice organizations. In January 2002 was awarded a Civic Entrepreneur of the Year award from the California Center for Regional Leadership.

Henry Sobanet, Director, The Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting

Henry Sobanet is a Denver native, educated at Regis High School, the University of Colorado at Boulder and the University of Colorado at Denver. He was employed as an economist for five years at the Colorado Legislative Council, the nonpartisan research office for the state legislature.

Henry Sobanet began working at the Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting in 1999 as Deputy Director. In September 2004, Gov. Bill Owens appointed him to be director



of the office. In 2005, Henry was the lead negotiator and researcher for the governor's office in reaching a compromise with the legislature on the state's budget shortfall. This effort resulted in Referendum C, which was adopted by the voters in November 2005. In 2006, Henry helped develop and negotiate an innovative plan to address the State's pension shortfall.

From 2007 to 2011, he was President of Colorado Strategies LLC, a firm that specialized in economics, public affairs, and strategic management.

In 2011, Governor John Hickenlooper selected Henry to return as Director of the Office of State Planning & Budgeting.

Henry has served on a number of boards and commissions, including the Commission on Information Management, the Statewide Internet Portal Authority, Colorado Transportation Commission and the Second Judicial District Nominating Commission.

Remy Trupin – Senior Fellow, Topos Partnership

Remy Trupin is a creative, strategic and entrepreneurial leader with extensive policy advocacy experience. Remy was the founding executive director of the Washington State Budget & Policy Center, an organization which he led and grew into a national model. He brings strategic insight from working with organizations and coalitions developing and implementing legislative advocacy, communication and ballot campaigns. Remy volunteers board leadership and strategic advice to social service, civic and human rights organizations and is an American Marshall Memorial Fellow.

Wint Winter Jr., former Kansas state senator

Wint Winter Jr. is CEO and President of People's Bank in Lawrence, Kansas, and a former state senator. Wint is a fourth generation Kansan and a key organizer of Republicans for Kansas Values.

Colorado Fiscal Institute Staff:

Carol Hedges, Executive Director, Colorado Fiscal Institute

Carol Hedges is the Executive Director of the Colorado Fiscal Institute. Carol has been an important part of the research, policy and advocacy community in Colorado for more than 15 years. She served as policy director for Gov. Roy Romer in the late 1990s focusing on human service, education and budget policy. As program officer at the Piton Foundation in Denver, Carol directed the Denver Workforce Initiative, a project of the Annie E. Casey Jobs Initiative. While serving as a senior policy analyst with the Bell Policy Center, Carol authored Ten Years of TABOR, a comprehensive study of the effects of Colorado's Taxpayers Bill of Rights. Most recently as the Director of the Colorado Fiscal Policy Institute, a project



of the Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Carol's work focused on creating an adequate, sustainable and equitable revenue system in Colorado. As a recognized expert on the effects of Colorado's TABOR amendment, Carol has been involved in education efforts on TABOR-like proposals across the country.

Prior to moving to Colorado, Carol served as staff for the Human Service committee and the Agriculture and Natural Resources committee for the National Governors' Association. She started her policy career as policy advisor to Gov. John Carlin of Kansas.

Carol graduated from Emporia State University in Emporia, Kan., and earned a law degree from the University of Kansas.

Tim Hoover, Communications Director, Colorado Fiscal Institute

A longtime journalist who served as a member of the editorial board of The Denver Post, Tim has also worked as a state politics and government reporter for The Denver Post and The Kansas City Star. In addition to working in Colorado and Missouri, his 20-year newspaper career included reporting stints in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. Much of his work for The Denver Post focused on the state budget, state fiscal policy and TABOR.