



SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker

➤ Bobby Jindal

Governor

Bobby Jindal was sworn in as Governor of Louisiana on January 14, 2008.

He was elected Governor of Louisiana on October 20, 2007,

with 54 percent of the vote in the primary, winning 60 of 64 parishes. Shortly after taking office, Governor Jindal called a Special Session to address comprehensive ethics reform, the cornerstone of his election platform. After the conclusion of the successful session, the Center for Public Integrity deemed Louisiana's new financial disclosure law as the strongest in the nation - giving Louisiana a score of 99 out of 100.

Additionally, the Governor's second Special Session eliminated burdensome taxes that deterred investment in Louisiana and limited the growth of existing Louisiana businesses.

Governor Jindal has also put forth detailed plans for reforming our state's health care, education, and transportation systems, as well as for encouraging workforce development and continuing recovery efforts in those areas devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Jindal was born in Baton Rouge on June 10, 1971. He graduated from Baton Rouge High School in 1988 and went on to attend Brown University where he graduated with honors in biology and public policy. Following his graduation from Brown he attended Oxford University in England as a Rhodes Scholar, having turned down admissions to medical and law schools at both Harvard and Yale.

In 1994, Jindal went to work for McKinsey and Company as a consultant for Fortune 500 companies before entering public service. In 1996, he was appointed Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). There were many issues that needed resolving during his tenure, not the least of which was the growing deficit in Louisiana's Medicaid program. During Jindal's tenure as DHH

Secretary, he rescued Louisiana's Medicaid program from bankruptcy, childhood immunizations increased, Louisiana ranked third best nationally in health care screenings for children, and new and expanded services for elderly and disabled persons were offered.

In 1998, Jindal was appointed Executive Director of the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare. As Executive Director, he was responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Commission, whose work continue to be the driving force behind much of the ongoing debate on how to strengthen and improve Medicare.

At the conclusion of the Commission's work, Jindal was appointed President of the University of Louisiana System, the 16th largest higher education system in the country. While serving as President, Jindal worked to establish areas of excellence at each individual institution.

President George W. Bush appointed Jindal to serve as Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 2001. In that position, he served as the principal policy advisor to the Secretary of Health and Human Services. He later resigned from the position in 2003 to return to Louisiana and run for elected office for the first time. In that race, Jindal went from being a relatively unknown candidate for Governor, to receiving the most votes in the primary election and eventually 48 percent of the vote in runoff.

In 2004 he was elected to the 109th United States Congress representing the First District of Louisiana. In Congress he was elected Freshman Class President and served on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, the House Committee on Homeland Security, and the House Committee on Resources. Jindal also served as Assistant Majority Whip. In his first term he passed a number of notable pieces of legislation and played an instrumental role in Louisiana's recovery from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. His noteworthy accomplishments include the passage of legislation to bring significant offshore energy revenues to Louisiana for the first time and legislation that keeps Federal Emergency Management Agency from taxing certain recovery grants as income.

Jindal was re-elected to Congress in 2006 with 88 percent of the vote majority.





» James E.
"Jamie" Mayo

*Mayor,
City of Monroe*

The Honorable James E. "Jamie" Mayo was elected as the 28th Mayor of Monroe, Louisiana in October 2001, and re-elected in 2004 and 2008. Since its incorporation in 1820,

Mayor Mayo became only the second African-American elected to serve as Monroe's mayor.

Mayor Mayo is a graduate of Bastrop High School and the University of Louisiana at Monroe, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration.

After over 20 years of business experience with companies such as State Farm Insurance, Allstate Insurance and Chase Manhattan Mortgage Corporation, Mayor Mayo's public service career began in 1995, when he was first elected to the Monroe City Council. Mayor Mayo was re-elected to the Monroe City Council in 1996 and 2000 and served two terms as City Council Chairman before being elected Mayor.

Mayor Mayo's community service includes several board memberships and participation in organizations such as: The Salvation Army; The Ouachita Enterprise Corporation; President of the Ouachita Council of Governments; Chairman of the Board for The Opportunities Industrialization Center; Advisory Board for ULM College of Business, Letterman Club Board of ULM; Monroe-West Monroe Public Trust Financing Authority and the Bancorp South Advisory Council.

Mayor Mayo serves on the President's Advisory Board for LAMP, Inc., is Immediate Past President of the Louisiana Chapter National Conference of Black Mayors, and Immediate Past President for the Louisiana Conference of Mayors and is on the Board of Directors for the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc.

The Mayor also serves on the Advisory Board for Master of Public Administration Program of Grambling State University, was appointed by Lt. Gov. Mitch Landrieu to serve on the Louisiana Retirement Development Commission and was appointed by former Gov. Kathleen Blanco to the Uniform Construction Code Council. He has also been inducted as a member of the Monroe Rotary. He is a member of New Light Baptist Church, Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity Inc. and Prince Hall Masonic Lodge Composite #120.



» Tim Barfield ([LINK](#))

*Executive Director,
Louisiana Workforce Commission*

T. A. (Tim) Barfield Jr. is Executive Director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, formerly the Louisiana Department of Labor.

Exec. Dir. Barfield is the former president and chief operating officer

for The Shaw Group Inc., a Fortune 500 engineering, technology, construction, environmental and industrial services company servicing federal agencies, federal, state and local governments, and private sector clients throughout the world.

He previously served as the president of Shaw Environmental & Infrastructure, Inc. and as The Shaw Group's senior vice president for special projects and secretary and general counsel.

He also served as president of Shaw APP, Inc. and managing director of Shaw Group U.K. Limited; as a corporate attorney at Vinson & Elkins, LLP in Dallas, Texas; and as a law clerk for the Honorable Frank J. Polozola, U.S. District Court, Middle District, Louisiana.

Exec. Dir. Barfield has a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and a law degree from LSU. He is also a graduate of the Kellogg School of Management's Executive Development Program at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.



» Stephen Moret

*Secretary,
Louisiana Economic Development*

Prior to being appointed by Gov. Bobby Jindal as Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development in 2008, Stephen Moret served as president and CEO of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC).

Under Moret's leadership from 2004-07, BRAC grew into a national-caliber, regional economic development organization. Revenues tripled at the chamber during Moret's tenure, following the launch of *The Campaign for a Greater Baton Rouge*, a five-year, \$15 million economic development initiative for the nine-parish capital region.





Also while at BRAC, Moret emphasized that business retention and expansion efforts are equally important to business recruitment efforts, and that Louisiana must address such fundamental economic issues as eliminating unorthodox business taxes, improving workforce development, adopting comprehensive governmental ethics reform and addressing statewide transportation priorities.

Moret's other professional endeavors include working as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company, a leading global consultancy serving senior executives of Fortune 500 companies and large public sector organizations. At McKinsey, he specialized in healthcare and service operations. Previously, he was a project supervisor with Trinity Consultants, where he advised large industrial facilities in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and California on environmental issues related to major plant expansions.

Moret also served as an assistant to the LSU chancellor, an independent consultant to Harvard University and a public policy fellow with the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana (PAR). His research at PAR on restructuring Louisiana's higher-education system earned the Most Distinguished Research Award from the National Governmental Research Association.

A native of Mississippi, Moret considers Baton Rouge, La., his adopted hometown since attending Louisiana State University as an undergraduate. He holds a bachelor's in mechanical engineering from LSU and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School. He is a graduate of Leadership Louisiana and was selected for the Greater Baton Rouge Business Report's "Top 40 Under 40."



► Dr. Joe D. May

*President,
Louisiana Community and Technical
College System (LCTCS)*

Dr. Joe D. May is President of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS). Prior to his current position, he was Senior Vice President for Best Associates

(Higher Ed Holdings, LLC), where he provided operational leadership for new colleges in Illinois, Massachusetts, Panama and Colombia.

During his career, Dr. May has provided leadership for successful organizations throughout the United States and abroad. His background includes serving in leadership roles in business organizations, public colleges and universities, and private colleges and universities. His experience ranges from having served as a counselor and a faculty member to the System President of the Colorado Community College System.

As the Associate Vice President for Institutional Partnerships at Regis University, Dr. May was responsible for the programs and services provided by New Ventures of Regis University and the Community College Partnership Program, a nation-wide consortium of community colleges. As the System President for the Colorado Community College System, he provided leadership to over 116,000 students enrolled in thirteen colleges throughout the state. Prior to that role, he served as the president of Pueblo Community College.

Before his recent move to Louisiana, Dr. May held positions as the Dean of Instruction and Student Development at Danville (VA) Community College and at Vernon College (TX), was Dean of Student Services at Navarro College (TX), and Assistant Professor of Education at Sul Ross State University (TX). He earned a doctorate in education at Texas A&M-Commerce, and a Master's of Education and Bachelor of Science from Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX.



► Paul Pastorek

*Superintendent,
Department of Education*

Paul G. Pastorek became Louisiana's State Superintendent of Education in March 2007 to the fill the unexpired term of Cecil J. Picard after his untimely death. Mr. Pastorek worked closely with Superintendent Picard

both as Chair of the Recovery School District Advisory Committee and as President of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Mr. Pastorek served on the State Board of Education from 1996-2004, including the last three years as President of the Board. On his departure from the Board, Louisiana was noted as having the best rated statewide Accountability program in the United States. He was responsible for developing the strategic approach for state's contribution to the local school districts' budgets for the 66 school districts for the eight years he was in office.

Mr. Pastorek has been working to improve public education for the last 20 years. At first, he was a passionate volunteer in a New Orleans public junior high school. He was appalled at some of the things he saw in that inner city school and began to read literature and worked with the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce to improve the education of children in New Orleans. His work came to the attention of Gov. Mike Foster who appointed him to serve on the State Board of Education. After stepping down from the Board in 2004, Mr. Pastorek formed a non-profit foundation called Next Horizon to create a statewide think tank that



has worked to support the Department of Education in developing strategies to take Louisiana to the next level of success beyond Accountability.

Mr. Pastorek is an attorney and was licensed by Louisiana to practice in 1979. He joined the law firm of Adams and Reese, then a New Orleans-based law firm. He has been associated with Adams and Reese for over 27 years, first as a litigator, and later a corporate and transactional attorney. He has served the firm in numerous management capacities. During his tenure with the firm it grew to over 300 attorneys with offices throughout southeastern United States and Washington, D.C.

In February 2002, Mr. Pastorek left Adams and Reese after being appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as General Counsel to NASA. He served as both the chief legal official for the agency and as a trusted advisor to fellow Louisianan and then NASA administrator and former LSU Chancellor Sean O'Keefe. In addition, he served on and led several senior management and leadership committees, including leading the team that developed NASA's "transformational" reorganization plan announced in June 2004. For his service at NASA, he received NASA's Exceptional Achievement Medal and NASA's Distinguished Service Medal. After two and a half years of service, Mr. Pastorek left NASA to return to Adams and Reese.

Mr. Pastorek is a volunteer in his community; he has served on several boards, participated in many business groups and is the recipient of numerous awards and medals from various organizations and groups.



» James LeBlanc

*Secretary,
Department of Public Safety
and Corrections*

James M. LeBlanc was appointed Secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections by Gov. Bobby Jindal in January 2008. Sec. LeBlanc served as Acting Chief of

Operations for the Department from June 2007 until his appointment. He served as Warden of Dixon Correctional Institute from 1995 to 2007. LeBlanc has worked for the state for more than 35 years, serving as the Department's Undersecretary (1992 – 1995) as well as interim Director of Probation and Parole (1998 – 1999).

Sec. LeBlanc received a B.A. in business administration from Southeastern Louisiana University in December 1972, with minors in marketing and accounting. A Vietnam veteran, he proudly served his country as a member of the United States Army from July 1969 to May 1971.

As Warden of Dixon Correctional Institute (DCI) for twelve years, LeBlanc oversaw many "firsts" for the department – the first Youthful Offender Program, the first dialysis unit in the prison system and the first Faith and Character Based Dormitory program. The North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents (NAAWS) unanimously voted LeBlanc its "Warden of the Year" in 2008.

Perhaps LeBlanc's most important contribution over the last several years is the establishment of reentry programming at DCI. Reentry is his passion. Providing valuable, real-world vocational, educational and life skills training for offenders in all institutions is the number one goal in Corrections for the next four years, aside from the core mission of public safety. Reducing Louisiana's number one (in the world) incarceration rate is a tall order, but LeBlanc's enthusiasm for seeing offenders succeed is all the motivation this leader needs. While the Department's overall recidivism rate is 48 percent, DCI's five-year rate (the measuring stick in corrections) is around 35 percent. Replicating DCI's success at state institutions, parish facilities and at the community corrections level (Probation and Parole) will result in significant savings to the state as well as a reduction in crime, fewer crime victims and safer communities.

» Kristy Nichols

*Interim Secretary,
Department of Social Services*

Kristy Nichols was appointed Interim Secretary of the Department of Social Services on September 15, 2008. Before being appointed, she had served as a policy advisor on health and social services initiatives to Gov. Bobby Jindal since January 2008. As a policy advisor, Nichols worked on the successful passage of Gov. Jindal's health care legislative package during the 2008 legislative session, including legislation on mental health care reform, health care transparency initiatives, increasing health care technology, and increasing access to private health insurance for uninsured Louisiana children.

From July 2002 to November 2007, Nichols served as the director of the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health at the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) where she oversaw a \$36 million grant budget and administered grant funding from federal, national and state philanthropic organizations. Nichols also oversaw recruitment and retention services, health systems development, health information services, led a pharmacy access initiative, and oversaw chronic disease programs.

As director of the Bureau of Primary Care and Rural Health at DHH, Nichols increased funding for community



health initiatives from \$3 million to \$36 million over four years. She also led community-based Hurricane Katrina recovery planning and coalition building, resulting in more than \$21 million in federal funding for restoring access to primary health care services in disaster-recovery areas and \$50 million in federal funding for health care workforce development in disaster-recovery areas. Because of her work in this position, she was a recipient of the 2006 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Community Health Leadership Award, considered the nation's highest honor in community health leadership.

From July 1999 to June 2002, Nichols served as the Rural Community Health Network Development Director of the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center's Louisiana Rural Health Access Program, where she worked to establish four formal rural health networks that were successful in securing more than \$4 million in funding for community health improvement initiatives, including an integrated rural transportation system, local pharmacy access initiatives and a free volunteer clinic.

Nichols has a bachelor's of administration in business from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a master's in communication from the University of Louisiana in Lafayette.



» Tia Edwards ([LINK](#))

*Deputy Executive Director,
Louisiana Workforce Commission*

Tia Edwards is Deputy Executive Director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, formerly the Louisiana Department of Labor. She previously served as president of a consulting agency specializing in marketing,

strategic planning and foundation management.

Prior to this, Edwards directed the public affairs, community and media relations, and workforce development initiatives for the Louisiana Chemical Association (LCA) as the director of Public Affairs and Workforce Development for more than seven years. Before joining the LCA, she served as branch manager of the Baton Rouge branch of INROADS/Louisiana, Inc., a nationally acclaimed non-profit career development and placement organization for minority college students.

She was also employed for more than 10 years in higher education and in the K-12 environment and has experience in the private/corporate sector as a regional marketing manager.

Edwards is a native of Baton Rouge and graduate of the University Laboratory School. She holds a bachelor's degree in communications/public relations from Loyola University, New Orleans and a master's degree in education administration from the University of Houston.