

# 78<sup>th</sup> Annual SWAAAE Summer Conference Agenda\*

July 21-24, 2024

Sheraton Grand | Sacramento, CA

## Saturday – July 20, 2024

12:00 pm to 3:30 pm

### **SWAAAE Board of Directors Meeting**

*Bondi*

*All Chapter members are invited and encouraged to attend Board of Directors' meetings. If you are interested in attending, please contact Executive Director [Cathy Herring](#). A virtual participation option is available.*

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

### **Board of Directors and Conference Committee Dinner (By Invitation Only)**

## Sunday – July 21, 2024

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

### **Navigate Your Career: Create an Individual Development Plan (IDP) for Career Success (Separate Registration Required)**

*Sheraton Grand Third Floor*

*The top 3% of working professionals have a development plan that guides their career path while driving their personal and professional growth, satisfaction, and fulfillment. The best way to navigate your future is to create it! This workshop is designed for seasoned professionals as well as new entrants in the industry.*

*Few professionals know why or how to create their individual development plans (IDP). This course will guide you through a framework to create an IDP for career success. In the workshop session, you will learn the components of the plan and begin to draft your own plan. We will explore each section of the plan and experience activities to begin to fill in the content of some of the components. Following the workshop, you have the option to be paired with a mentor. Additionally, thirty days after completion of the course, you will receive a coaching session to refine the development of your plan and provide you feedback on your progress.*

#### **Course Objectives:**

- 1. Increase personal awareness of individual styles and experiences.*
- 2. Determine different career path options available and create options for the next step.*
- 3. Create opportunities for personal reflection and engagement with others.*
- 4. Build a cohort of trusted advisors to continue to engage after completion of the course.*

**Presenter:** **Mindy Price**, President, Direct Effect Solutions

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

### **Todd McNamee Past President's Golf Tournament**

**(Separate Registration Required)**

*Registration required via the conference registration form (limited club rentals available first come, first served). Guests are welcome to register!*

1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

### **Registration**

*Grand Nave Foyer*

*Stop by registration to pick up your name badge and conference materials. Conference information will be accessible via the Whova conference app.*

2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

### **Exhibitor Set-Up**

*Magnolia*

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

### **Michael A. Shutt Young Professionals, New Attendee & Mentor Meet and Greet**

*Magnolia*

*First time attendees, new SWAAAE members, and young professionals are welcome and*

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*encouraged to attend to meet and network with others before the conference officially kicks off. **Calling all mentors!** Sign up to volunteer as a new attendee and/or young professional mentor during conference registration or [email us](#).*

## 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm **Welcome Reception at Sheraton Grand**

*Grand Nave Foyer*

*Kickoff your conference experience at the SWAAAE Welcome Reception where you'll catch up with industry colleagues, meet new and old friends, and create connections. This event features two complimentary drink tickets for registered attendees and heavy hors d'oeuvres.*

## 10:30 pm to 11:30 pm **After Hours Networking and Wine Tasting**

*Morgans at Sheraton Grand*

*Unwind from day one of the conference and enjoy an evening of relaxing and networking with your peers.*

## **Monday – July 22, 2024**

### 7:00 am to 7:45 am **Morning Mavericks – Day 1: The Walk**

*Get to know Sacramento on a walking tour of the area near the Grand Sheraton, including Capitol Park, a beautiful park surrounding the California State Capitol where over 100 different species of trees have been planted.*

### 7:30 am to 4:00 pm **Registration**

*Grand Nave Foyer*

### 7:30 am to 8:30 am **Hot Breakfast with Exhibitors – Learning/Networking Opportunity**

*Magnolia*

### 8:30 am to 9:00 am **Conference Opening Ceremonies**

*Camellia/Gardenia*

**Conference Chair:** **Cole Hartfiel, C.M.**, Senior Airport Planner, Sacramento County Department of Airports

**AAAE Leadership:** **Todd Hauptli**, President and CEO, AAAE

**Rick Crider, A.A.E.**, Incoming Chair, AAAE

**SWAAAE President:** **TJ Chen, C.M., P.E.**, Chief Administrative Officer - Planning and Development, Sacramento County Department of Airports

### 9:00 am to 10:00 am **Keynote Presentation**

*Camellia/Gardenia*

### 10:00 am to 10:45 am **Break with Exhibitors – Learning/Networking Opportunity/Attendee Giveaways**

*Magnolia*

### 10:45 am to 12:00 pm **Session A: Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Overcoming Barriers to Diversity and Inclusion**

*Camellia/Gardenia*

#### **DEI Credit**

*During this session, attendees will explore the multifaceted challenges faced by various demographic groups in advancing within organizations. Gain insights into the historical context of the 'Glass Ceiling' term and its evolution to encompass barriers in addition to gender and ethnicity. Discover actionable strategies for fostering inclusivity and dismantling systemic obstacles, equipping you to drive positive change within your organization.*

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- 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm**      **Lunch on your own**
- 1:30 pm to 2:15 pm**      **Session B: General Membership Meeting and Chapter Elections**  
*Camellia/Gardenia*
- 2:15 pm to 3:00 pm**      **Session C: Exploring the RFP Process from the Proprietor's and Vendor's Viewpoints**  
*Camellia/Gardenia*  
*The RFP process serves as a means for organizations to procure goods or services. Crafting an RFP necessitates meticulous attention to the airport's objectives and adherence to various compliance regulations. In this session, attendees will acquire techniques aimed at achieving the goal of procuring the most suitable products or services at a competitive price, all while ensuring compliance with government regulations.*
- Moderator:**              **Wayne Whitzell**, FMP, SFP LEED®AP, BEP, GBO, President, DFS Green
- Speakers:**              **Kelly McAllister**, Director for Cooperative Contracts, Sourcewell  
**William Ayres**, VP of Business Development, C&W Services  
**Ken Moen, A.A.E., C.A.E.**, Special Projects Program Manager, Armstrong Consultants
- 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm**      **Break with Exhibitors – Learning/Networking Opportunity/Attendee Giveaways**  
*Magnolia*
- 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm**      **Session D: Best Practices for Working with Elected/Appointed Officials**  
*Camellia/Gardenia*  
**Law/Ethics Credit**  
*An important task of today's airport executive is working with our elected and appointed officials as they fulfil their important airport policy and oversight duties. This session will discuss tools, policy, strategies, and best practices to collaborate with and support our commissioners, council members, and advisory board members as we work together to improve our airports and serve our communities.*
- Moderator:**              **Kevin Smith, A.A.E.**, Planning Market Leader, Mead & Hunt
- 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm**      **Monday Night Networking Event – Camp SWAAAE**  
*Camp Pollock*  
*Network over dinner (food truck style), cocktails, and live entertainment as Sacramento comes to you! Local businesses will join us to represent the region and all the greatness Sacramento has to offer. Roundtrip transportation will be provided from the Sheraton Grand.*
- 10:00 pm to 11:00 pm**      **After Hours Networking and Wine Tasting**  
*Morgans at the Sheraton Grand*  
*Unwind from day two of the conference and enjoy an evening of relaxing and networking with your peers.*

## Tuesday – July 23, 2024

- 7:00 am to 7:30 am**      **Morning Mavericks – Day 2: The Bike**  
*Get to know Sacramento by bicycle on this riding tour on dedicated bicycling lanes.*
- 7:30 am to 3:00 pm**      **Registration**  
*Grand Nave Foyer*
- 7:30 am to 8:30 am**      **Hot Breakfast with Exhibitors**  
*Magnolia*

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8:30 am to 9:45 am

## Session E1: Successful Community Engagement

*Camellia*

Hear from airports who successfully engaged their community and found profound benefits in doing so. These lessons learned can be applied to any airport and their community whether it be for marketing, awareness, concessions, or more.

**Speakers:** **Andrew Durkhee**, Manager, Airport Concessions, Sacramento County Department of Airports  
**Rebekah Bray**, Principal Property Manager – Finance and Administration, San José International Airport

8:30 am to 9:45am

## Session E2: The Importance of Engaging Human Resources

*Gardenia*

**Law/Ethics Credit**

Human Resources team members can help your airport in many ways. Learn where to find these resources, how they can assist you, and what benefits you will gain from engaging with Human Resources.

**Moderator:** **Alice Bimrose, A.A.E., ACE**, Executive Program Director, PSM

9:45 am to 10:30 am

## Break with Exhibitors – Learning/Networking Opportunity/Attendee Giveaways

*Magnolia*

10:30 am to 11:45 am

## Session F1: Finance and Accounting Operates on a Different Plane

*Camellia*

Explore the important topics from the world of airport finance and accounting. You will become more adept at how your airport is valued and how rating agencies can affect your ability to expand facilities. You will hear from leading airport professionals about the siren song of debt for development and its risks, the burden of being an enterprise fund within a larger public agency, and how to de-risk public-private development relationships. Your speakers have over 30 years of airport experience in the world of revenue realization, non-operating allocated expenses, and accelerated depreciation. They will also provide current information on how the airlines are thinking about residual terminal costs and 'their' goals for the near future. There is no charge for good questions at the end!

**Speakers:** **Tatiana Starostina**, Chief Financial Officer, Los Angeles International Airport  
**Alex Kovacs**, Director of Finance, Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority

10:30 am to 11:45 am

## Session F2: Surviving and Thriving as a Busy Small Airport

*Gardenia*

Operating a non-hub commercial service airport or a busy primary GA airport is challenging. Meeting regulatory standards requires knowledge, experience, creative budgeting, and maybe a little magic. The presenters will share how their airports met expectations in interesting ways. You will be able model their approaches in thinking differently about your problems at work. The topics will range from operations, security programs (No SSI), capital projects, revenue development, and community engagement. They will advise what to watch out for when you are in their same seat. So, latch your seat belt for this wild ride on the runway less traveled. We assure you an entertaining flight and a safe landing.

**Moderator:** **Mark Witsoe, A.A.E., C.A.E.**, Airport Manager, Napa County Airport

**Speakers:** **Gladys D. Brown, C.A.E.**, Airport Director, Yuma International Airport & Rolle Airfield  
**Cody Raggoltz**, Director of Aviation, Humboldt County Department of Aviation  
**Gretchen Kelly**, Manager, County of San Mateo Airports

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**11:45 am to 1:15 pm**

**Lunch on your own**

**1:15 pm to 2:30 pm**

**Session G1: Peer to Peer Discussion – Commercial Service Airports**

*Camellia*

*Come together with fellow aviation professionals to tackle key issues in the commercial service sector. This is your chance to bring those challenges that keep you up at night into the open. Are you still trying to unwind what to do about PFAS? How are you complying with new TSA mandates? Are technological advancements benefiting your operations, or are they causing more headaches? Our seasoned "SWOT" team facilitators will guide the discussion, drawing on their expertise to uncover effective strategies and innovative solutions to address your pressing concerns. Join us and take proactive steps to overcome your challenges today.*

**1:15 pm to 2:30 pm**

**Session G2: Peer to Peer Discussion – General Aviation Airports**

*Gardenia*

*Come together with fellow aviation professionals to tackle key issues in the general aviation sector. This is your chance to bring those challenges that keep you up at night into the open. Are you struggling to attract new customers to fund essential projects? Are technological advancements benefiting your operations, or are they causing more headaches? And how about compliance and monitoring—are you managing to stay ahead? Our seasoned "SWOT" team facilitators will guide the discussion, drawing on their expertise to uncover effective strategies and innovative solutions to address your pressing concerns. Join us and take proactive steps to overcome your challenges today.*

**Moderators:**

**Mark Witsoe, A.A.E., C.A.E.**, Airport Manager, Napa County Airport

**Ken Moen, A.A.E., C.A.E.**, Special Projects Program Manager, Armstrong Consultants

**2:30 pm to 3:15 pm**

**Break with Exhibitors – Learning/Networking Opportunity/Attendee Giveaways**

*Magnolia*

**3:15 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Session H1: How to Plan and Prepare our Airports and Communities for Electrification**

*Camellia*

*Electrification is the buzz word of the day. For the last 20 years airport managers have been hearing tall tales of Jetson style aircraft coming to an airport near you. Is it science fiction or science fact? The answer to that question remains to be seen but one thing we do know is electrification is here to stay. This informative session will first tackle how do we talk to and prepare our communities for advanced air mobility operations, and second, how do we deliver electric charging to our airports with a focus on working with our local electric utility providers. Join the discussion, share your ideas, and help our airports prepare for this emerging technology.*

**Moderator:**

**Maranda Thompson**, Planning Department Manager, Mead & Hunt

**Speaker:**

**Scott Cutshall, CAM**, President, Real Estate and Sustainability, Clay Lacy Aviation

**3:15 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Session H2: We Need More Hangars!**

*Gardenia*

*Airport management across airports of all sizes has echoed a universal plea: "We need more hangars!" The high demand for hangars poses a multitude of challenges for airport sponsors, spanning from land availability to hangar types and sizes, as well as the decision between self-development or seeking a developer through the RFP process. This session aims to delve into these challenges and offer potential solutions that can be implemented at your airport to address the demand for hangar space. Attendees will gain valuable insights and the opportunity to craft a roadmap for success tailored to their airport's specific needs. Join us to unlock strategies for satisfying the demand for hangar space and paving the way for a thriving aviation community at your airport.*

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**Speakers:** **Cameron Atkins**, Airport Manager, Safford Regional Airport  
**Ken Keatts**, Regional Manager, Erect-A-Tube

**4:30 pm to 4:40 pm** **Conference Wrap Up, Exhibitor Bingo Card Giveaway Grand Drawing**

*Camellia*

*Must be present to win!*

**4:45 pm to 5:45 pm** **Corporate Membership Meeting**

*Bataglieri*

**6:00 pm to 7:00 pm** **President's Cocktail Reception**

*Grand Nave Foyer*

*This event features two complimentary drink tickets for registered attendees.*

**7:00 pm to 9:00 pm** **78<sup>th</sup> Annual President's Banquet**

*Camellia/Gardenia*

*Honor SWAAAE Award winners and Chapter leaders while enjoying a seated plated dinner and full bar. A full conference registration includes a reception/banquet ticket.*

**9:00 pm to 11:30 pm** **Post-Banquet Reception**

*Morgans at Sheraton Grand*

*The Annual Summer Conference concludes with a celebratory afterparty. Attendees and guests are encouraged to attend!*

## **Wednesday – July 24, 2024**

**7:00 am to 7:30 am** **Morning Mavericks – Day 3: The Hike**

**8:00 am to 12:00 pm** **Half-Day with the FAA** (RSVP required via the conference registration form)

*Beavis/Bondi + Virtual Livestream*

*Join our friends at FAA for four hands on sessions to learn detailed information and how-to instructions on policies and procedures.*

**12:00 pm to 1:30 pm** **2025 Airport Management Short Course Conference Planning Committee Meeting**

*Tofanelli*

*All volunteers interested in serving on the 2025 Airport Management Short Course Conference Planning Committee are encouraged to attend this planning kick-off meeting. All are welcome, and it is a great way to get involved in the Chapter!*

*\*Draft agenda subject to change*