

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

2007

STAFF and SPEAKERS

(in order of appearance)

RLI STAFF

Tony Landers is the Director of the Department of Community Services for the Atlanta Regional Commission. He has held several key leadership positions throughout the ARC organization. He currently manages the divisions of Local Government Services, Workforce Development and Aging Services. He co-founded and directs two executive development programs, the Regional Leadership Institute (RLI) and LINK-a learning program that takes established community leaders to a different city/region each year. Mr. Landers received a Business Management degree from the University of Georgia and has also done post-graduate work in Public Administration at the University of Georgia.

Robert W. “Billy” Browning, Ph.D. is Senior Vice President of Consulting for Right Management Consultants, a global consultancy that specializes in developing leaders to execute their business strategies successfully. Dr. Browning is a Board Certified Licensed Psychologist with a dual specialty in Clinical Psychology and Organizational Development. He has extensive experience in leadership assessment and developmental coaching that spans over 20 years. During this time he has served as a sounding board for executives at all levels. Dr. Browning uniquely combines his clinical skills with his comprehensive business acumen to provide coaching for leaders across a broad spectrum of businesses. His clients have included organizations such as Turner Broadcasting Systems Inc., CNN, Georgia Power, Atlanta Regional Commission Board, Eastern Health Systems Board, Georgia Pacific, Celanese Corporation and ADP. He has a broad base of expertise in team-based systems, large-scale change, and he is considered an authority on organizational design and “best practices.” He is an author and international speaker on such topics as gaining competitive advantage, team design and the changing role of leadership.

Dr. Browning received his BA in Psychology from Asbury College. He earned his PhD in Clinical Psychology from Georgia State University. After completing his Clinical Internship at the Alabama Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, he did post doctoral studies in organizational design, organizational behavior and organizational development. Dr. Browning practiced as a Clinical Psychologist for 5 years in Atlanta.

Kellie Anne Brownlow is the Division Chief of Local Government Services at ARC. The Local Government Services division is responsible for implementation of the LINK (Leadership Involvement Networking Knowledge) and RLI (Regional Leadership Institute) leadership programs, developing training courses for citizen and staff planners through the Community Planning Academy, managing the agency-wide quality growth initiative – Community Choices and providing direct management and operations assistance to local governments.

Prior to ARC, Ms. Brownlow worked at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government in the Local Government department, assisting cities and counties statewide on issues such as annexation, consolidation and service delivery agreements. Ms. Brownlow received a Bachelors degree in Public Relations and Political Science from Rhode Island College and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Georgia.

Crystal Jackson Budd is a Senior Program Specialist in the Local Government Services Division at the Atlanta Regional Commission. In addition to working with the RLI program, Crystal is responsible for the coordination of the annual Leadership, Involvement, Networking, Knowledge (LINK) program. She also provides local governments with management and training assistance and assists with the division’s Community Choices work. Prior to ARC, Ms. Jackson Budd managed the Georgia Conservancy’s Blueprints program, which helped Georgians achieve successful communities by creating sound conservation and growth strategies at the local, county, regional and state levels. Crystal earned a BS in Earth Sciences from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Masters of City and Regional Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

SPEAKERS

Charles "Chick" Krautler (RLI Class of 2000) is the Director of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC). As head of the official metropolitan planning organization for the 10-county, 63-city Atlanta Region, he oversees and directs regional planning programs in the areas of transportation, air quality, the environment, land use, water supply and quality, as well as aging services and workforce development. Mr. Krautler began his work in regional planning councils as the Executive Director of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. Before coming to ARC, he was President of the Triangle J Council of Governments, in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. Earlier in his career Mr. Krautler served as Manager of Public Affairs for the Washington Gas Light Company in Washington, DC and Executive Vice President of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Krautler is a member of numerous professional organizations. He currently serves as the President of the Georgia Association of Regional Development Centers (GARDC) and is a member of the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC); the Clean Air Campaign (CAC) Board of Directors; the Georgia Foreign Trade Zone Board of Directors; the Southeastern Regional Directors Institute (SERDI); the Metropolitan Atlanta Chamber of Commerce; the Atlanta Rotary Club and the Regional Leadership Forum (RLF). Mr. Krautler has been recognized by Georgia Trend magazine as one of the *100 Most Influential Georgians*. Mr. Krautler received both a Bachelors and Masters degree from East Carolina University. He and his wife live in Atlanta and have two grown children.

Seth Kahan is President of Performance Development Group, Inc. He helps organizations harness the unique power of their business communities to achieve extraordinary leaps in performance. An expert in using community in the workplace to make change stick, Seth has a gift for teaching organizations how to inspire passion in their people and tap their collective intelligence. He is a powerful storyteller and he has extensive experience leading change initiatives. Working closely with CEOs in a wide range of world-class organizations, Seth has helped them design their collective future and then build the social infrastructure they need to make it a reality. A former Senior Information Officer at the World Bank, Seth helped spearhead the World Bank's enterprise-wide knowledge management initiative in 1996, which received international recognition. Working with the president and senior management team, he developed the World Bank's first institution-wide community program. The Center for Association Leadership named Seth a Business Visionary for his pioneering work in organizational community development and storytelling. He is the author of *Building Beehives: A Handbook for Creating Communities that Generate Returns*. He currently is working on a new book entitled *Face-to-Face*.

Thomas L. Weyandt, Jr. (RLI Class of 1997) is Director of Comprehensive Planning for the Atlanta Regional Commission where he manages planning for transportation, the environment and land use, as well as demographic and economic research and the regional Commute Connections Program. Prior to joining ARC, he was Senior Associate in the Policy Research Center (PRC) in the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University and Executive Director of Research Atlanta, Inc. Mr. Weyandt has over twenty-five years of experience in urban planning and development having served as Planning Director and Commissioner of Planning and Development for the City of Atlanta and as Director of Transportation for the Atlanta Regional Commission. He also served as President of the Downtown Dayton (Ohio) Partnership, a public-private effort to rejuvenate an urban downtown. Mr. Weyandt was Director of Transportation for the Atlanta Paralympic Organizing Committee where he was responsible for the development and operation of all transportation services for the 10th Paralympic Games - the second largest sporting event in the world. Mr. Weyandt received a BSFS from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and has studied in Germany and Switzerland. He and his wife live in the Morningside area of Atlanta.

Christian "Chris" Nelson, Ph. D. is Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in Urban Affairs and Planning and Associate Director for the New Metropolis – Metropolitan Institute, at Virginia Tech's Northern Virginia Center in Alexandria. For the past twenty years, Dr. Nelson has conducted pioneering research in land use planning, growth management, public facility finance and urban development policy. He has made notable contributions to the areas of development impact fees, farmland and forestland preservation, urban containment, the preservation of small town character in the face of urbanization, and more recently, the effect of metropolitan governance structures on metropolitan economic development. Dr. Nelson has earned teacher of the year honors at two universities and researcher of the year honors at a third. His students have won numerous national awards, including the national student project of the year award given by the American Institute of Certified Planners. He has also received numerous commendations for his professional continuing education programs through which he has instructed more than 3,000 professionals in a variety of technical planning and facility financing subjects since the late 1980s. He received his Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Studies specializing in regional science and regional planning from Portland State University in Oregon.

Jeff Dickerson is president of Dickerson Communications, a public affairs firm that offers public relations, issues-management and media consulting services to private- and public-sector clients. Some of those clients include MARTA, SCANA Energy, the Georgia Department of Labor, SCG Pipeline, Inc., Kaiser Permanente, the Georgia Bankers Association and others. Dickerson served as a journalist for 22 years, spending most of that time crafting and honing arguments for the editorial pages of The Detroit News and The Atlanta Journal. As an editorial writer for The Atlanta Journal, Dickerson specialized in some of the editorial page's most complicated and controversial topics, including federal budgets, taxation, Social Security reform, state and local issues and analyses of appellate and U.S. Supreme Court rulings. Dickerson is the recipient of numerous journalistic awards, and continues to write opinion pieces for the Atlanta Business Chronicle and The Atlanta Tribune. He also serves as a regular panelist on WAGA Fox 5's Sunday public affairs show, "Georgia Gang," which has been on the air weekly for 14 years. He and his wife reside in South DeKalb County.

Renay Blumenthal is senior vice president of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's public policy division, overseeing the development and advocacy of transportation, education, water resources and land use policies. Prior to joining the Chamber, she served as Mayor Shirley Franklin's budget chief, policy director to former Governor Roy Barnes and budget and policy advisor to former Governor Zell Miller. She holds a BA from Georgia Tech, an MBA from Georgia State University, and is a graduate of the Leadership Georgia and Leadership Atlanta programs. Renay and husband Ned reside in Atlanta.

Ed Ellis is Regional Vice President for Kimley-Horn & Associates and has been in the transportation engineering profession in Atlanta since 1972. In that time he has also worked for the Georgia Department of Transportation and in the consulting business. His public sector clients have included Georgia DOT, GRTA, ARC, MARTA, and many cities and counties. Ed has also worked for eight of the Atlanta area Community Improvement Districts (CID's). He is a past president of the Georgia Section Institute of Transportation Engineers, past president of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia, winner of the Metro Atlanta Engineer of the Year Award in 2000 and winner of the Engineer of the Year in Private Practice in 1998. Ed was also awarded the Karl Bevins Award for outstanding service by the Institute of Transportation Engineers in 2001. He chairs the mobility committee for Mayor Franklin's Peachtree Corridor Task Force, is on the executive committee and chairs the transportation committee for the Council for Quality Growth, is active in the Georgia Conservancy Blueprints Partners, and the ULI Smart Growth Committee, is a graduate of the first class of the Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership and has been a volunteer for transportation issues with the Midtown Alliance for nearly 10 years. He lives in DeKalb County with his wife Jean.

Richard McCrillis is General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA). He joined the MARTA in 1985 as Director of Treasury Services and quickly gained a reputation throughout the transit industry for his financial expertise. As GM/CEO, McCrillis has assumed the oversight of MARTA's transition to an all smart-card fare collection system and the overhaul of the Authority's 238 oldest rail cars – two projects critical to the future success of the transit agency – as well as programs to upgrade trackway, improve communications systems and streamline business processes. He is an active participant in the newly formed Transit Planning Board, which has been charged with formulating a plan for delivering and sustaining public transportation that will meet the metro Atlanta region's ever growing needs. McCrillis received both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Business Administration degrees from the University of New Hampshire. He and his wife, Rosa, have three grown children.

Rick Brownlow (RLI Class of 2003) works for the engineering/consulting firm CH2M HILL in their Atlanta office as a Client Service Manager and Senior Consultant in the firm's Water Business Group. He is responsible for developing and managing a variety of projects with local government clients throughout Georgia, and assists with the leadership of the water resource management team in the firm's southeast region. Prior to joining CH2M HILL, Rick was Program Manager for the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. He was responsible for leading the development and implementation of regional water planning efforts, specifically water, wastewater, and stormwater management plans for the 16-county Atlanta metropolitan area. He also provided public policy guidance to the District and its member local governments, coordinated the District's efforts to secure federal funding for infrastructure projects, and represented the District in its dealings with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, state and federal agencies, and other organizations. Brownlow is a Georgia native and currently resides in DeKalb County. He received his Bachelors degree from Auburn University in 1994 and a law degree from the University of Mississippi in 1998.

Marty Allen, AICP is the Director of Planning and Community Development for the city of Suwanee, Georgia. He has worked in that position for the last nine years managing planning and community development efforts for one of the fastest growing small cities in the state. During his tenure, he created the city's first Planning and Community Development Department. He has also managed a number of important strategic planning efforts for the city such as the city's 2020 Comprehensive Plan, Alternative Transportation Plan and Old Town Master Plan. Suwanee's 2020

Comprehensive Plan is a combination of smart-growth strategies and conventional development policies. Prior to joining Suwanee, he worked in the Gwinnett County Department of Planning and Development as a Senior and Principal Planner. He also has experience outside of Georgia working as a Planner in Opelika, Alabama. Mr. Allen holds a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia. He is a Certified Planner through the American Planning Association.

Rob Hosack, AICP joined Cobb County in 1986 as a Planner in the Planning and Zoning Department. Since then, he has served as Senior Planner, Coordinator for Governmental Relations, and Planning Division Manager. He was named Interim Director in December 1998 and Director in March 1999. Previously, he held the position of Vice-President of a residential development and construction company and was a Community Planner for the State of Tennessee. Rob holds the title of Certified Public Manager from the University of Georgia through the EXCEL Class of 1991. He is a graduate of Leadership Cobb; was named Outstanding Young Public Servant of the Year in 1992 by the South Cobb Jaycees; was recipient of the 1999 “Golden Goose” award presented by the Board of Commissioners and County Manager for excellence in management; was selected for and completed the Cobb Chamber Honorary Commanders Program in 2001; among other awards. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Planning from Western Carolina University. Presently, Rob serves on the Executive Board of Directors of Girls, Inc. and the Kennesaw State University Advisory Board for the MPA Program. Rob and his wife Coleen live in northeast Cobb County with their three children.

Lyn Menne is Assistant City Manager for Community and Economic Development for the City of Decatur. This position evolved out of her role as Executive Director of the Decatur Downtown Development Authority – a position she has held since 1983. Lyn has been an active partner in the implementation of the Decatur Town Center Plan. This innovative planning document, adopted in 1982, outlined the development of Decatur’s central business district as a pedestrian friendly, high density center with a healthy mix of office, retail and residential projects. Lyn received her undergraduate degree in American Studies from Queens College in Charlotte, NC and her Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia. Prior to joining the Decatur staff, Lyn worked for the State Historic Preservation Office and was manager of the Georgia Main Street program. She is the past president of the Georgia Downtown Association, serves on the board of the Decatur Education Foundation and chairs the board of trustees for the DeKalb Historical Society. Lyn is a 1991 graduate of Leadership DeKalb. She and her husband Doug have two adult children.

Holly Robinson, Ph.D. is Senior Vice President of the Georgia Public Policy Foundation. Prior to joining the Foundation in 2001, Dr. Robinson was the Vice President of Convergent Media Systems where she was responsible for helping Convergent increase its understanding of and focus on e-learning and knowledge management. From 1996 until 1999, she was the deputy state superintendent for policy, public information and legislation for the Georgia Department of Education. She has also served as chair on the Secretary's advisory board of the National Park Service. Robinson has held teaching and leadership positions with Marist School of Atlanta, Ocean County Community College (New Jersey), Villanova University, Georgian Court College of Lakewood, New Jersey and served as assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the University of San Francisco. During her career, she has worked extensively with curriculum and distance learning, working with corporations, K-12, community colleges, technical colleges and universities across the country. Dr. Robinson currently chairs the Best Practices committee of the Governor's Education Finance Task Force and serves on the Business Advisory Council to the State School Superintendent. Last year, she was the statewide consultant to the Georgia Department of Education for the Georgia Performance Standards. She earned a BA from Old Dominion University, an MA from Villanova University and an EdD from Rutgers.

Kathryn Lawler is a consultant specializing in strategic and community planning for the aging demographic. Current clients include the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and AARP. Her work has received national and local recognition. Most recently, she testified before the Federal Commission on Medicare and Medicaid and at a Congressional Briefing on Livable Communities. She has been cited in numerous publications including the Wall Street Journal, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Governing Magazine. Prior to her current work, Kathryn was a fellow at Harvard University’s Joint Center on Housing Studies. Her research focused on the development of health and housing policy to facilitate aging in the community and modernize long term care systems. This work resulted in several reports including the publication, “Aging in Place: Coordinating Housing and Healthcare for America’s Elderly”. While in Cambridge, she worked for the Congressional Commission on Senior Housing, assisting with their final report to Congress: “A Quiet Crisis in America”. Kathryn also served as a housing specialist with the Community Housing Resource Center and a crisis counselor at the Central Outreach Center both in Atlanta, GA. She received a Bachelors degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Masters degree from Harvard University.

Richard Jackson is a Professor of Environmental Health at the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health. A former director of the Center for Environmental Health at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., Dr. Jackson has an ongoing and keen scientific interest in health policy as it is shaped by housing, transportation, agricultural, environmental, and economic policy. Jackson is co-author of the book *Urban Sprawl and Public Health*, a 2004 book from Island Press. In June 2005, he received the Presidential Distinguished Executive Award from President Bush for his outstanding leadership and extraordinary achievement in service to the nation, and in particular to improving environmental public health. He has served on many medical and health boards, and in September 2005 he was selected to serve on the Board of Directors of the national American Institute of Architects (AIA).

Jeff Dorfman is an economist and professor at The University of Georgia, where he has been since 1989. He teaches classes in economic theory and the economics of the food industry and performs research on productivity measurement and the economics of growth and sprawl. He has authored a book, over fifty academic journal articles and a variety of other articles published in trade publications, the popular press and on the web. He has testified to the U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee, to the Georgia Senate Special Committee on Feedgrains, and to a USDA Panel on Farmland Preservation. He is a consultant to a variety of business and foundations with past and current clients including Sprint, the Turner Foundation, the American Farmland Trust, The Georgia Conservancy, Pennington Seed, Fulton County Schools and numerous city and county governments in the Southeastern U.S. He is married, with one daughter and they attend Central Presbyterian Church where he serves as treasurer.

Bill Floyd (RLI Class of 2005) was elected to the City Commission in 1991. He served as Mayor Pro Tem from 1994 - 1995 and has served as Mayor since 1998. He is president of W.F. Floyd Construction, Inc., specializing in water and waste water systems. He is currently the 3rd Vice President of the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), putting him in line to be the President in 2009; and the chair of the Metropolitan Atlanta Mayor's Association (MAMA). He is a graduate of Auburn University and received an MBA from Georgia State University. He is a graduate of Leadership DeKalb, an active member of Decatur First United Methodist Church, and serves on the Board of Directors of Decatur First Bank and the Decatur Education Foundation. He is a former chair of the DeKalb Rape Crisis Center Board.

Tad Leithead (RLI Class of 1991) is Senior Vice President of Cousins Properties, where he is responsible for leading the Cousins office development efforts in the Atlanta market. He has 23 years of experience in the Atlanta commercial real estate market. He was hired as an office leasing agent by Trammell Crow Company in 1983, and was promoted to leasing director of the Atlanta Galleria in 1986. He has leased over five million square feet of office space. In 1998, he formed Urban One Associates, a Development and Transportation Consulting firm. He served as a consultant to the Midtown Alliance, Perimeter Center, Gwinnett County and others in the formation of several Community Improvement Districts. He was a principal in the development of Ridenour, a 90-acre "Smart Growth" community in northwest Cobb County. In 1999, the Atlanta Regional Commission bestowed the "Award of Excellence" to the Ridenour project. Mr. Leithead is Chairman of the Cumberland Community Improvement District, a self-taxing group of commercial property owners that is directly responsible for almost \$3 billion of transportation improvements in Cobb County. In 1994, he served as Chairman of the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce and also received the Lockheed Corporation Management Association's "Manager of the Year" award. He serves on the Boards of Directors of Riverside Bank, the Atlanta Regional Commission, and Mount Bethel United Methodist Church and is immediate past Chairman of the Board of The Walker School.

Clint Mueller plays an essential leadership role in serving as a liaison between counties and state agencies and directing the efforts and initiatives of the organization's policy team as the Legislative Director for the Association County Commissioners of Georgia. He is also responsible for conducting research on state and federal policy issues, and determining their impact on county government. As ACCG's lobbyist to the Georgia General Assembly, Mr. Mueller works to ensure the passing of favorable legislation for counties. An accomplished author on local government issues, he has authored ACCG's Special Purpose Local Options Sales Tax (SPLOST) guide, the Public Safety Chapter of the County Commissioners Handbook and a video on property taxes. He is also a frequent contributor to *Georgia County Government* magazine and is an instructor in ACCG's Certified Commissioners Advanced Program. Before serving as ACCG's Legislative Director, Mr. Mueller served as the organization's Assistant Director of Financial & Management Services and Assistant Legislative Director, respectively. An active participant in several professional associations, Mr. Mueller is a member of the Georgia City/County Managers Association, Georgia Government Finance Officers Association, Georgia Association of Assessing Officials and member of the Regional Atlanta Civic League. He attained his Bachelor of Science degree in Justice Studies at Georgia Southern University. He went on to complete a Masters of Public Administration degree at the University of Georgia. Mr. Mueller resides in Cherokee County with his wife and three children.