

USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative



Adam Clayton Powell III

Executive Director, USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative, and Director

Adam Clayton Powell III leads CCLP's initiative on election cybersecurity, in association with USC's schools of business, engineering, law and public policy and the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. He also coordinates CCLP's Washington DC programming, which includes monthly public forums on subjects including public diplomacy and national security. Before his return to Washington in 2010, he served as USC's Vice Provost for Globalization, and previously served as director of the USC Integrated Media Systems Center, the National Science Foundation's Engineering Research Center for multimedia and information technologies. Before joining the USC faculty, he held positions including Executive Producer at Quincy Jones Entertainment, Vice President/Technology Programs at the Newseum and the Freedom Forum, Vice President/News and Information at National Public Radio, and sixteen years in management and reporting positions at CBS, including CBS News Manager of Special Events and Political Coverage for the 1980 primaries, conventions and election night.



Justin Griffin

Managing Director, USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative

Justin Griffin is Managing Director of the USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative, responsible for managing the strategy and day to day execution of conducting events in all 50 states prior to the 2020 election. Prior to joining USC, he was a Senior Vice President at Revolution Agency, a strategic communications and advertising agency with offices in Alexandria, Virginia and Los Angeles, California. Griffin also spent part of his career at Purple Strategies, a full service, bipartisan strategic consultancy specializing in crisis communications for Fortune 100 companies such as BP, Caterpillar, McDonald's, Bayer, and Coca-Cola. In addition to his corporate experience, Griffin recently served as a Director of Finance for Governor Charlie Baker's successful 2018 reelection campaign, assisting in raising the most money in the history of Massachusetts gubernatorial campaigns, and in 2012 Griffin worked as a Political Director for the Massachusetts Republican Party, assisting in the Senate reelection effort of Ambassador Scott Brown.



Tiffany Shackelford

Head of Outreach, USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative

Tiffany Shackelford currently serves as a Head of Outreach for USC Election Cybersecurity Initiative. Before joining USC, Shackelford served as Chief Strategy Officer for the National Governors Association, where she worked with the organization's stakeholders, including governors and their staff, to implement effective strategies. She has also served as the executive director for a number of news associations, including the Society for News Design, the Association of Alternative Newsmedia, and Capitolbeat, the Association of Capitol Reporters and Editors who cover state governments, a group she helped found in 1999. Shackelford spent almost 10 years with the Pew Research Center, the Pew Center on the States and the Pew Charitable Trusts, where she started Stateline.org, covering state policy and politics in all 50 states; and incubated the Pew Internet and American Life Project and Electionline. She has also served as Director of Communications and Marketing at Phase2 Technology; and as Administrative Director at the Democratic Leadership Council.

Keynote Speakers / Panelists / Presenters



Marc Ambinder

Executive Fellow in Digital Security, USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism

Marc Ambinder is an Executive Fellow at the School for Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern California, creating a school-wide program in digital security. Before moving to Los Angeles in 2012, Ambinder spent 12 years in Washington, D.C. covering the White House, the intelligence community and politics, for CBS News and ABC News. He also served as contributing editor of *The Atlantic* and White House correspondent for *National Journal*. Ambinder has been a consultant for entities including the Walt Disney Company and WhatsApp. He is the author of *The Brink: President Reagan and the Nuclear War Scare of 1983* (Simon and Shuster, 2018) and is co-author of *Deep State: Inside the Government Secrecy Industry* (Wiley, 2013) and *The Command: Deep Inside the President's Secret Army* (Wiley, 2012).



Juyeon Jo

Director, Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Juyeon Jo is the Director of the Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she also serves as an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science in the University's Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering. Her research interests include computer and network security and cybersecurity education. Previously Dr. Jo was an Associate Professor in the UNLV's School of Informatics and an Associate Professor of Computer Science at Cal State Sacramento. Before moving to higher education, she was a software architect at Coree Networks and worked at Lucent Technologies. She earned a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Case Western Reserve University.



Mindy Romero

Research Assistant Professor, USC Sol Price School of Public Policy, and Founder and Director, USC California Civic Engagement Project

Mindy Romero is a Research Assistant Professor and the Founder and Director of the California Civic Engagement Project at the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy. A political sociologist, her research focuses on political behavior and race/ethnicity, and seeks to explain patterns of voting and political underrepresentation. Romero has testified before the National Commission on Voting Rights and the California Legislature, and her research has been cited in major news outlets, including *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Sacramento Bee* and *Politico*. She is currently a member of the Public Policy Institute Statewide Survey Advisory Committee, President of the Board of California Common Cause, and former Vice-Chair of the Social Services Commission for the City of Davis. Romero holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of California, Davis.



Wayne Thorley
Nevada Deputy Secretary of State for Elections

Wayne Thorley is the Deputy Secretary of State for Elections for the State of Nevada, responsible for administering the State's election process and enforcing state and federal election laws. His expertise includes campaign finance, military and overseas voting, voter registration, ballot initiatives and referenda, and voting systems. Prior to joining the Secretary of State's Office, Thorley worked for the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau for six years where he held a variety of jobs from senior research analyst to fiscal program analyst. He serves on the Executive Board of the National Association of State Election Directors and is the Immediate Past Chair of the Board of the Electronic Registration Information Center. Thorley attended the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for both undergraduate and graduate school where he studied economics.



Jason L. Wasden
Executive Director of Government Affairs, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Jason Wasden is Executive Director of Government Affairs for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, a position he has held since 2016. Dr. Wasden came to UNLV staff in 2002, serving first in the School of Dental Medicine, where he created marketing materials to project the economic impact of business ventures, developed and negotiated with vendors to reduce costs for a savings of over \$500,000 annually, and opened discussions to explore new sources of revenue resulting in \$25,000 per doctor. Previously he had served in the Bursar's office at the College of Southern Nevada. Dr. Wasden has taught graduate level courses as an invited lecturer and as a course director, and he has served as is an advisor to educational, chamber of commerce, and business committees. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration, Master of Public Administration, and a PhD in Public Affairs all at UNLV.