

E. J. OURSO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Hall of Distinction
&
Donor Recognition Ceremony



Program

Welcome and Introductions

*Dean Robert T. Sumichrast
E. J. Ourso College of Business*

Remarks By

*Chancellor Sean O'Keefe
Louisiana State University*

Recognition of Donors

Dinner

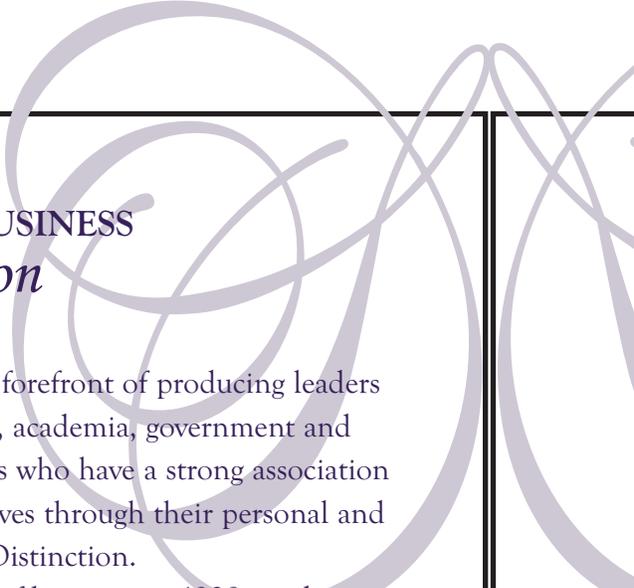
Catered by Unique Cuisine

Induction of 2007 Hall of Distinction Members

Honorees

*Ross J. Centanni
Laura Alexander Leach
Doyle Z. Williams*

Closing Remarks



E. J. OURSO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Hall of Distinction

LSU's E. J. Ourso College of Business has long been at the forefront of producing leaders who make significant contributions to the areas of business, academia, government and the community at-large. Whether alumni or not, individuals who have a strong association with the college of business and have distinguished themselves through their personal and civic achievements are considered annually for the Hall of Distinction.

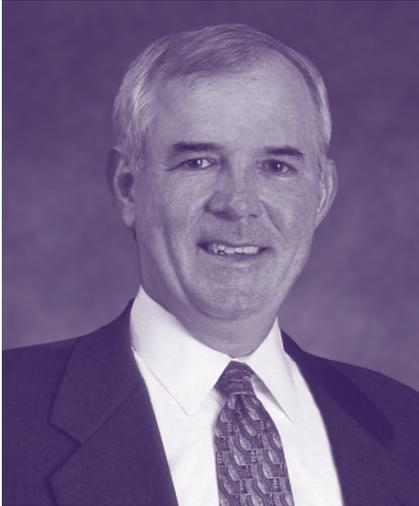
Well before the formal establishment of the college of business in 1928, students attending the University with aspirations in various endeavors were taught the basic principles of entrepreneurship necessary to be successful. Such successes established the foundation later alumni would utilize to achieve their accomplishments. Since 1996, the E. J. Ourso College of Business has honored these individuals through the Hall of Distinction.

Nominees for the Hall of Distinction may be submitted by anyone and are solicited on behalf of the college of business by the Dean's Advisory Council, the College Executive Committee and past inductees.



E. J. OURSO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

2007 Hall of Distinction



Ross J. Centanni

Ross Centanni is the chairman of the board of directors of Gardner Denver Inc. and serves as the company's president and chief executive officer as well. Established in 1993, Gardner Denver Inc. is a recognized world-wide leader in the manufacturing of compressors, blowers, pumps and fluid transfer equipment and technologies.

A native of Waggaman, Louisiana, Mr. Centanni received his industrial technology degree from LSU in 1967 and earned an MBA from the then LSU College of Business Administration in 1971.

Mr. Centanni's professional career began with the B.F. Goodrich Company in Akron, Ohio. After seven years, he ventured to Houston, Texas, where he spent two years with Occidental Petroleum before joining Cooper Industries in 1980 as director of its Corporate Planning and Development Group.

In 1993, Mr. Centanni was chosen to serve as president and CEO of the Cooper Industries' spin-off Gardner Denver Inc., located in Quincy, Illinois. Five years later, in 1998, he was elected chairman of the company's board of directors. That same year, Gardner Denver was named among the 200 Best Small Companies in America by *Forbes* magazine, and Mr. Centanni was a finalist in Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year Program.

Under Mr. Centanni's leadership, Gardner Denver was designated as one of Dow Jones & Company Incorporated's highest rated stocks in August and September of 2006. Last August, the company was one of only eight with annual sales of at least \$200 million named in the *Wall Street Journal's* "SmartMoney Stock Screen" feature. Gardner Denver was also ranked in *Fortune* magazine's "100 Fastest Growing Companies" in 2006, and this past January the company made *Forbes* magazine's "The 400 Best Big Companies in America."

Besides serving on the board of directors of Denman Services Inc. of Quincy, Illinois, Esterline Corporation of Bellvue, Washington and the Petroleum Equipment Suppliers Association in Houston, Texas, Mr. Centanni is also a member of the executive committee of the International Compressed Air and Allied Machinery Committee. He is a past member of the Quincy University Board of Trustees and a past member of the board of directors of the Great River Economic Development Foundation of Quincy, Illinois.

Mr. Centanni and his wife, Sherry, have been married for 15 years and have two children together - Emily and Christopher. He has three additional children - Jason, Cort, and Shea. The Centanni's have one grandson and are expecting a second grandchild in August.

Reflections

I grew up in Waggaman, a small town outside of New Orleans. My father was an avid sports fan and he passed on his love of sports to his children and grandchildren. My first memory of LSU was listening to the football games on the radio every Saturday.

It was not until 1958 that I had the opportunity to attend my first LSU football game. That was when LSU had the White Team, the Go Team, the Chinese Bandits, and, of course, Billy Cannon. The experience was overwhelming. In 1960, I attended my next game with a couple of high school friends. This time I had the opportunity to explore the campus and, as I walked around, it felt like home. It was then that I made the decision that I wanted to go to LSU.

I was a child of the “Leave It To Beaver” and “Father Knows Best” generation. LSU fit right into this image in the early ‘60s.

Some of the specific things I remember are:

- Filling a car at a gas station in Tigertown with some friends and hearing the news over the radio of President John Kennedy’s assassination.
- Staying at home on a Sunday evening to watch the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show and everyone talking about “how long their hair was.”
- The girls couldn’t wear pants to class. When they would leave the dorm at night, they had to have a reason for wearing pants, and they always said they were going bowling. LSU had to have the highest number of female bowlers per capita in the U.S.
- I also remember there was a curfew for the girl’s dorms and them being locked in for a hurricane.
- I joined Kappa Sigma fraternity and remember some great times, including the “South Seas Island” weekends.

When I started at LSU, ROTC was mandatory for the first two years. After the Gulf of Tonkin Incident, I decided to take Advanced Army ROTC, which then required me to go on active duty.

My first major was electrical engineering, which I found not to be what I expected – it had nothing to do with people, so I transferred my major to industrial technology. When I told my professor I was changing majors, he told me I was making a big mistake. I believe he was wrong!

During my senior year, the dean of the school called me in and recommended that I take advantage of a degree that was becoming popular – the MBA. He suggested that I return to LSU and enroll after my army tour. When I returned to LSU, I found the school completely changed because of the Vietnam War. It was not the happy, easygoing campus I left. The whole environment had changed, and so had I.

My decision to change majors proved to be one of the best decisions I have ever made. My degree prepared me well for my current position as chairman, president, and CEO of Gardner Denver Inc. When the company was spun-off from Cooper Industries in late 1993, it was a small, fledging company drowning in debt. With the help and support of our employees, we paid down debt and established a very basic six-point formula for growth. Total focus and dedication to this formula has enabled us to grow to a \$1.7 billion company. We are committed to stay the course and continue our focus on profitable growth. It has been my privilege to lead this great company and its employees for the past 16 years.

I have never regretted going to LSU. My education has given me more experiences than I could ever image as a boy from Waggaman. I have traveled the world, met presidents, senators, congressmen, astronauts who have walked on the moon, CEOs of major corporations, and some other very famous people. I have had a life experience with a wonderful wife, five good children, and a new grandson.

I consider it a privilege to be inducted into the E. J. Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction. I am truly honored.



Laura Alexander Leach

Laura Leach is chairman of Sweet Lake Land & Oil Company LLC, chairman of North American Land Company LLC and is a member of the LSU System Board of Supervisors. Mrs. Leach has been a member of the Board of Supervisors for the past 12 years and served as chairman from the fall of 1996 until the fall of 1997.

A native of Lake Charles, Louisiana, Mrs. Leach received her business administration degree from LSU in 1961 and soon afterwards began a lifetime of service and volunteerism.

In 1966, Mrs. Leach married A. Claude "Buddy" Leach Jr. Ever since she has devoted herself to multiple causes, to her family and to providing assistance whenever she can. By the time her husband resigned in the latter half of his third term in the Louisiana Legislature to become the Fourth District Congressman in 1978, Mrs. Leach had been recognized as the Outstanding Young Woman of Vernon Parish. As a member of the Congressional Wives Club, she continued to dedicate her time and energy to committees and boards of various organizations.

Besides her roles in Sweet Lake Land & Oil, North American Land Co. and on the LSU System Board of Supervisors, Leach serves on the boards of the LSU Foundation, the Cadets of the Ole War Skule, the Southwest Louisiana Task Force, Lacassane Company Inc., CKX Inc., and is a member of the State Council for the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools. She is also a sustaining member of Junior League of Lake Charles Inc. and a member of the Lake Charles Pi Beta Phi Alumnae Club.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Leach has previously served on boards and committees for numerous organizations and groups. Her endeavors have not gone unnoticed, and she has been recognized multiple times for her good works. In 1995, Mrs. Leach was given the President's Award by the LSU Foundation. The LSU Alumni Association named her to its Hall of Distinction in 1997 and designated her Alumna of the Year that year as well. In 1998, Mrs. Leach was named Citizen of the Year by the Southwest Louisiana Chamber of Commerce, and, in 2000, she received the Della Krause Theilen Award from the Junior League of Lake Charles Inc. She has been recognized as the Best Patron of the Arts in a Southwest Louisiana Readers Poll five times, was the LSU Women's & Gender Studies Program's Woman of Distinction in 2001, Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana's Champion for Children in 2003, and received LSU-Eunice's Medal for Distinguished Service in 2005.

Mrs. Leach and her husband, Buddy, have been married for 40 years and have three children - Mary, Lucille Ann and Claude. They have been graced as grandparents 10 times.

Reflections

LSU had about 10,000 students when I attended in the 1950s. I came to LSU as a 16 year-old from Lake Charles from a home that had RULES. There were five male students to every female student – I thought I had died and gone to heaven. Needless to say, I had a wonderful time and it took me five years to finish a four-year curriculum, but I loved every second of it.

The physical plant was very different then, as were many other things. There was no Student Union, Maravich Assembly Center, School of Veterinary Medicine or sorority houses. There was, however, the girl's side of the campus and the boy's side of the campus, and Dean of Men Arden O. French and Dean of Women Helen Gordon guarded the area between. The women lived in the dorms surrounding Freshman Circle and in the East and West Halls. The men lived in Hatcher, Hodges and Johnson Dorms, Broussard Hall (the athletic dorm), the Quad, and, famously, the football stadium. It was exciting to stroll by the stadium because the guys would lean out and express their appreciation.

We got our mail at the Field House, and everyone went there between classes. The Gym Armory (now the Cox Communications Academic Center for Student-Athletes) hosted graduations, dances, shows, and many other student events. There was no problem with traffic or parking because only a few students had cars. We rode the bus to town and walked to class, which was quite a hike for the girls, especially in inclement weather.

All the boys had to participate in ROTC their first two years, unless they were exempt for some medical reason. Those who did not belong to ROTC were almost ostracized. The Parade Ground on Drill Day was covered with cadets and many, especially girls, went out to watch the drill. Some girls were selected to be sponsors of the units and marched with the cadets. We did have Angel Flight and Scotch Guard for the girls.

The focal point of the campus was the matchless and magnificent Campanile. The tower clock and the melodious chimes were favorites of the student body and the faculty, and our days were marked by their lovely music. Young women dreamed of having a kiss bestowed on them in front of the Campanile.

Another one-of-a-kind site on campus was the Memorial Oak Grove, dedicated to 30 LSU students and alumni who lost their lives in World War I. It still exists today and surrounds the Student Union.

The Latin American Students resided in the Pan American House which was, and is, very near West Laville Hall. Fire drills always occurred after "lights out" and we would all come streaming out on the west side in our baby doll PJs. The Latin America Students would come out with their guitars in tow and serenade us until the drills were over.

There were no women's sports other than intramurals, and then, as now, football was king. I was a student when we won our first national championship. It was as exciting then as it is now.

General Troy Middleton was president of the University and was the force that put the current library where it is today. He was quoted as saying, "We'll put it where the students will fall over it." It was more like fall in it, for there was a huge excavation in the place where it stands now, and the excavation was there for some time. I heard several students fell in and have never doubted that as partying was very popular.

I loved my days at LSU. I was not the best student, but I had a good time and did graduate. I learned a great deal and several professors had a very positive influence on my life. I continue to apply many of their lessons to my life and business today.

I can truthfully say my love for the University has been enhanced tremendously in the last 12 years while I have been much more involved with the school through my service on the LSU System Board of Supervisors and LSU Foundation. I have grown to appreciate what it takes to run a university and all the difficulties that exist in creating the successful climate for a good education.

I am proud to be associated with this university and proud to be a graduate of the business school. I take much joy in watching its excellence as it progresses toward greatness and being one of the finest colleges in the nation. I am tremendously honored and grateful to be included in the E. J. Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction.



Doyle Z. Williams

Doyle Williams is dean emeritus of the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas and a senior scholar in the Department of Accounting at Kennesaw State University.

A native of Ajax, Louisiana, Dr. Williams earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from Northwestern State University in 1960. He received his masters and Ph.D. in accounting from LSU in 1962 and 1965, respectively.

After early success as a faculty member and the coordinator for the Area of Accounting at Texas Tech University, Dr. Williams was handpicked to chair the University of Southern California's accounting program in 1978. Under his leadership, USC's School of Accounting was established in February of 1979. Dr. Williams would go on to serve as the interim dean of the USC School of Business Administration for two years and was the chairman of the Accounting Education Change Commission from its inception in 1989 until 1993.

In 1993, Dr. Williams was appointed dean of the Walton College and the Sam M. Walton Leadership Chair at the University of Arkansas. He held both distinctions for 12 years. During his tenure the business school was enhanced vastly and was even named by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the most improved business schools in the United States. During the University of Arkansas' capital campaign that ended June 30, 2005, the Walton College raised over \$223 million. To honor Dr. Williams' numerous accomplishments the University, that same year, established the Doyle Z. and Maynette Derr Williams Chair in Professional Accounting.

From 2004-05, Dr. Williams served as chair of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the accrediting body for business schools. It was in October of 2006 that he joined the faculty of the Coles College of Business at Kennesaw State University as a senior scholar.

Dr. Williams' distinguished career includes service as president of the American Accounting Association, vice president of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and vice president and trustee for the California CPA Foundation for Education and Research, just to name a few.

Honors for Dr. Williams include the Beta Alpha Psi National Council Accountant of the Year Award, the California Society of CPAs Distinguished Professor Award, the USC School of Accounting's Distinguished Service Award, the AICPA's Outstanding Accounting Educator Award, and the Federation of Schools of Accountancy Faculty Merit Award. He has received the Arkansas Society of CPA's Lifetime Achievement Award in Education and, in 2002, was awarded the American Institute of CPAs' Gold Medal, the organization's highest honor.

Reflections

Unlike the majority of LSU alumni, my four years at LSU were as a graduate student. During those years of intense study, I was able to forge a close professional bond with both the faculty who taught me and my fellow classmates. Both the faculty and LSU alumni have been instrumental in shaping my career.

My relationship with LSU began while working in New Orleans for Haskins & Sells, an international CPA firm, I applied to several universities for summer study to pursue my Masters of Accounting. LSU offered me the Humble Oil and Refining Co. Scholarship that paid for all expenses for one year for the Master of Accounting Program, with the proviso that I attend full-time during the academic year. I accepted and enrolled in LSU in the summer of 1961.

During my years at LSU, I lived on the graduate floor of Hatcher Hall. My roommate for the fall semester was Germain Boer, a first-year doctoral student in accounting. During the course of the year, Germain urged me to continue my studies in the PhD program. Upon his encouragement, I applied for admission to the program and for an assistantship. Fortunately, I was approved for both. I received my Master of Accounting in the summer of 1962 and began the PhD in accounting in the fall of 1962.

I vividly recall teaching my first class as a graduate assistant at the age of 22. Although many of the students were older than me, that first semester experience confirmed that I had made the right decision to prepare for a career in academia. Graduate assistants assisted with student registration (these were pre-computer days) by handing out class cards. I recall having the privilege of issuing a class card to the first African-American student to enroll as an undergraduate at LSU.

During my graduate studies, the accounting faculty members were extraordinarily patient, kind, and helpful. I particularly remember Professors Clarence Dunn, Lloyd Morrison, Fritz MacCameron, and William (Bill) Hoffman (who helped me publish my first paper). The faculty prepared me well for a very rewarding career in academia and for a career of professional service. As I neared graduation, I visited seven universities and received offers from six.

Upon receiving my PhD in 1965, I accepted a faculty position at Texas Tech University largely due to the influence of my close friend Germain Boer. He had received his masters at Texas Tech and was recruited to return when he received his doctorate at LSU. He, in turn, recruited me to join him.

In 1978, I was recruited to serve as the founding dean of the School of Accounting at the University of Southern California. During my years there, I had the opportunity to meet a well-known LSU alumnus, Lod Cook. He included me in the annual luncheons he hosted at Atlantic Richfield Company's headquarters for the LSU Alumni Association Board of Directors. I, in turn, when serving as interim dean of the USC School of Business, honored Lod with the School's Distinguished Achievement in Management Award.

In the fall of 1992, another LSU alumnus, Jackson White, then head of the Department of Accounting at the University of Arkansas, approached me about being a candidate for the position of dean of the University of Arkansas College of Business, a position I accepted in the fall of 1993. In 1998, as a result of a \$50 million upfront cash gift to the College, we persuaded the Walton Family to let us change the name of the College to the Sam M. Walton College of Business. I became dean emeritus in 2005 and retired from the University of Arkansas in 2006.

A highlight of my 40 years of service to the American Institute of CPAs was having the opportunity to work with other outstanding LSU alumni, including two members of the E. J. Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction—Herman J. "Monday" Lowe and Jake Netterville. Another LSU alumnus and close friend, James Don Edwards, was instrumental in providing the opportunity for my early leadership roles with the American Accounting Association. Indeed, many LSU alumni, like the faculty, have had a major influence on my career.

In my second year at Texas Tech, I met a faculty member in the College of Home Economics, Dr. Maynette Derr. We have enjoyed 40 wonderful years together at Texas Tech University, the University of Southern California, University of Arkansas, and now part-time at Kennesaw State University. She has been a wonderful partner and advisor throughout my career. I wish to thank her and our two children for their support and encouragement over the years.

I am humbled and honored to be inducted into the E. J. Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction. I wish to share this honor with those LSU alumni, faculty, friends, and family who were so helpful and supportive. Thank you, LSU, for giving me the foundation for any success I have been privileged to achieve.

Past Inductees of the
E. J. OURSO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Hall of Distinction

2006

James M. Benhard Jr.
James E. Maurin
Jeffrey N. Springmeyer

2005

Joseph L. Herring
Patricia C. Hewlett
Bartholomew F. Palmisano

2004

Eduardo Aguirre Jr.
John C. Hamilton
William S. Slaughter III

2003

John Q. Barnidge
J. Gerard Jolly
Eddie J. Jones
Roger H. Ogden
Kathryn M. Sullivan

2002

Richard F. Gill
Harry T. Hawks
D. Martin Phillips
Kay G. Priestly
Frederick E. Wolfert

2001

Kerry D. Brandon
Jake Lee Netterville
Julian & Sidney Carruth
E. Robert Theriot III

2000

Herman J. Lowe
Norman V. Kinsey
Joseph H. Campbell

1999

E.R. Campbell
Randy L. Ewing
Ronald A. Laborde

1998

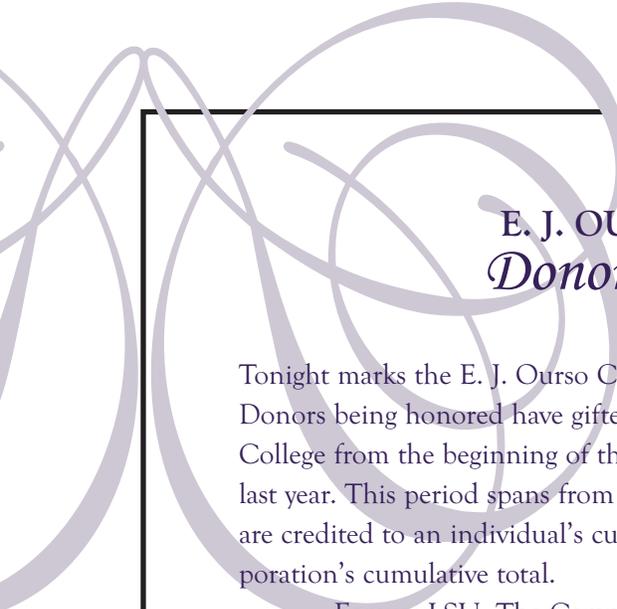
Carol A. Calkins
U.J. LeGrange
A. Emmet Stephenson Jr.

1997

Aaron Beam Jr.
J. Terrell Brown
Robert F. Kelley
Bernard F. Sligar
William W. Rucks IV

1996

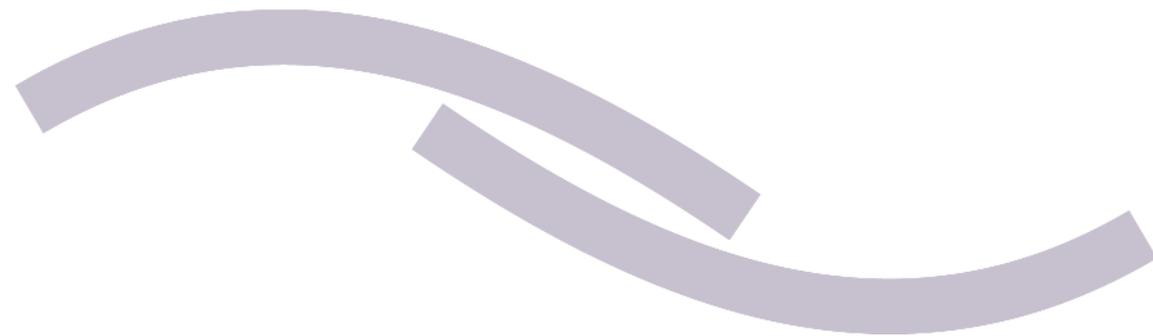
James C. Flores
Robert S. Greer Sr.
Susan Meredith Phillips
G. Lee Griffin



E. J. OURSO COLLEGE OF BUSINESS *Donor Recognition Ceremony*

Tonight marks the E. J. Ourso College of Business' inaugural Donor Recognition Ceremony. Donors being honored have gifted \$250,000 or more cumulatively to the LSU Foundation for the College from the beginning of the quiet phase of the Forever LSU Campaign through the end of last year. This period spans from July 1, 2001 until December 31, 2006. Corporate matching funds are credited to an individual's cumulative giving total, but are also attributed to the matching corporation's cumulative total.

Forever LSU: The Campaign for Louisiana State University, is the largest, most ambitious fundraising campaign in school history. The campaign strategy supports the National Flagship Agenda, the plan that will position LSU as one of the leading public institutions in the nation. The E. J. Ourso College is grateful for the support of these generous donors.



The Dean's Advisory Council

The Dean's Advisory Council exists to promote and improve the E. J. Ourso College of Business. These accomplished professionals donate their time, talents and resources to support Dean Sumichrast in his efforts to enhance the College's offerings and image.

The Executive Committee of the Dean's Advisory Council is comprised of the chairs of the five committees of the council, the dean, and other selected individuals to oversee the administrative functions of the council as a whole.

Richard C. Adkerson	Richard Frank Gill	James Edward Maurin*
Robin P. Arkley II	Jonathan Kramer Greer	Rolfe H. McCollister Jr.
Jon D. Babb	G. Lee Griffin	Markham R. McKnight
John Q. Barnidge	William Dale Griffin*	Sandra Elaine Meyer
John W. Barton Sr.	John C. Hamilton Sr.	Jake Lee Netterville
Bryan Keith Benoit	James Brady Harris Jr.	Roger Houston Ogden
Donald T. Bollinger	Harry T. Hawks	Bartholomew F. Palmisano Sr.
John Herbert Boydston	Eric Hespeneheide	D. Martin Phillips
Kerry Dell Brandon	Patricia Curtis Hewlett	Kay G. Priestly
John Terrell Brown	Andrea L. Houston	Kimberly Lewis Robinson
John Terrell Brown Jr.	Kirby E. Hughes II*	J. Malcolm Robinson*
Daryl G. Byrd	Joseph Gerard Jolly	William W. Rucks IV
Carol M. Calkins*	Robert T. Justis*	Peggy Scott*
Randall Paul Courtney	Delos Lavern Knight III	James D. Shelton
David T. Crary*	Edward A. Landry	William S. Slaughter III
Charles F. D'Agostino*	William R. Lane*	Jeffrey Neil Springmeyer
Karen A. Deville*	Charles D. Lein	David P. Steiner
D. Yvonne Donaldson*	Eric Bernard Lewis	Richard M. Sturlese
James Lawrence Duggins	Richard A. Lipsey	Kathryn Medus Sullivan
Deborah A. Elam	Patrick O. Little	Robert T. Sumichrast*
Randy Lew Ewing	Antonio J. Lucio	E. Robert Theriot III
James C. Flores	Wendy Osborn Luedtke*	Stephen Mitchell Toups
Thomas Lee Frazer	Farrell James Malone	Thomas H. Turner
Pamela Ann Freeman	Roy O. Martin III	Kenneth Mark Weaver*
Donald J. Gauci	Richard E. Matheny*	Frederick E. Wolfert*

* Denotes Executive Committee Member