California is in a fiscal corner. The state faces a projected $25 billion shortfall over the next 18 months that neither economic growth nor tax increases are likely to cover. As the state begins the difficult process of formulating a new budget, the 14th Annual Travers Conference will explore the budget situation in four sectors that make up the largest part of the California budget—criminal justice (13%), higher education (14%), health care (20%), and K-12 education (40%). Experts in each of these fields will explore strategies for putting California’s fiscal house in order.

8:30AM    Continental Breakfast

9:00—9:15: Opening Remarks
TAEKU LEE, Chair, The Charles and Louise Travers Dept. of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley

9:15-10:45: Panel 1: California’s Criminal Justice System
MODERATOR: JOHN ELLWOOD, Professor of Public Policy, Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley
STEVE RAPHAEL, Professor of Public Policy, Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley
MARK KLEIMAN, Professor of Public Policy, UCLA School of Public Affairs
ROBERT WEISBERG, Edwin E. Huddleson, Jr. Professor of Law, Stanford Law School
DANIEL MACALLAIR, Executive Director of the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice
10:30-12:15  Panel 2: Higher Education
MODERATOR: ROBERT SHIREMAN, Former Deputy Undersecretary, Department of Education
ROBERT BIRGENEAU, Chancellor, University of California, Berkeley
STEVE WEINER, Founder, Campaign for College Opportunity & Retired Executive Director of the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities
DENNIS JONES, President, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems
WILLIAM ZUMETA, Professor, Evans School of Public Affairs, University of Washington

12:15-12:30: Break (Box Lunches available to those who pre-register by 2/6/11)

12:30-1:00: Lunch Keynote Address:
F. King Alexander: President, Cal State Long Beach

1:15 – 2:45:  Panel 3: Health Care
MODERATOR: KAREN SHORE, Vice President for Planning and Health Policy, Center for Health Improvement.
LEIF HAASE, Senior Fellow, Health Policy Program, New America Foundation
TOM MACURDY, Professor, Department of Economics, Stanford University
STAN ROSENSTEIN, Former Director, California Medicaid & Principal Advisor, Health Management Associates
WILL DOW, Henry J. Kaiser Professor of Health Economics, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley

2:45—3:00: Coffee Break

3:00-4:45: Panel 4: K-12 Education
MODERATOR: MOIRA GUNN, Host of Tech Nation and BioTech Nation Radio Programs
NORTON GRUBB, Professor, School of Education, University of California, Berkeley
GARY K. HART, Former State Senator & California Secretary for Education
KIM REUBEN, Senior Fellow, Tax Policy Center, Urban Institute
TOM TIMAR, Professor & Director of the Center for Applied Policy in Education, University of California, Davis

4:45-5:30: Conference Reception (all guests are invited to attend)