

# Texas Leadership Group To Meet With World Leaders On Trade And Globalization

Tuesday, May 01, 2007

Contact: Margaret Justus  
281-250-8253

## *Texas Lyceum returns to nation's Capitol for in-depth conference*

(Washington, D.C.) Members of the Texas Lyceum, a non-profit, non-partisan leadership group focused on public policy issues facing Texas and the United States, turn their attention to the issues of trade and globalization during meetings this week in Washington D.C. Over three days, more than 50 members of the 27-year-old group will meet with expert trade officials and members of Congress to discuss various aspects of this issue including: The Role of Global Institutions, Trade Promotion Authority, and the Importance of International Trade to Texas.

\*“It is a given that Texas is a leader in the global marketplace,” said Maggie Radford, President of the Texas Lyceum. “In fact, for five consecutive years our state has led the nation in export revenues.”

\*“The impact of trade on our nation, our state and our society as a whole is growing. This is why it is very important that Lyceum members, who convene in order to sharpen their leadership skills in both the public and private sectors, deepen their knowledge of trade issues,” Radford continued.

Upon arrival, Texas Lyceum members will meet informally with Lyceum alumnus Texas Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison. Additional conference events include meetings with international trade experts from the World Bank, members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, and U.S. and international Ambassadors, including Ambassador Raminder Singh Jassal, Deputy Chief of the Indian Mission to the US.

\* Source: Texas Business & Industry Data Center <http://www.bidc.state.tx.us/overview/2-2te.htm#InternationalTrade>

## **Exploring NAFTA, CAFTA and beyond**

North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) trading partners are the largest export market for Texas goods and

Mexico is the top importer to Texas. To better understand these important relationships, the Lyceum directors will meet with officials of the US Mexico Chamber of Commerce and will be honored with a reception at the Canadian Embassy. Implementation of CAFTA will also have implications for Texas, and Lyceum members will be meeting with Ambassadors from CAFTA countries for a discussion of this trade agreement. Additionally, the group will have a discussion of Trade Promotion Authority with current and former members of Congress including Sen. John Cornyn, Rep. Charlie Gonzales, and former Rep. Jim Turner among others.

### **Competing Points of View**

The Lyceum will not limit its conversations to proponents of trade, but will continue its tradition of robust debates by talking with opponents of trade and globalization initiatives. On Saturday morning, the Lyceum will host a panel discussion on the pros and cons of trade with a panel of experts from all sides of the issue including, trade lawyers, representatives of Public Citizen and corporations such as Wal-Mart. (See conference schedule and a list of all panel participants below.)

### **About the Texas Lyceum:**

The Texas Lyceum, a non-profit, non-partisan organization, is the premier statewide leadership organization. The group consists of 96 men and women from throughout the state, who begin their six-year term while under the age of 46, and who have demonstrated leadership in their community and profession, together with a deep commitment to Texas.

The association has an impressive list of former members who are serving or have served in the public office including: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison-(R) Texas, Governor Rick Perry, former Texas Comptroller John Sharp, Texas State Senators Rodney Ellis (D)-Houston and Kirk Watson (D)-Austin, Houston Mayor Bill White, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings and President George W. Bush.

The Texas Lyceum acts as a catalyst to bring together diverse opinions and expertise to focus on national and state issues, and seeks to emphasize constructive private sector, public sector and individual responses to the issues.

To accomplish these purposes, the Lyceum conducts periodic public forums, publishes the Lyceum Journal, The Texas Lyceum Poll and conducts programs for the Directors to explore and discuss key economic and social issues of the state and nation. For more information visit: [www.texaslyceum.org](http://www.texaslyceum.org)

###

***Texas Lyceum Trade and Globalization Conference Schedule***

**May 3-6, 2007  
Washington, D.C.**

**The following conference events are open to the press.**

**Thursday, May 3**

2:30 – 6:00pm

Plenary Session

Location: The World Bank, 701 18th Street, NW, JB1-080

2:30 – 3:30pm

Overview of the World Bank

**Maya Brahmam**, Head, External Affairs, Communications  
Network

3:30 – 4:30pm

Changing Role of the World Bank in Low and Middle Income Countries

**Michael Koch**, Manager, Finance, Resource & Mobilization Department

4:30 – 5:30pm

Global Economic Prospects 2007: Managing the Next Wave of Globalization

**Hans Timmer**, Lead Economist and Manager of the Global Trends Group

6:00 – 8:00pm

Cocktail Reception at The World Bank (MC12 Gallery)

**The Honorable John Cornyn**, U.S. Senator, Texas **Al Zapanta**, President, US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce among others.

**Friday, May 4**

10:00am – 5:00pm

Plenary Session on Capitol Hill

Location: Cannon Caucus Room, 3rd Floor, Cannon House Office Building

10:00 – 10:30am

Welcome & Remarks: **The Honorable Jim Turner**, former U.S. Representative  
and Lyceum alumnus

10:30 – 11:30am

Congressional Panel: Trade Promotion Authority  
**U.S. Rep. Charlie Gonzales**, D-Texas and others

12:30 – 1:15pm

Luncheon Keynote: **Ms. Leslie Schweitzer**  
Senior Trade Advisor, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

1:30 – 2:15pm

**Jim Wilkinson**, Chief of Staff for Secretary of the Treasury Henry Paulson

2:15 – 3:15pm

The Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) Panel Discussion with  
Ambassadors of the CAFTA Countries Facilitator: **Eric Farnsworth**, Vice  
President, Council of the Americas

**His Excellency Dr. Flavio Dario Espinal**, The Dominican Republic  
**His Excellency Sr. Jose Guillermo Castillo Villacorta**, Guatemala

3:30 – 4:15pm

Assistant Secretary of State **Dina Habib Powell**

4:15 – 5:00pm

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (International Affairs) **Clay Lowery**

7:00 – 9:00pm

Cocktail Reception at the Canadian Embassy

**Speaker: Susan Harper**, Minister-Counsellor for Trade and Economic Policy

## Saturday, May 5

9:30am – 2:30pm

Plenary Session at The Ronald Reagan Building & International Trade Center, 1300  
Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (Oceanic Room)

9:30 – 10:15am

**Assistant Secretary of Commerce Israel Hernandez** International Trade  
Administration (U.S. Department of Commerce)

10:30 – Noon

Issues Panel & Discussion

International Trade & Globalization: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Moderator: Tim Belton, President, Business Ethics Forum

**Lori Wallach**, Director, Global Trade Watch (Public Citizen)

**Brenda Hall**, CEO, Bridge 360

**Chris Dunn**, Vinson & Elkins

**Tres Bailey**, Federal Relations Manager, Wal-Mart

**Vicki Gass**, Senior Associate for Rights & Development, Washington Office on Latin America

12:15 – 1:15pm

Talk the Talk: The Media and Trade

Location: Ronald Reagan Building (The Rotunda)

**Rick Dunham**, Business Week

**Ted Alden**, Council on Foreign Relations (formerly with Financial Times)

**Martin Vaughan**, National Journal's Congress Daily

1:30 – 2:30pm

Lunch and Summary Discussion: The Importance of International Trade to Texas – Why Should It Matter to You?

Former (Texas) Secretary of State **Geoffrey Connor**

Closing Event:

7:00 – 9:00pm

Cocktail Reception at the Indian Embassy

Speaker: **Ambassador Raminder Singh Jassal**, Deputy Chief of Mission