



Improving life in rural Louisiana while building the next generation entrepreneurial ecosystem by connecting and creating strategic partnerships

**LaRuE Development Summit Program Draft
Paragon Casino Resort
Sunday, July 7-Tuesday, July 9, 2019**



**EDA University Center for
Economic Development
Southern University, BR**

Sunday, July 7, 2019

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Chairman's Welcome Reception-Tunica-Biloxi
Reservation –CERC Building
Greetings from: Chairman Marshall Pierite
Chancellor John Pierre
Dean Donald Andrews
TBTLA Council Members
Congressman Steven Horsford

Monday, July 8, 2019

7:15 – 4:00PM

Registration

8:00 – 9:00AM

Welcome Breakfast- Mari Showroom
Jeremy Zahn (TBTLA Council Member) - Tunica-Biloxi History
Chancellor John Pierre- Southern University Law Center
Dean Donald Andrews- EDA University Center for Economic
Development, Southern University College of Business

Chairman Marshall Pierite, TBTLA- Opening Prayer & Greetings

9:00 – 9:15AM Break

Welcome: Summit Moderator: Former State Senator Nick Gautreaux

9:15 – 10:15AM **Developments in Financial Services Affecting Rural Communities**

Moderator: Jerry Prejean-Senior Vice President, Iberia Bank
Panelist:

1. Marshall Pierite-Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of LA Chairman and CEO/Owner of The Pierite Group, LLC
2. Congressman Steven Horsford-Nevada
3. Will Campbell-VP of Commercial Services/Mortgage Retail-Essential Federal Credit Union
4. Bryon Garrety- CPA, Garrety and Associates

10:15 – 10:30AM Break

10:30 – 11:30AM **5G Expansion & Broadband Opportunities in Rural Communities**

Moderator: John Gallagher- Executive Director, Louisiana Municipal Association

Panelists:

1. Greg Clinton-Director of Information Technology & Facilities
North Carolina Central University School of Law
2. Leslie Durham- Governor's Designee to the Delta Regional Authority
3. Clint Odom- Senior Vice President of Policy & Advocacy for the National Urban League

11:45AM – 1:00PM LUNCHEON

Guest Speaker: Congressman Ralph Abraham
Introduced By: Senator Neil Riser

1:00 – 1:15AM Break

1:15 – 2:15PM **Healthcare Access in Rural Communities**

Moderator: Charles Kennedy Jr. - President/CEO Kennedy Financial Services

Panelists:

1. Dr. Bhaskar Toodi-Health Economist-LA Dept. of Health
2. Ron Henderson- Deputy Commissioner-Office of Consumer Advocacy & Diversity for the LA Dept. of Insurance
3. Rod Teamer- Director Diversity Programs and Business Development- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of LA
4. Dr. Arthur Webb- Medical Director for Metropolitan Medical

2:15 – 3:20PM

Workforce Development Opportunities

Moderator: Kevin Billiot- Consultant, K&L Management

Panelists:

1. Jason Green, SkillSmart
2. Congressman Steven Horsford-Nevada
3. Clair Marceaux, Cameron Parish Port, Harbor and Terminal- Port Director
4. Randall Domingue- Assistant Secretary, LA Workforce Commission

3:20 – 3:30PM

Break

3:30 – 4:30PM

Small Business Opportunities

Moderator: Dr. David Alijani- AT&T Endowed Professor and Chair of the Computer Information Systems at Southern University at New Orleans.

Panelists:

1. Jo Ann Lawrence- Deputy District Director, LA SBA
2. Dr. Harold Langford- Professor of Business Administration- LSUA
3. Dr. Louis Mancuso- Managing Partner-The Q Marketing Group, LLC

4:45 – 5:45PM

Networking Reception – Big Daddy E's
Featuring- Southern University Brass Band Ensemble
Special Ceremony- Public Service Leadership Award

6:00 – 8:00PM

Dinner – Mari Showroom
Keynote Speaker: Dr. Ralph Christy- Professor of Emerging Markets at Cornell University
Introduced By: Dr. Curman Gaines

Tuesday, July 9, 2019

- 7:30AM – Noon Registration
- 8:00 – 9:00AM Breakfast- Mari Showroom
- Guest Speaker: Governor John Bel Edwards
Introduced by: Representative Robert Johnson
- 9:00 – 9:15AM Break
- 9:15 – 10:15AM **New Market Opportunities in Agriculture**
- Moderator: Dr. Shantel Hebert-Magee - Commonwealth Fund Fellow, Harvard Medical School
- Panelists:
1. Tony Gobert-Lead Instructor, Horticulture Department Gwinnett Technical College
 2. Calvin Walker-Southern University Ag Center
 3. Dwight Bertrand- McNeese State University Agriculture Economics Professor
 4. Lee Jones-Assistant State Director for USDA Rural Economic Development
- 10:15-11:30AM **Creating and Improving Economic and Business Relationships with Tribal Governments**
- Moderator: Eric Tober – Principal & Director, Cornerstone Government Affairs
- Panelists:
1. Heather Urena, Executive Director, Kisatchie Delta Regional Planning & Development District
 2. Bailey Walker- President-American Indian Chamber of Commerce Oklahoma
 3. Earl Evans- Tribal Administrator, TBTLA
 4. Rick Ranson- Manager, Economic Development North-Cleco Power, LLC
 5. Jody Cummings- Steptoe
- 11:30-11:45AM Break
- 11:45 – 1:00 LUNCHEON- Mari Showroom

Speaker: Dr. John Butler-University of Texas at Austin-
Management Professor
Introduced by: Introduced by Dr. Bijoy Sahoo the Senior
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at Southern
University in Baton Rouge

1:00 – 1:15PM

Break

1:15 – 2:15PM

Community Development in Louisiana

Moderator: Former State Senator Donald Cravins, Sr.

Panelists:

1. Bill Rodier- Executive Director, St. Landry Economic Development
2. Larkin Simpson- Vice President of the Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance (CLEDA)
3. Honorable Sharon Weston Broome-Mayor-President East Baton Rouge Parish
4. Patrick Witty- Louisiana Economic Development
5. Mayor Jamie Mayo, City of Monroe

2:15-3:00PM

Concluding Comments