

## Conference Agenda

### Wednesday, May 25

**5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Early Registration and Welcoming Jazz Reception**

### Thursday, May 26

**8:00 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m. Welcoming Remarks**

**Donald M. Pierson**, CED, Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Economic Development

**8:45 a.m. Outlook on Current U.S. Trade Policy Issues and Their Impact on the Gulf South**

**Mark Smith**, Managing Director, Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

**9:30 a.m. Panel on Brazil and the Gulf South**

**Moderator: David P. Schulingkamp**, Honorary Consul of Brazil and Vice President, M.G. Maher & Co., Inc.

**Frank Carrico**, Principal Commercial Officer, U.S. Consulate General, San Paulo

**Igly Elaine Serafim**, Market Research Specialist with the Commercial Section at the U.S. Consulate General in São Paulo, Brazil

**Julie Berins Gillis**, Business Development Analyst for Brazil, Intralox, Inc.

**10:45 a.m. Panel on Canada and the Gulf South**

**Moderator: Patricia C. Denechaud**, Honorary Consul of Canada and President, Crescent City Consultants

**Thomas Boam**, Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs, U.S. Embassy, Ottawa

**Bob Armstrong**, Senior Vice President, PBB Global Logistics and Vice Chairman, Canadian Association of Importers and Exporters

**Philippe Gustin**, Executive Director, Le Centre International de Lafayette

**12:00 Noon Luncheon Program**

**Keynote Speaker:**

**Douglas B. Baker**, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Service Industries Tourism and Finance, U.S. Department of Commerce

**1:45 p.m. Gulf Coast Port Perspectives on International Trade**

**Moderator: Gary La Grange**, President & CEO, Port of New Orleans, and Chairman, American Association of Port Authorities

**Mark Sheppard**, Vice President, Trade and Development, Alabama State Port Authority

**Joel Chaisson**, Director, Port of South Louisiana

**Robert Scafidel**, Executive Director, St. Bernard Port, Harbor & Terminal District

**3:00 p.m. Roundtable Discussion: Gulf States International Issues and Areas of Cooperation**

**Moderator: Carol Conway**, Deputy Director, Southern Growth Policies Board

**4:30 p.m. Closing Wine & Cheese Reception to Meet the Speakers\***

\* Also in attendance at the conference will be **John McCaffrey**, Commercial Specialist at the U.S. Consulate General in Melbourne, Australia, who also looks forward to meeting with conference participants to discuss business opportunities in Australia.