



**Governor's Public Higher Education Conference**  
**Wednesday, October 10, 2012**  
**10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**State Museum Auditorium**

- 10:00 – 10:20 a.m.**      **Welcome and Introduction**  
*Ted Pitts, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor's Office*  
*Governor Nikki R. Haley*
- 10:20 – 10:30 a.m.**      **Status of Higher Education Funding**  
*Ken Wingate, Immediate Past Chairman of the SC Commission on Higher Education*
- 10:30 – 12:00 p.m.**      **"Funding, Regulatory Relief, and Resources for Higher Education"**  
*Moderator: Ken Wingate, Immediate Past Chairman of the SC Commission on Higher Education*  
*Senator John Courson, President Pro Tempore, SC Senate, Chairman of Education Committee*  
*Senator John Matthews, Member, SC Senate Finance and Education Committees*  
*Representative Brian White, Chairman, SC House Ways and Means Committee*  
*Representative Chip Limehouse, Subcommittee Chairman, SC House Ways and Means Higher Ed*  
*Dr. Harris Pastides, President, University of South Carolina*  
*Dr. Fred Carter, President, Francis Marion University*  
*Dr. Mary Thornley, President, Trident Technical College*  
*Anne Neal, President, American Council of Trustees and Alumni*
- 12:00 p.m.**              **Lunch**
- 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.**      **Keynote Address: "The Boeing Chapter, South Carolina"**  
*Introduction by Governor Nikki R. Haley*  
*Jack Jones, Vice President and General Manager of Boeing, South Carolina*
- 1:15 – 1:30 p.m.**      **"Jobs for the Future: Successes and Challenges"**  
*Secretary Bobby Hitt, South Carolina Department of Commerce*
- 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**      **"South Carolina's Workforce: Meeting the Challenges of the Future"**  
*Moderator: Secretary Bobby Hitt, South Carolina Department of Commerce*  
*Senator Thomas Alexander, Chairman, SC Senate General Committee, Member of Finance and LCI*  
*Representative Phil Owens, Chairman, SC House Education and Public Works Committee*  
*Ambassador David Wilkins, Chairman, Clemson University Board of Trustees*  
*Susan Pretulak, Vice President, Economic Development and Workforce Competitiveness; readySC*  
*Lewis Gossett, President and CEO, SC Manufacturers Alliance*  
*Werner Eikenbusch, Manager Apprenticeship & Associate Training, BMW Manufacturing Co.*  
*Jim Reynolds, Immediate Past Chairman, SC Chamber of Commerce, CEO, Total Comfort Solutions*  
*Steve Burry, Employee Relations Project Manager, Michelin North America*
- 3:00 p.m.**              **Closing**



## Governor's Public Higher Education Conference Wednesday, October 10, 2012



**Governor Nikki R. Haley** was elected the 116th Governor of South Carolina on Tuesday, November 2, 2010. One of the strongest fiscal conservatives in state government, Haley was first elected to represent the 87th District in Lexington County in 2004, when, as a virtual unknown, she beat the longest serving state legislator in a Republican primary. She won the Republican Party nomination for governor on Tuesday, June 22, 2010. Her time in Columbia has been marked by conservative leadership and an unwavering commitment to the taxpayers' bottom line. She has fought wasteful spending at every turn, pushed for smaller, more efficient government, and led the fight for accountability and transparency.

### Keynote Speaker



**Jack Jones** is vice president and general manager of Boeing South Carolina. He has overall leadership responsibility for Boeing's South Carolina operations and facilities in North Charleston. Jones started his career with Boeing as an Industrial Engineer in 1980 on the 757 Program. Before joining the Boeing South Carolina team in March 2011, Jones served as vice president of the Everett Delivery Center, overseeing Airplane-on-Ground, Paint, Pre-Flight and Delivery operations for the Boeing wide-body models (747, 767, 777 and 787) assembled in Everett, Washington. He was named to that assignment in October 2003.

### Moderators



**Secretary Robert "Bobby" M. Hitt III** was appointed by Governor Nikki Haley to serve as Secretary of Commerce in January 2011. Hitt, the previous manager of corporate affairs at the BMW Manufacturing Company in Spartanburg, brings a wealth of economic development experience to the Department of Commerce and has personally worked with the previous five commerce secretaries. Hitt served as the director of planning and development for the Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough law firm in Columbia. In that role, Hitt was involved in bringing the BMW Manufacturing Company to the Upstate, one of the state's largest success stories.



**Ken Wingate** served as transition team leader and as chairman of the Governor's Commission on Management, Accountability and Performance for Governor Mark Sanford in 2003 and is the former chairman of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education for Governor Nikki Haley. He is a past interim treasurer for the State of South Carolina and is a recipient of the "Order of the Palmetto". He served on the Estate Planning and Probate Law Specialization Advisory Board for the Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization.

## Panel Discussion: “Funding, Regulatory Relief, and Resources for Higher Education”



**Senator John Courson** began his active interest in politics in 1964 when he was a student at the University of South Carolina. He was an active supporter and held major leadership positions in the campaigns of Presidents Ronald W. Reagan and George W. Bush. He has served US Senator Strom Thurmond as his state chairman, state co-chairman, and treasurer. He was honored to serve as a member of the Electoral College in 1980 and 1984 as an elector for President Reagan. He was elected to the SC Senate in 1984 and has served continuously since then. In March 2012, he was elected as President Pro Tempore of the SC Senate.



**Senator John Matthews** has served the citizens of this state through his career in the public school system, as a small business owner, and through his service to the state as a member of the SC House of Representatives from 1975 through 1984 and a member of the SC Senate from 1985 to the present. He has been a distinguished and dedicated member of many House of Representatives and Senate committees where he has dedicated his work to improve education and the economic welfare of every citizen of this state.



**Representative Brian White** has gained great respect from his colleagues and has become known as an honest and diligent public servant as a member of the SC House of Representatives. These attributes are no better represented than by the positions he has held in the relatively short time he has been in office. In his capacity as Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, White’s service expands into his active role as one of the five sitting Members on the State Budget and Control Board. White holds the distinction of being the only board member to represent the Upstate.



**Representative Chip Limehouse** has earned a reputation for taking a stand on the most pressing issues of the day, such as economic development, the environment, and maintaining the state’s transportation infrastructure. In the SC House, Limehouse serves on the Ways & Means Committee and chairs the Subcommittee on Higher Education. He also is a board member of the SC Transportation Infrastructure Bank, which works to improve the state’s transportation network. Limehouse was first elected to the SC General Assembly in 1995 and has served continuously since then.

## Panel Discussion: “Funding, Regulatory Relief, and Resources for Higher Education”



***Dr. Harris Pastides** is the 28th President of the University of South Carolina, elected by the University’s Board of Trustees on August 1, 2008. His election marks the first internal candidate for the presidency of the University in over a half century. Previously, Pastides served as vice president for research and health sciences and dean of the Arnold School of Public Health. He and his wife, Patricia, first came to the University in 1998. Under his leadership, Carolina’s student population has grown to record levels among the system’s eight universities on 12 campuses. In addition, he leads an unprecedented capital campaign to fund essential needs for knowledge, research, discovery and development.*



***Dr. Luther F. Carter** has served as the President of Francis Marion University since 1999. Previously, he served as the chief of staff to Governor Mark Sanford (2003), the executive director of the South Carolina Budget and Control Board from 1991-1999, the senior executive assistant to South Carolina Governor Carroll Campbell from 1987-1991, and as a faculty member and the chairman of the political science department at the College of Charleston from 1981-1987.*



***Dr. Mary Thornley** has been president of Trident Technical College since 1991. She truly believes in the transformational power of education and is passionate about the community college’s role in making our communities and our nation stronger, more adaptable, and better able to face the challenges of the future. She has received numerous awards and recognitions including the Joseph P. Riley Leadership Award from the Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Shirley B. Gordon Award of Distinction from Phi Theta Kappa, the Southeast Region Chief Executive Officer Award from the Association of Community College Trustees, and the Trident United Way Women’s Leadership Award.*



***Anne D. Neal** is a founder and president of the American Council of Trustees and Alumni (ACTA), an independent non-profit dedicated to academic freedom, excellence, and accountability at our colleges and universities. For over 15 years, she has been a national player in higher education reform, publishing widely and appearing frequently on radio and television. She has authored or co-authored numerous ACTA studies, including *Losing America’s Memory* and *The Intelligent Donor’s Guide to College Giving*.*

## Panel Discussion: “South Carolina’s Workforce: Meeting the Challenges of the Future”



**Senator Thomas C. Alexander** was elected to the SC Senate in 1994. Alexander serves on the Senate Finance (Health and Human Services Subcommittee Chairman); Labor, Commerce and Industry; Banking and Insurance; General (Chairman); Invitations; Joint Bond Review; Fish, Game and Forestry; and the Public Utility Review Committees. While serving in the SC House of Representatives, he chaired the Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee, one of only six major standing committees of the House.



**Representative Phil Owens** was elected to the SC House of Representatives in 2002 from District 5. He has served continuously since then. Owens was elected chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee in December 2008 and continues to serve in that position. Owens was appointed to serve as the SC House member to the Education Commission of States. He is the SC House Speaker’s appointee to the National Conference of State Legislatures where he serves on the Executive Committee and the Education Standing Committee. He also serves on the Education and Energy Committees of the Southern Leadership Council and was appointed in 2010 to serve on the Southern Regional Education Board.



**Ambassador David Wilkins** is a partner at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP and chairs the Public Policy and International Law practice group, which focuses primarily on representing businesses on both sides of the US-Canadian border and offers experience on a wide range of strategic bilateral issues. Wilkins was nominated by President George W. Bush to become the United States Ambassador to Canada. He began his service on June 29, 2005 and served until January 20, 2009.



**Susan Pretulak** is the Vice President of Economic Development and Workforce Competitiveness for the SC Technical College System. She is responsible for the oversight of both nationally recognized programs – readySC™ and Apprenticeship Carolina™. Prior to this role, Susan served as senior director for readySC™, overseeing day-to-day operational and tactical aspects of all readySC™ projects in the Upstate.

## Panel Discussion: “South Carolina’s Workforce: Meeting the Challenges of the Future”



**Lewis Gossett** is President & CEO of the South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance (SCMA), the state’s only statewide organization dedicated to the interests of manufacturers. He also served as Director of the SC Department of Labor during the Beasley Administration from 1995-1999 and was a shareholder at the Ogletree Deakins labor employment law firm prior to becoming the SCMA President & CEO in 2003.



**Werner Eikenbusch** is the Manager for Apprentice & Associate Training at BMW Manufacturing Co., LLC, Spartanburg Plant in Greer. He holds a Masters Degree in Engineering Management from New Jersey Institute of Technology and a Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of Applied Sciences in Bielefeld, Germany. Eikenbusch joined BMW Manufacturing in 1998 and has held various HR Management positions since then. Before joining BMW Manufacturing, Eikenbusch worked as an HR Manager for BMW of North America, Inc. in New Jersey and as a Manufacturing Engineer for BMW AG in Munich, Germany.



**Jim Reynolds** is Chief Executive Officer and a partner in Total Comfort Solutions, a leading provider of mechanical services and environmental solutions to commercial, industrial, medical and institutional facilities in South Carolina. Reynolds’ community service is focused on education and workforce development. He serves as Chair of the SC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, he Co-Chairs the New Carolina Education and Workforce Development Task Force, and he has served on the Education and Economic Development Act Coordinating Council. Reynolds was named the SC Business Leader of the Year in 2010.



**Steve Burry** recently relocated to the Michelin Headquarters in Greenville to lead the initiative on attracting and developing the skilled work force of the future. Burry has spent 34 years with Michelin, eight years in manufacturing and 26 years in personnel positions. During this time, Burry has worked in numerous Michelin manufacturing facilities as well as previous assignments at Michelin’s North American headquarters in Greenville.