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N E W S R E L E A S E

Mickey Edwards

“It's Time to Turn Republicans and Democrats Into Americans”

Wednesday, October 10 / 8 p.m. / Free
Lobero Theatre
33 East Canon Perdido, Santa Barbara

S U M M A R Y F A C T S

- Mickey Edwards, vice president of Aspen Institute, former congressman from Oklahoma, and author of *The Parties Versus the People* and *Reclaiming Conservatism*
- “It's Time to Turn Republicans and Democrats Into Americans”
- Wednesday, October 10 / 8 p.m. / FREE
- Lobero Theatre, 33 East Canon Perdido, Santa Barbara
- Copies of *The Parties Versus the People* available for purchase and signing
- Information: Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB (805) 893-2317
- Digital copies of press materials available at <http://www.cappscenter.ucsb.edu/news/press-releases/>

Event Description:

American government has become dysfunctional but that's not just because we elect the wrong people; it's because we've created a political system that rewards intransigence and incivility and punishes cooperation and compromise. We've allowed political parties to manipulate our elections and even our governing systems for their own partisan advantage. To fix the problem and get government working again, we have to change the political system itself. Courtesy of The Book Den, copies of *The Parties Versus the People* will be available for purchase and signing at this event.

Speaker Profile:

Former Congressman Mickey Edwards is a lecturer at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. He is also a vice president of the Aspen Institute and director of the Institute's Aspen-Rodel Fellowships in Public Leadership program.

Edwards served as a member of Congress for 16 years, during which time he was a senior member of the House Republican leadership as chairman of the Republican Policy Committee, a member of both the House Appropriations and Budget committees, and ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. After leaving Congress, he taught government and public policy at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government for 11 years before moving to Princeton in 2004. He has taught at Harvard Law School and as a visiting professor at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute.

Edwards has been a regular columnist for a number of newspapers, including the Chicago Tribune, the Los Angeles Times, the San Francisco Examiner, and the Boston Globe, and for years broadcasted weekly political commentary on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered." His articles have also appeared frequently in The New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, the San Francisco Examiner, the Miami Herald, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the Boston Herald, the Tulsa World and other major newspapers, and in such publications as The National Interest, The Public Interest, and Policy Review. He is the author of two books, the co-author of a third, and he has contributed chapters to several more. His latest book is "The Parties Versus the People: How to Turn Republicans and Democrats into Americans" (August, 2012).

Edwards has chaired task forces on foreign policy for The Brookings Institution and the Council on Foreign Relations and is a director of several organizations in the fields of public policy and foreign affairs, including The Constitution Project. He has also been an adviser to the State Department. Edwards has degrees in both journalism and law.

Reviews of *The Parties Versus the People: How to Turn Republicans and Democrats into Americans*:

"Overcoming tribalism and knee-jerk partisanship is the central challenge of our time. Mickey Edwards shows why and how in this fascinating book filled with sensible suggestions."—*Walter Isaacson, author of "Steve Jobs"*

"America faces great challenges in a rapidly changing, increasingly competitive world. Regrettably, hyper-partisanship and polarization have created gridlock, threatening this generation's legacy and imperiling our children's' future. Mickey Edwards performs a great public service by identifying not only the problem but also proposing possible solutions. Let us hope that our fellow citizens heed his call and begin once more to define ourselves principally not as Democrats or Republicans, liberals or conservatives, but as Americans with a common heritage and a common destiny."— *Evan Bayh, U.S. Senator (1999-2011)*

"In 'The Parties Versus the People', Mr. Edwards gets to the heart of what most troubles Americans about our government today. Nothing gets done, our elected representatives play the blame game, and the operative word is gridlock. . . . a well-written, thoughtful and timely book."—*The Washington Times*

Sponsor:

This event is presented by the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UCSB.

**For more information, call
UCSB Walter H. Capps Center for the
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at (805) 893-2317**

**Editor: For color images,
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