



## Strengthening the Democratic Process

preparing individuals for effective & ethical leadership in the public affairs arena



[Coro Southern California Homepage](#) > [Email Newsletter](#) > [Winter 2007 E-connections](#)

# Winter 2007 E-connections

[About Coro Southern California](#)

[Programs](#)

[Events](#)

[Los Angeles Calendar](#)

[Networking & Alumni Services](#)

[Support Coro](#)

[Email Newsletter](#)

[Site Map](#)



The e-newsletter that connects Alumni & Friends of Coro Southern California.

## "Leader to Leader"

## E-Connections

### CORO ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out our website's new look!  
<http://www.coro.org>

#### How Does City Government Foster or Inhibit the Vitality of Civic Engagement?

Wednesday, January 24th, 2007

To "kick off" our 50th anniversary in LA Coro is having a gathering of alumni and friends.

Location:  
Blue Palms Restaurant  
Attached to the Henry Fonda Theater  
6126 Hollywood Blvd (Cross Street:  
Gower Street)  
Hollywood, CA 90028

Time: 6:00pm-8:30pm

The evening features a program and discussion with a panel of experts including Raphael Sonenshein, Ph.D., Cal State Fullerton and author of *Los Angeles: Structure of a City Government*.

7:30 - 8:30pm Alumni reunion of classes

Thanks to the League of Women Voters of Los Angeles everyone who attends will receive a copy of the book.

Tickets:  
\$15 in advance  
\$20 at the door  
Includes food, a copy of *Los Angeles: Structure of a City Government* book and a preview of the Coro online alumni directory.

Due to space restrictions, we are limited to 100 people.

[Register online](#)

You can also register by phone (call 213-623-1234 ext 12) or by mail.

We hope you will join us for this wonderful opportunity to reconnect with classmates, meet graduates from other classes and this year's Fellows class!

### Winter 2007 Edition

#### In this Issue

- [Making a Difference](#) - As we look back on the 50 year legacy of Coro Southern California this year, it's important to note that while the mission of our organization has not changed, our collective impact on communities and the local leadership pool continues to grow. [More>>>](#)
- [Fellows in the Business Sector](#) - The Fellows are now in their 4th month of the Public Affairs leadership program, now having finished their labor, political and business placement rotations. Below is the list for their business placements and field faculty. [More>>>](#)
- [Next Year's Fellows Recruitment](#) - Applications for the 2007-08 Fellows Program in Public Affairs are due by this Friday, January 5th. Save the date info for application reading and selection day. [More>>>](#)
- [Health Leadership & Class III Recruitment](#) - The third program run of the Coro Health Leadership Program will begin in March, 2007 and applications are now being accepted. [More>>>](#)
- [Alumni Updates](#) - Find out what people are up to.
- [Upcoming Events](#) - How Does City Government Foster or Inhibit the Vitality of Civic Engagement? Wednesday, January 24th, 2007 [More info and registration>>>](#)
- [Thank You Donors](#) - Coro would like to thank those who have personally contributed to support the Coro Annual Campaign and Coro Legacy Campaign (endowment\*) [More>>>](#)
- [Job Opportunities](#)
- [Civic & Community Events](#)

#### Making a Difference

As we look back on the 50 year legacy of Coro Southern California this year, it's important to note that while the mission of our organization has not changed, our collective impact on communities and the local leadership pool continues to grow.

Our flagship program and mainstay, the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs, attracts some of the best and brightest across the United States. And for those who don the cardinal and gold or the blue and yellow, you will be pleased to know that this year's Fellows class include both the immediate past student body presidents for USC and UCLA. Jenny Wood (UCLA) and Jessica Lall (USC) had this to say so far about the program:

*"The Coro Fellowship has been an amazing experience," said Ms. Wood. "Although it somewhat of a frenetic pace, I feel I'm learning a lot—about myself and the civic community—and making a difference."*

*"I just love this (Fellows) program," said Jessica Lall. "I can't believe we're already halfway done. I'm learning so much. We just finished our Communications Focus week and soon begin our non-profit placements."*

In addition to the Fellows program, Coro Southern California runs four other program initiatives: the Neighborhood Leadership Program, Women and Community, Youth Leadership Initiative, and the Health Leadership Program (HLP).

Although the newest program area, the HLP continues to make a strong impact in the lives of its participants and the communities they serve. We have



Coro Southern California is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2007!

**UPCOMING DATES**

- January 17, 2007 – Coro Alumni Reception
- January 24, 2007 – Coro Reunion event with Raphael Sonenshein, Ph.D. and the League of Women Voters LA
- February 16, 2007 – Last Day to apply to the Coro Health Leadership Program
- March 3 – 8, 2007 – Coro Fellows (both CA centers) Sacramento Trip
- March 8, 2007 – Coro Health Leadership Program Kick-off Event
- March 24, 2007 – Coro Los Angeles Selection Day

**Coro's full event calendar**

**CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

- January 9, 2007 – State of the State Address by Gov. Schwarzenegger at 6 p.m. (check your local listings)
- January 9, 2007 – The California Endowment Center for Healthy Communities Live Viewing of the Gov. Schwarzenegger's State of the State Address
- January 18, 2007 – LA Press Club Reception and Talk with CNN Pipeline Anchor, Nicole Lapin. Doors open at 7 p.m. Go to [lapressclub.org](http://lapressclub.org) for more information.
- February 8, 2007 – LA Press Club Reception and Talk with Yahoo Conflict Journalist, Kevin Sikes. Doors open at 7 p.m.
- February 24, 2007 – Coro Woman's Program 1980 Alumnus, Shirlee Smith, runs Talk About Parenting and will be holding a forum at Pasadena City College called "Military Recruitment." For more information, contact [Ms. Smith](mailto:Ms. Smith) at 626.296.2777

March 8, 2007 - The Bedrosian Center is hosting the David Abel Colloquium "Rethinking Governance in the Age of MySpace.com" 4:00 pm, Founders Club, USC Galen Center. More information is available on the [USC website](http://USCwebsite).

**JOB OPPORTUNITIES, INTERNSHIPS & FELLOWSHIPS**

graduated 50 "Health Associates" to date and below is a list of the "real life" community collaborative projects they have worked on:

- (1) developing a hospital workforce development program to meet the needs of Southern California hospitals;
- (2) Creating a grassroots approach with the Vision y Compromiso community clinic for improving access to community health;
- (3) developing an integrated wellness clinic model for the Norwalk Regional Health Center (in conjunction with Supervisor Knabe's Office);
- (4) developing a community collaborative model with the Southside Coalition of Community Health Centers for improving access to specialty care in South Los Angeles; and
- (5) creating an integrated school and electronic healthcare records model with New Schools Better Neighborhoods to improve children's health outcomes.

"I'm so proud of our Health Associates," said HLP Program Director, Edward Headington. "We set very high expectations of them and they continue to meet and exceed them. With healthcare playing such a large role in the California debate this year, I'm looking forward to delivering an even better HLP III—complete with expert seminars, collaborative projects, leadership training and a trip to Sacramento."

What's more, Coro has been recognized and mentioned in two major newspapers for its efforts in making a difference.

"CIVIC LEADERSHIP is a skill, one that can be very difficult to teach. What if there were a program that picked budding leaders and took them across the social landscape: union halls, corporate offices and maybe a homeless shelter?"

For 65 years, [Coro] has hosted this approach ... It takes future leaders in their early 20s, and dunks them in real-world settings for nine months. There's time for intense discussions and special projects aimed at deepening the experience of public service. ... It shouldn't surprise anyone that Coro's mission has spread over the years. It now runs similar programs ... [and] it's also added a second level that trains students on a part-time basis. All together, some 10,000 have gone through the Coro experience across the country since its start. The mission remains the same. Give promising young people a chance to broaden their views and test their experiences on a wide canvas. It's a goal that hasn't changed in 65 years."

-*"Public Service School", San Francisco Chronicle Editorial, 12.26.06.*

"L.A. has the fourth worst rate of homeownership of any of the largest 25 U.S. cities. Coro fellow Evan Westrup researched a foundation document that shows housing affordability is dropping, and L.A.'s renters now struggle to make the highest rents among the largest metropolitan regions in the nation."

- *"Little Pink Houses' as pickets' anthem?", by Julie Butcher (GM for SEIU Local 347), Los Angeles Daily News, 12.7.06.*

**Fellows Program in Public Affairs**

The Fellows are now in their 4th month of the Public Affairs leadership program, now having finished their labor, political and business placement rotations. Below is the list for their business placements and field faculty (November 14th to December 7th.):

- Samuel Filler – LA Chamber of Commerce/Public Policy (Sam Garrison)
- John Harabedian – Abernathy McGregor Group, Inc. (Ian Campbell)
- Emil Kuruvilla – Orange County Business Council (Wallace Wallrod)
- Jessica Lall – Raytheon/Government Relations (Edward Muñoz)
- Matthew Mornick – KB Homes (Kate Klimov)
- Rachel Muhlstein – Toyota Motor Sales USA (Elizabeth Hall)
- María Lorena Núñez – Metropolitan Theatres Corp. (Bruce Corwin)
- Yolanda O. Touré – America Learns (Gary Kosmon)
- Roberto Walton – ABL, Inc. (David Abel)
- Evan Westrup – Kaiser Permanente/Health Education (Martha Valez)
- Jennifer P. Wood – Los Angeles Times (Raul Bustillos)



**Fellows Recruitment**

Applications for the 2007-08 Fellows Program in Public Affairs are due by this Friday, January 5th. Please be sure to remind any of your prospects to get their completed application into us.

Save these Dates:  
January 15th – 24th Application Reading

Coro community members and all Coro alumni are invited, as we get to know and assess the applicant pool for the 2007-08 class of the Fellows Program in Public Affairs. Readings determine who will make it to the challenging Selection Day interview – the culmination of our Fellows Program recruitment cycle. *Please contact Stephanie Stone at (213) 623-1234x16 or via email to volunteer.*

Also a notice that Selection Day is Saturday, March 24th.

Hollywood Business Improvement District/Hollywood Property Owners Alliance - [Communications Manager](#)

Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council (2 positions) - [Policy Manager](#) & [Chief Program Officer](#)

Vons - Director, Public Affairs  
Interested people are encouraged to submit a resume by visiting [Safeway.com](#)

LA Area Chamber of Commerce- Public Policy Manager with a background in transportation and goods movement. Go to the [LA Chamber site](#).

Californians for Justice - Community Organizer  
More information at: [Caljustice.org](#)

College Summit  
Site Associate position and Program Manager position More information at [collegesummit.org](#)

The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP)  
The Communications Director and The Research Director.

California Voter Foundation Program Manager  
More information at [CalVoter.org](#)

*Coro Graduates are job hunting. If you know of any open positions please forward them to [corasocal@coro.org](#).*

The Coro E-Connections and other critical communications services are supported by the generosity of



*Public Relations & Public Affairs*

Thank you!

Coro would like to thank those who have personally contributed to support the Coro Annual Campaign and Coro Legacy Campaign (endowment\*), both of which support the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs.

*July 2006- December 2006*

Coro Legacy Campaign Gifts (endowment)

Platinum Legacy  
\$10,000 to \$24,999

Honorable Carol Liu (pledge)

Gold Legacy - \$5,000 to \$9,999

Bruce Karatz

Silver Legacy - \$1,000 - \$4,999

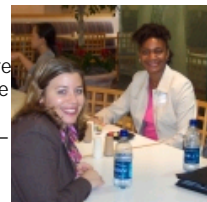
Jack Fine  
Meghan E. Loper

## Health Leadership Program

### Coro HLP III Recruitment

The Coro Health Leadership Program will begin in March, 2007 and applications are now being accepted.

• The HLP is a boundary-crossing leadership training experience that uses collaborative approaches to prepare a multi-cultural, professionally diverse group of healthcare professionals to improve the quality and accessibility of healthcare in Los Angeles County. Program participants—*Coro Health Associates*—enhance their leadership and collaboration skills in a hands-on manner by combining their existing experience with knowledge gained from the various components of the HLP.



• It is a six-month program running from February through July. Participants' time commitments include a monthly full-day session and an evening seminar. Health Associates will also meet as necessary to complete their community collaborative projects.

• Health Associates represent a broad range of cultural, racial and economic backgrounds, ages, and work experience, but all are committed to increasing the capacity of the healthcare system to deliver and provide improved access to care across all medical communities—including underserved and vulnerable populations.

Please contact Edward Headington at (213) 623-1234x15 [ehheadington@coro.org](mailto:ehheadington@coro.org) with any questions or recommendations of candidates and possible partner organizations. Additional information is available at <http://www.corola.org> or <http://www.myspace.com/corohlp>.

The application deadline is Friday, February 16, 2007.

### Coro HLP II Finishes

The second program run of the Coro Health Leadership Program finished in late November and plans are already underway for HLP III, set to begin in March 2007.

*Special thanks to:*

- Howard Kahn, CEO of L.A. Care Health Plan,
- Dr. Ben Chu, President of the Southern California Region of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals,
- Dr. Hector Flores, HLP Advisor, Mentor, Expert and Medical Director for White Memorial Medical Center, Family Practice Residency Program Los Angeles, who spoke at the HLP II graduation held at The California Endowment.
- Health Associates Rodney Franks, CEO of the St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, and Xochitl Perez, Compliance Department for L.A. Care Health Plan were graduation speakers.

- HLP Funders/Partners: The California Endowment, UniHealth Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, UCLA School of Public Health, USC Keck School of Medicine, Community Clinic Association of Southern California, LA Care Health Plan, Supervisor Don Knabe,

- HLP Project Advisors: Richard Espinoza – Supervisor Don Knabe, Nina Vacarro – Southside Coalition of Community Clinics, Richard Corral – New Schools Better Neighborhood, Melinda Cordero – Vision y Compromiso Community Clinic, and Gene Grigsby – National Health Foundation

- Host Sites: Health Net, Olive View-UCLA Medical Center, LA Care Health Plan, Hospital Association of Southern California, St. Francis Medical Center Foundation, and the Venice Family Clinic.

- HLP Leadership Trainer: John Greenwood

- Catalyst Consulting (Amir Hemmat and Robert Amezaga)

- HLP Advisory Committee Members:

- (Chair) Dr. Robert E. Tranquada – USC School of Medicine, L.A. Care Health Plan
- Mr. Gregory Adams – Kaiser Permanente
- Dr. Richard Brown – UCLA Center for Health Policy Research
- Honorable Gilbert Cedillo – California State Senate
- Mr. Carl Coan – Eisner Pediatric and Family Medical Center
- Mr. Mark Finucane – Ernst & Young, LLP
- Dr. Hector Flores – White Memorial Medical Center
- Dr. Martin Gallegos – California Healthcare Association
- Dr. Brian Johnston – Los Angeles County Medical Association

Andrea Van De Kamp  
Carol Wagner Vallianos

Coro Endowment Member  
gifts up to \$999

Alisa Belinkoff Katz (pledge)  
Mary Chambers  
Nancy Greenberg

Annual Campaign Gifts

Coro Guardian  
\$5,000 and above

Gregory Stone

Coro Visionary  
\$1,000 to \$4,999

Robert J. Comer &  
Deborah Rosenthal  
Joe Cutcliffe  
Shelly Holmes  
Lisa Kalustian  
Joanne Kumamoto  
Ray Roeder  
Beverly Ryder

Coro Champion  
\$500 to \$999

Jerome Hunter  
Peter J. Taylor &  
Coralyn A. Andres Taylor  
Daniel Weiss

Coro Leader  
\$250 to \$499

Walter Baer  
Maria Nicholas Kelly  
Pamela L. & Howard W. Lacy in honor of  
Frank & Fran Alshire  
Carol B. Tharp

Coro Member  
\$100 to \$249

Donald A. Dixon  
Rusty Hicks  
Angela E. Oh  
Joy Picus  
Chelsea Correia

Coro Supporter  
\$50 to \$99

David Baty & Elizabeth Hall  
Jacob & Rody Castroll  
Lindsay & Rena Conner  
Bruce C. Corwin  
Drew Dougherty  
Howard J. Katz & Alisa Belinkoff Katz  
Sabine Romero  
Richard Shumacher  
Kathy Van Ness  
Randall & Sharon Young  
Anne Reisinger  
Erica Shinohara  
Midori Tabata  
Dan Wolf  
Jih-Fang Yang  
Karly Katona  
Holly Mitchell

- Ms. Azar Kattan – Los Angeles County Department of Health Services
- Dr. LaVonna Lewis – USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development
- Ms. Carrie Lopez – Coro Southern California
- Dr. Robert Myrtle – USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development
- Mr. David Olson – Health Net of California
- Ms. Gloria Rodriguez – Los Angeles Community Clinic Association
- Dr. Paul Torrens – UCLA School of Public Health
- Dr. Fernando Torres-Gil – UCLA School of Public Policy & Development

If you are interested in getting involved or want more information about the Health Leadership Program, please contact [Edward Headington](#) at 213-623-1234x15.

The 2006 Coro Health Associate Graduates

- Phinney Ahn – LA Care Health Plan
- Dr. Luis Artavia – Community Health Alliance of Pasadena
- Elvia Barboa – PADRES Contra El Cáncer
- Dr. Conrado Barzaga – Planned Parenthood of Los Angeles
- Shannon Cisch – Los Angeles Free Clinic
- Dr. Van Anh Dastur – Los Angeles Free Clinic
- Rodney Franks – St. Francis Medical Center Foundation
- Tonya Gorham – LA Best Babies Network
- Dr. Rachna Gupta – South Bay Family Health Care Center
- Jan Le – AltaMed Health Services
- Angela Lozano – Los Angeles Department of Health Services
- Dr. Sarita Mohanty – USC School of Medicine
- Cristin Mondy – Los Angeles Department of Health Services
- Duyen Nguyen – Kaiser Permanente
- Jeff Nguyen – Kaiser Permanente
- Robert Nocon – Kaiser Permanente
- Joni Novosel – Valley Care Community Consortium
- Louisa Ollague – Supervisor Gloria Molina
- Christina Ortega-Libatique – Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – South Los Angeles
- Xochitl Perez – L.A. Care Health Plan
- Tim Smith – L.A. Care Health Plan
- Gilbert Solorzano – Kaiser Permanente
- Nicole Vick – Los Angeles Department of Health Services
- Tiffany Weisberg – WellPoint
- Jill Zappia – Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
- Iris Zuniga-Corona – Youth Policy Institute

#### Alumni Updates

- Congratulations to Lara Galinsky, Leadership New York XVIII, who recently co-authored a book entitled *Be Bold*, a handbook for emerging nonprofit leaders, with Cheryl Dorsey, President of Echoing Green and Coro New York Board Member. *Be Bold* tells the stories of twelve outstanding leaders in the nonprofit sector. Lara is currently the Vice President of Strategy and Communications at Echoing Green, a global social venture fund that has been identifying and investing in social entrepreneurs for twenty years. With this inspiring new book, an interactive website and a national marketing campaign, *Be Bold* provides career resources to current and aspiring nonprofit professionals who are determined to make a difference. Visit the website for more information at [bebold.org](http://bebold.org), where you can also purchase a copy of the book. Congratulations to Lara on her contribution to this exciting and inspiring new venture!
- Aviva Luz Argota, Coro FPPA-LA Alumnus and New York trainer, did a year-long fellowship at the Harvard Budget Office after finishing her mid-career MPA program at the Kennedy School and is now Special Projects Manager in the Office of the Provost for Harvard University. She is also the mother of a four month-old baby girl named Aya Micaela.
- David Sibbet, Coro FPPA-LA, alumnus recently blogged about the National Gathering in November. The entry is titled: [The Time is Ripe for Social Entrepreneurs](#).
- HLP II Health Associate, Xochitl Perez, is still with L.A. Care Health Plan but is now with the Compliance Department
- HLP II Health Associate, Dr. Sarita Mohanty, had a baby boy on December 1st.
- Coro FPPA-LA Alumnus, K. Forrest Beanum, has been promoted from Senior Account Executive to Public Affairs Manager at Cerrell Associates.
- Communications dynamo, Ben Golombek, Coro FPPA-LA Alumnus, has left the Press Office of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to be Communications Director for Councilmember Wendy Greuel.
- Jennifer Manfre' FPPA-LA has joined the Milken Institute as Communications manager. She can be reached at

Click to contribute!



Stay Connected  
With Coro Alumni & Friends

In addition to alumni activities in cities with Coro Centers, Coro alumni and friends are connecting around the nation. Here are a few alumni groups you can contact if you are living outside of Southern California:

**Boston Alumni Listserv**  
Join the Coro alumni in Boston group by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/coroalumni-boston/>

**DC Alumni Listserv**  
Join the Coro alumni in DC group by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CoroDC/>

**National Alumni Association**  
If you would like to be involved with the Coro National Alumni Association you can [subscribe to the CNAA list serve](#)

More thanks!

Thank you to the Hollenbeck Youth Center and the Los Angeles Press Club for partnering with Coro Southern California to host the Joe Mathews book party. The famed Los Angeles Times writer and author talked about his just-published book, "The People's Machine: The Rise of Arnold Schwarzenegger and Blockbuster Democracy." The Fellows were there and journalist Bob Baker moderated.

Thank you to FPPA-LA alumnus and publishing magnate, David Abel, for including Coro HLP Program Director, Edward Headington, in a panel at his NSBN-LAUP Symposium held at the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Milken Institute, 1250 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401  
jmanfre at milkeninstitute.org or 310.570.4623

- HLP II Health Associate, Tiffany Weisberg, has been promoted to Manager II, Provider Contracting and Database Administration at WellPoint.
- Former Coro Southern California Executive Director and civic affairs virtuoso, Mike Roos, co-heads the California office for the new DC lobbying firm Capitol Counsel LLC
- Mike Morrison, Dean of the University of Toyota and husband of Coro Board Chair and FPPA-LA '80 alumnus, Kerry Morrison has just published *The Other Side of the Card: Where Your Authentic Leadership Story Begins*.
- Coro Fellows Alumnus, Debra Bowen, was elected to the Secretary of State's Office.
- Coro Fellows Alumnus, Jerry Lewis, was re-elected to the House of Representatives.
- Luis Ayala, husband of Fellows Alumnus Adriana Martinez, was elected to the Alhambra City Council.
  - Since finishing her program in 2005, Coro HLP I Health Associate, Erika Hainley, has been promoted to Social Services Manager at The Children's Clinic. She has also received her license to be a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and was appointed to the Council of Multicultural Health (an advisory council to the Office of Multicultural Health in the CA Department of Health Services)
  - LSC graduate and theater producer and arts educator extraordinaire, Ben Donenberg, was nominated by President Bush to the National Council on the Arts (an advisory body of the National Endowment for the Arts). [For more information,](#)
  - After more than a decade of service to the Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, Coro Fellows Alumnus, Libby Williams, is leaving to become the Executive Director of Mayor Villaraigosa's Los Angeles Economy and Jobs Committee (an economic council of advisors tasked with recommending ways the City of Los Angeles can become more business-friendly). Libby can be contacted at: Los Angeles Economy and Jobs Committee, 555 South Flower Street, 9th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90071 (213) 673-7633 or [libwilliams at laejc.org](mailto:libwilliams@laejc.org).
- Michael Ning, Coro Fellows Alum and President & CEO of Arque Orion Co., Ltd., is now president and CEO of the Avalon Shonan Securities Co., Ltd after the acquisition of controlling interest in the Japanese Brokerage Company.

*If you are interested in letting Coro know what you're doing, please [email](#) with your information.*

