



SENIOR EXECUTIVES LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

MERIT, ACCOUNTABILITY, & PERFORMANCE

NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF FEDERAL LEADERSHIP

June 23-24, 2026 | Syracuse University



Presented by
SENIOR EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION



Senior Executive Association Leadership Summit

Theme: Merit, Accountability, & Performance : Navigating the Future of Federal Leadership

DAY TWO: JUNE 24, 2026

Time	Room	Topic	Speaker	
7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.		Registration, Networking and Breakfast (In-Person) Logging On (Virtual)		
8:45 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Welcome Remarks	Dr. Michelle Sutter, Executive Director	
8:50 a.m. - 9:05 a.m. -	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	SEA Awards Presentation Robert Cunningham - Outstanding Senior Executive/Professional of the Year James Durant - Senior Executive/Professional Lifetime Achievement	Ms. Mary Kate Whelan, SEA President	
9:05 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Refining Brilliance: The Human Strategy for High-Performance Government	Brenda Lawrence	
9:45 a.m. - 10:05 a.m.	BREAK:			
Breakout Session One:				
10:05 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Accountability With Dignity: A People-First Approach to Driving Performance in Federal Teams	Scott Doggett	
	Room 940	From MEH to MEI: Leading the Cultural Shift Toward Merit, Excellence, and Initiative	Adeline Maissonet	
	Room 938	Principles of Coaching & Mentoring	Amy Parker	
10:45 a.m. - 11:05 a.m.	BREAK:			
Breakout Session Two:				
11:05 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Refining Brilliance: The Human Strategy for High-Performance Government	Dr. Brenda Lawrence	
	Room 940	HR 3.0: Delivering Merit, Accountability and Performance in a Skills-based Work Environment	Virginia Huth & Max Wyche	Fireside Chat
	Room 938	Leading and Mentoring to meet the needs of a Multi-Generational Workforce	Kirk Lawrence, UNC Brian Goldberg, SIRVA	
11:45 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.	TRANSITION TO LUNCH			
12:05 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	The Courage to Keep Leading in Crazy Times: Leading from the Inside Out	Pierre Quinn	
Breakout Session Three:				
1:20 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	The Human Edge: Leading AI, Accountability, and Mission at Scale	Siddhi Watkins	
	Room 940	Budget & Resourcing in the Federal Government	Ricardo Aguilera	
	Room 938	The Weight of the Seat: From GS to SES	Padric Hall	
2:00 p.m. - 2:20 p.m.	BREAK			
Breakout Session Four:				
2:20 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	The Power of P I V O T	Quan Boatman	
	Room 940	Essentials of Leadership building the right culture in uncertain times	Chip Fulghrum	
	Room 938	Blueprint to SES: Navigating the new hiring process and requirements	Kelly Foster	
3:00 p.m. - 3:20 p.m.	NETWORKING BREAK			
3:20 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Better Decisions by Design: Using AI to create a Personal Digital Advisory Board	Brynt Parameter	
4:00 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	TBD	Syracuse Speaker	Host +Sponsor
4:20 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	Closing Remarks	Dr. Michelle Sutter, Executive Director	
(T) Optional Workshops				
4:20 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Plenary- Multi-Purpose	(T)Blueprint to SES: Navigating the new hiring process and requirements	Kelly Foster	
	Room 940	(T)Principles of Coaching & Mentoring	Amy Parker	
	Room 938	(T) Toastmasters	Valerie Austin Desmond Aberdeen	