



April 25, 2024

Cohort Fellows,

We look forward to seeing each of you again the week of June 17<sup>th</sup> to kick off the third FSLI residential session. The session will start at 8:00 am on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>. Before we adjourn at 8:30 pm on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, you will have had a full week with a mix of speakers, topics, interactive sessions, agricultural tours, and networking (with one another and executive-level leaders). Plan on flying into the San Luis Obispo airport (SBP) on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, and departing on Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>.

We have assembled some information that will be very important for you to know as you prepare to travel to California. To help ensure everyone's health and safety, we will follow the following **COVID protocol**:

- A negative rapid (antigen) test within 24 hours of your departure is required. This will be done on the honor system.
- Should anyone start to experience COVID-like symptoms, we ask that you test (tests will be available on-site) and isolate yourself if the test is positive.
- Masks will be available for anyone who wishes to use them.

### **Location, Travel, and Arrival**

The session will be held at The Cliffs Resort in Pismo Beach, CA. Those arriving by plane can use The Cliffs' shuttle service. You must contact The Cliffs directly at 805-773-5000 and ask for shuttle service to schedule a complimentary shuttle to and from the San Luis Obispo airport. This service should be booked **one week** in advance and is not guaranteed. Valet parking is offered to all guests at the rate of \$20 per night. Self-parking is only available at our satellite lot, located only a 3-minute walk north of the main hotel.

Your lodging reservation will be made based on the information you previously shared. If you don't remember when you said you would be arriving, visit the session website at <https://fsl.org/california/>.

Your FSLI tuition covers lodging and all on-site costs except Thursday's dinner on your own. For detailed information on the facility, visit: <http://www.cliffsresort.com/>

## Attire

The general dress for the residential session is business casual. However, please note that we will have dinner one evening with Administrators, so you may want to select more formal attire for this meal. We will also go on off-site, all-day tours to visit production fields and processing plants. The dress code for these activities will be **closed-toed shoes and long pants (no shorts or skirts will be allowed in the fields). Loose jewelry and watches are not recommended**, as they may be required to be removed before entering processing facilities. **No smoking or gum chewing** will be permitted in or around the fields or inside the facilities. The recommendation is to bring sunscreen, a hat, and sunglasses, and dress in layers with a jacket. The processing facility can be very chilly.

We will be eating outdoors for most meals. The weather can be chilly as we are next to the ocean, so bring a jacket or sweater.

## Schedule

A tentative schedule is attached if you need it for your travel approval process. A more detailed one will be shared in the coming weeks.

## Book Exchange

We would like each of you to bring a book you have found valuable in your leadership journey and would like to share it with one of your colleagues. This book will be exchanged for one someone else brings. We would like for you to include the following in the book:

1. Your Name
2. Why did you choose this book to exchange?
3. What valuable insights did you receive from the book?

## Symbols

Plan to bring a "Symbol of Leadership" (a symbol that is personal to you). This can symbolize how you lead, what you think leadership should be, etc. Please be prepared to share your symbol with the whole group--you'll have about 2 minutes to share your "leadership story" about your item, what it means, and why you chose it. Some of these have been quite inspiring in the past!

## **FSLI Staff**

Should you need to reach someone while you are traveling to the residential session or during the session, these cell phone numbers may be of use to you:

- Sam Pardue, FSLI Director: 919-889-0972
- Sarah Kotzian, Program Manager: 919-345-1322

Finally, you may wish to leave space in your luggage, as you will again return home with more than you brought.

I will send you more information as we finalize the schedule and get closer to June. Please be in touch if you have any questions or if there is more information we can provide.

Once again, we look forward to seeing you and continuing this leadership and professional development journey.

Sincerely,

*Sarah H. Kotzian*

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