

## ABOUT THE COLLOQUIUM CO-CHAIRS

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**Christine Baker** has been the Executive Officer of the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC) in San Francisco, since its inception in 1994. She has served in several management capacities in the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) since 1984, including Chief of the Division of Labor Statistics and Research and Deputy Director for the Division of Workers' Compensation. Previously, Ms. Baker worked at various research organizations and taught college courses on US military bases in Japan and Korea and at the Confucian and Catholic Universities in Seoul, Korea. Under her leadership, CHSWC has grown in its role of overseeing the health, safety and workers' compensation systems in California and recommending administrative and legislative changes for improvement. CHSWC from the start has based its recommendations on findings from studies conducted by independent researchers, with the involvement of the entire community. Ms. Baker currently chairs the Prevention, Benefit Adequacy and Cost containment committee of the International Association of Accident Boards and Commissions (IAIABC). She chairs the Safety and Prevention committee and is a member of the IAIABC Council of Chairs; a member of the Northern Advisory Committee for the Center for Occupational Environmental and Health (COEH) University of California, a member of the policy advisory committee for the Worker Immigrant Safety and Health (WISH); a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Injured Worker Survey (IWS), Workers' Compensation Research Institute; a member of the Department of Insurance's Fraud Advisory Committee, a member of the advisory board for John Burton's Workers' Compensation Policy and Review. She is also a member of the steering committee for the Workers' Compensation Research Group. In 2000, she was awarded the Frances Perkins Award in recognition for her outstanding efforts in furthering accident prevention and safety in the workplace. In 2001, Ms. Baker was awarded the IAIABC Award of Merit for an outstanding contribution of leadership and commitment in furthering the goals of the association. Most recently, Ms. Baker has been nominated to the National Academy of Social Insurance as a member, as well as selected to be on the Steering Committee on workers' Compensation. Ms. Baker earned a Masters Degree and achieved Ph.D. candidacy at the School of Education, University of California, Berkeley.

**Suzanne P. Marria** serves as the Acting Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Industrial Relations in California. The department has statewide jurisdiction for labor standards enforcement (minimum wage, hour and labor standards), occupational safety and health, workers' compensation, apprenticeship standards, labor statistics and research, and state mediation and conciliation services. DIR is a core part of the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency. Ms. Marria, an attorney by profession, practiced in various parts of the department's occupational health and safety and workers' compensation programs between 1984 and 1998, at which time she was appointed as the Department's Assistant Director. From 1988 to 1990, she worked in house with the Air Transport Employees, Local Lodge 1781 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, which represents mechanics and ground workers at the United Airlines maintenance and flight facilities in the Bay Area. Ms. Marria received her bachelor's degree, cum laude, in 1975 from the University of California, San Diego and her Juris Doctor in 1993 from Golden Gate University School of Law. She is the author of "Occupational Safety and Health Regulation" in the California Employment Law, Matthew Bender, and co-authored, "California Passes Workers' Compensation Reform: Implementation is the Next Challenge", Workers' Compensation Policy Review, July/August 2002.