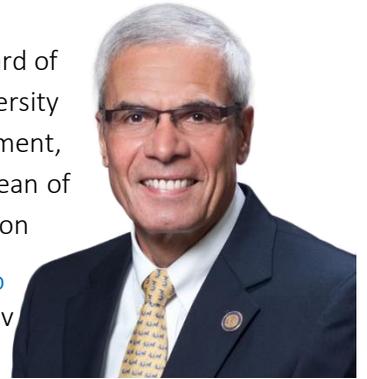


Spring Forum ~ Day 2 Speakers

Dr. Joseph C. Rallo serves as the 8th Commissioner of Higher Education for the Louisiana Board of Regents. Dr. Rallo served as the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Texas Tech University System. Dr. Rallo is also the Past-President of Angelo State University. Prior to that appointment, he served as Provost and Academic Vice President at Western Illinois University, and was Dean of the College of Business and Administration and the Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.

Dr. Joseph C. Rallo
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Dr. Dhanfu E. Elston serves as Complete College America's Vice President for Alliance State Relations where he utilizes his campus expertise for practical application, implementation, and scaling of CCA strategies at institutions throughout the nation. He also provides oversight of CCA's 15-To-Finish strategy and coordinates relationships with Governor's Offices and higher education state-wide systems in their college completion efforts. Over two decades of his higher education career in academic and student affairs, Elston has created and implemented comprehensive success and retention programs that have garnered national attention.

Dr. Dhanfu E. Elston
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Named one of the "Power 100" by Ebony Magazine in its list of the 100 most influential African Americans a year after assuming the role of President and CEO, Johnny C. Taylor, Jr. leads the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCf), the only national organization representing nearly 300,000 students attending this country's 47 publicly-supported Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). With approximately 80 percent of all HBCU students attending TMCf member-schools, Mr. Taylor leads an organization responsible for providing this country a robust and diverse pipeline of talented workers and future leaders.

Mr. Johnny Taylor, Jr.



Susana Schowen joined LED FastStart, a division of Louisiana Economic Development, in June of 2011. As the Director of Workforce Initiatives, she is tasked with implementing high-level strategies focused on systemic workforce reform. Based on analyses of workforce supply and demand, she is collaborating with educational stakeholders to align offerings to the needs of Louisiana employers. Prior to joining LED, Susie managed a private technical college in Baton Rouge after creating a nationwide basic skills program focused on underperforming high schools for Thomson Peterson's. Before that, she held a number of positions with Kaplan, Inc. managing test preparation courses, financial services training, and online college programs. She received degrees in chemistry from Wellesley College and Columbia University.

Ms. Susana Schowen
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Sachin Chintawar has been with the Louisiana Workforce Commission in various roles providing him with perspectives on the application and value of labor market information (LMI) as a producer, consumer and administrator. In his five year career, he has managed a wide range of statistical programs, led a multi-agency workforce and education data alignment initiative and instituted innovative new LMI products for consumers including businesses, job seekers and policy makers. He currently serves on several national advisory panels including the U.S. Census Bureau, Projections Management Partnership, and Bureau of Labor Statistics Policy Council. In his current role as the Research and Statistics Director, Sachin is helping design data driven decisions on workforce issues in the state. In his spare time Sachin loves to ride horses and is known for his passion for salsa and chips.

Mr. Sachin Chintawar
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[Dr. Lisa Vosper](#)
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Dr. Lisa S. Vosper currently serves as the Associate Commissioner for Workforce Education and Training at the Louisiana Board of Regents. She has a very diverse professional background, including having worked as a legislative assistant to a state senator; a seventh grade English teacher and drop-out prevention counselor; a community college instructor; and as an executive on loan to the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Dr. Vosper has received numerous honors, awards and other forms of recognition, including being invited by First Lady Michelle Obama’s Reach Higher Initiative to participate on a team representing Louisiana; being featured as a “Higher Education Headliner” by the State Faculty Senate Association, “Trailblazer in Higher Education” by the Louisiana Association of Women in Higher Education (LAWHE); appointed by Governor Kathleen Blanco to her gubernatorial transition sub-committee on the Workforce and Economic Development, and later, to the Louisiana Women’s Commission on Policy and Research; and appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to his first transition team as a member of the Workforce Advisory Committee.

Richard A. Lipsey, Louisiana State University graduate, 1961; Harvard Business School OPM 1987. Married to Susan Haspel Lipsey; has two daughters and three grandchildren, all who reside in Baton Rouge. While in the Army (1962-64), he served as Aide to the Commanding General of the Military District of Washington and was intensely involved with the funeral of President John F. Kennedy (the only military officer to witness the entire autopsy of the President). Richard returned to Baton Rouge and entered the family business, Steinberg Sports Centers. In 1977, he purchased S & S Wholesale Sporting Goods (now Lipsey’s) and grew it into the nation’s largest firearms distributor. He and his family own Haspel, a major line of men’s tailored clothing that originated in New Orleans in 1909. He is founder and partner in Lipsey Communications, a chain of over 100 wireless phone stores. Richard was appointed to serve on the Louisiana State Board of Commerce and Industry and subsequently on the State Board of Regents by former Governor Jindal. He served as a co-chair for the transition team for Governor John Bel Edwards. Richard is a longtime higher education leader and has served on the Louisiana Board of Regents since 2013 and currently is serving his second term as its Chair.



[Mr. Richard Lipsey](#)
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Nikki Godfrey currently serves as the Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs at the Louisiana Board of Regents. Nikki has a very diverse public relations, media and marketing background, including seven years at ESPN network, managing many noteworthy events. Just prior to joining the BoR staff, Nikki spent 5 years at LSU in Baton Rouge as the Director of Promotions and Events Management. There she distinguished herself as a Regional Rising Star Scholar for the South Region. At BoR, in addition to her Public Affairs duties, Nikki serves as the the Co-Advisor to the Council of Student Body President (COSBP).

[Ms. Nikki Godfrey](#)
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Carrie Robison has been with the Board in the Sponsored Programs section since 2001, having previously taught as an adjunct as LSU A&M. From 2001 through 2010, she worked as Special Programs Manager, managing the Graduate Fellows, Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars, and Post-Katrina Initiative Support Fund programs and working with unit leadership on strategic planning, development of a statewide research plan, and implementation of CDBG post-Katrina research and education funding. In 2010, she was appointed Associate Commissioner for Sponsored Programs Administration, responsible for day-to-day administration of the Board of Regents Support Fund, and in 2016 she was named Deputy Commissioner for Sponsored Programs. In this capacity, she is responsible for all work of the Sponsored Programs Section. She has assisted with or led implementation of new programs and comprehensive program evaluations, and coordinated the restructuring of the Support Fund in 2016. Ms. Robison also participates in development of policies related to higher education research and innovation.



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[Mr. Lonnie Leger](#)
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Lonnie Leger has started his third year as the Executive Director for the Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI). LONI is a Statewide Program under the Louisiana Board of Regents (BOR). Under Mr. Leger's leadership, LSU performs the fiduciary responsibilities of LONI on behalf of BOR through two agreements. Mr. Leger started his 12th year with LONI as the first person to be employed for the program. Mr. Leger earned a Bachelor's of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 1989. Mr. Leger has more than 25 years of experience designing and operating large, complex network architectures with both business and research expectations.

Teri Oaks Gallaway joined LOUIS: The Louisiana Library Network in 2015 after ten years as library faculty at Loyola University New Orleans where she held positions as the Associate Director of Research and Technology for the Honors Program, and the Systems and Web Coordinator. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in music from Bowling Green State University in Ohio as well as a Master of Science in Information from University of Michigan. At LOUIS she is the Interim Executive Director as well as the project lead for the Affordable Learning LOUISiana initiative. Her research explores the opportunities and outcomes of open educational resource (OER) programs and their institutional impacts.



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