

**Dr. Martin Shields – Keynote**

Director of the Regional Economics Institute at Colorado State University, and Professor of Economics

Dr. Shields is a regional economist whose primary responsibility is analyzing and forecasting the northern Colorado and Colorado state economies. His research program at the CSU Regional Economics Institute focuses on economic growth, migration and tax policy. He is especially interested in policies that increase and improve labor market opportunities for lower income households.

Dr. Shields has published more than 30 scholarly articles and book chapters, and has presented his findings to diverse economic and community development audiences. Prior to joining Colorado State University, Shields served as director of Pennsylvania State University's Center for Economic and Community Development, and was an associate professor of agricultural and regional economics. He holds an undergraduate degree from Michigan State University, his master's from Penn State, and his doctorate from University of Wisconsin.