

**Biennial Legislative Communication Conference:
Preparing for the 85th Legislature
Agenda**

Thursday, October 13, 2016
Austin, Texas

8: 00 a.m. Conference Check-in

Conference Moderator: **Mary Scott Nabers**, *President/CEO, Strategic Partnerships, Inc.*

8:30 a.m. Welcome
Angela Evans, *Dean, LBJ School of Public Affairs*

8:40 a.m. Opening Keynote – Texas Economic Outlook
Glenn Hegar, *Comptroller of Public Accounts*

9:10 a.m. 2018-19 Budget: A Balancing Act
Moderator: Dr. Barry Bales, *Assistant Dean for Professional Development, LBJ School of Public Affairs*
Mike Morrissey, *Budget Director, Office of the Lt. Governor*
Brady Franks, *Senior Policy and Budget Advisor, Office of the Speaker of the House*

9:45 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. Priorities of the 85th Legislature
Moderator: Sherri Greenberg, *Clinical Professor, LBJ School of Public Affairs*
Representative John Otto, *Chair, House Appropriations Committee*

10:40 a.m. Budget Mechanics
Ursula Parks, *Director, Legislative Budget Board*

11:00 a.m. 2016-2017 And Beyond
Evan Smith, *CEO, The Texas Tribune*

11:45 a.m. LUNCH

1:00 p.m. Working with the Legislature: How to Prep Legislators on Your Agency's Budget and Other Issues
Moderator: Gwen Grigsby, *Associate Vice President for Governmental Relations, The University of Texas at Austin*
Representative Carol Alvarado, *Chair, House Urban Affairs Committee*
Representative Larry Gonzales, *Chair, Sunset Advisory Commission*

- 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Keynote – Hometown Perspective**
Senator Kirk Watson, *Finance Committee*
- 2:15 p.m. Facing the Challenges of the 85th Legislative Session**
Moderator: Barry McBee, *Vice Chancellor of Governmental Affairs, The University of Texas System*
Whitney Brewster, *Executive Director, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles*
Charles Smith, *Executive Commissioner, Texas Health and Human Services Commission*
Porter Wilson, *Executive Director, Employees Retirement System of Texas*
- 3:00 p.m. Break**
- 3:15 p.m. Working with the State Leadership Offices – Expectations, Preparation and Delivery**
Moderator: Mary Scott Nabers, *President/CEO, Strategic Partnerships, Inc.*
Daniel Hodge, *Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor*
Logan Spence, *Chief of Staff, Office of the Lt. Governor*
Patricia Shipton, *Chief of Staff, Office of the Speaker of the House*
- 4:00 p.m. Pundits and Their Predictions for the 2017 Session**
Moderator: Gay Erwin, *Vice President of Public Affairs, Strategic Partnerships, Inc.*
Erica Grieder, *Senior Editor, Texas Monthly*
Ross Ramsey, *Executive Editor, The Texas Tribune*
- 4:45 p.m. Closing Remarks**
Dr. Barry Bales, *Assistant Dean for Professional Development, LBJ School of Public Affairs*