

**Hispanic Business, Trade, and Culture Commission Meeting**  
**Friday, April 27, 2007**  
**Webster University**  
**St. Louis, MO**  
**9 am-1:30 pm**

Members in Attendance: Chairman Representative Tim Flook, Al Gonzalez, Lillian Hurst, Ramiro Icaza, Claudio Korinko and Jalesia McQueen,

Members Absent: Daniel Alvarez, Jeanette Hernandez Prenger, Crista Hogan, Miguel Meneses, Pedro Pantoja and Heraclio A Perez

Guests in Attendance: John Brereton, Slay Industrys; Nicolas Britto, St. Louis Hispanic Leaders Group; Neil George, Webster University; Nikki Lopresti, L.A.M.P.; Rafeal Nun Marin, St. Louis Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Tony Ramirez, Member of the Hispanic Community in St. Louis; Guillermo Rodriquez, Webster University; Naomi Silver, Milatino Media LLC; Grant Chapman, Webster University; Mark Wine, Missouri Department of Economic Development; and Krista Zurkamer, Missouri Department of Economic Development

Chairman Representative Tim Flook called the HBTCC April 27, 2007 meeting to order at 9:17 a.m. Chairman Representative Flook welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all in attendance for their support.

Chairman Representative Flook congratulated our newly appointed member Claudio Korinko to the Commission.

The Commission members, supporting staff and guests made introductions.

Chairman Representative Tim Flook expressed his gratitude towards Guillermo Rodriquez and Webster University for their hospitality in letting the Commission use their facility and services.

Webster University, Grant Chapman

Grant Chapman thanked Chairman Representative Flook and the Commission for Webster University's participation in today Commission meeting. Webster University instituted its first European campus in Geneva, Switzerland in 1978. The University's flexible; American-style higher education attracted not only Americans, but students of many other nationalities as well. After the success of the Geneva campus, the University to established additional campuses - in Vienna, Austria; Leiden, the Netherlands; and London, England; Cha-am, Thailand; Shanghai, China; Guadalajara, Mexico; Osaka, Japan and Geneva, Switzerland.

The Center for International Education promotes international opportunities and activities for the University and wider communities. Along with housing the international studies major and certificate programs, the CIE serves as a resource for Webster faculty, staff, and students by providing information on various international fellowships, grants, internships, and other programs. The CIE also sponsors many programs, including the International Studies Symposium Series. Together with other Webster offices, the Center's activities enhance the international atmosphere at Webster.

The Multicultural Center and International Student Affairs at Webster University exist to provide programs and services to students and faculty; and to create a community environment that recognizes social differences, respects cultural uniqueness, and facilitates cross-cultural interaction, learning and appreciation.

The International Business Internship Exchange is unique because it gives American students from Missouri universities an overseas internship, extensive utilization of foreign language and an intercultural experience... total immersion... and the same opportunity in the state of Missouri is provided to students from selected universities in Germany, Ghana, Japan, Mexico and the U.K. The exchange is sponsored by the State of Missouri and is limited to the countries of China, Germany, Ghana, Japan, Mexico and the U.K.

*Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis, Nicolas Britto*

Nicolas Britto relayed Chairman Jaime Torres regrets for being unable to attend the Commission meeting today but thanks the Commission for inviting the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St Louis to participate in today's meeting. The Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis was founded in 1983 with the purpose of serving the Hispanic community as an umbrella organization for the various Hispanic groups in the St. Louis region. Membership is open to any established group(s) and individual(s) who are supportive of the mission and goals of the organization.

The mission of the HLG is to be a representative, strong and supportive voice of the Hispanic community in the regional St. Louis area, by keeping informed and abreast of local and national issues that impact the Hispanic community, to promote views on issues to help in the development of a harmonious and diverse St. Louis community.

The purpose of HLG, which is a not-for-profit organization, shall be to serve as a coalition organization for the Greater St. Louis Hispanic community. It is intent of this group to promote the Hispanic views on issues such as: education, culture, language, immigration, policy analysis, health economic development, organized labor, employment, political awareness, and civil rights. Most important, it is not the intent of this coalition group to break up, direct, or change any existing Hispanic organization. But it is the organization's intent to act as a positive influence and conduit to focus Hispanic energy and resources as the Greater St. Louis Hispanic voice in our community.

*L.A.M.P., Nikki Lopresti*

Nikki Lopresti thanked Krista Zurkamer and the Commission for the invitation to today's activities and the opportunity to share with them more about L.A.M.P. Language Access Metro Project (LAMP) decreases language and cultural barriers for immigrants and refugees seeking health care and support services in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area by directly involving trained bilingual people in health and social services systems. In February of 1996, the Archbishop's Commission on Community Health (ACCH) conducted a Community Health Assessment which identified immigrants and refugees as one of four populations facing barriers to care. Individuals and organizations that assist immigrant and refugee communities came together to reduce language and cultural barriers to health and social services. The result of this collaborative effort is L.A.M.P.

Some of the services offered by L.A.M.P. are interpreting, translation and professional training. As a member of the American Translators Association, LAMP provides quality translation services for health care facilities, school systems, insurance companies as well as legal matters and employers who have a large immigrant and refugee population. Our translation projects, just like our patients, receive a personal touch. For each project we have several translation experts assigned to complete it. One is responsible only for translation and the others are responsible for editing and final proof reading of the material. LAMP has completed projects for state-wide agencies such as the Missouri Hospital Association, for which we translated patient care related materials for its web site healthtranslations.com. In addition, LAMP helped develop, as well as translated and recorded a CD for the Mercy MC+ Member Audio Handbook and many community-projects related materials.

*Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis, Rafeal Nun Marin*

Rafeal Nun Marin apologized for his tardiness and expressed his excitement in speaking with Chairman Representative Flook and the Commission members today. He also thanked those in attendance at the Chambers' Business after Hours event last night and hoped everyone enjoyed themselves. The mission of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis is to promote the economic development of Hispanic firms at the domestic and international level, as well as to serve as a link to the non-Hispanic organizations.

The HCCMSL represents the Hispanic business sectors of the St. Louis region, including industry and commerce. Because of its dynamic leadership, it is considered to be the spokesperson for the Hispanic business community of the region; it is the voice of the Hispanic entrepreneur and serves as leader in the defense of Hispanic enterprises.

The Chamber strives to strengthen Hispanic enterprise and small and minority business integration to promote a sustainable socioeconomic development and a better quality of life in the St. Louis region. The Chamber serves as facilitator in strengthening Hispanic enterprise, it anticipates new challenges and opportunities, encourages innovation, and promotes the development of the Hispanic entrepreneurial sector.

The HCCMSL is a viable, vigorous and vibrant arm of the economic community whose membership is not limited to Hispanic organizations or professionals. Enrollment in the

Chamber is voluntary for all business owners and professionals. A relatively new goal for the Chamber is continued progression for the procurement opportunities for minority owned businesses. It is important to form a coalition to go after the procurement opportunities: city, state and federal.

*Slay Industrys, John Brereton*

John Brereton thanked Mark Wine for thinking of him and the Commission for extending an invitation to the Commissions' meeting. Slay Industries is a diverse, St. Louis-based group of transportation and distribution companies with revenues in excess of \$100 million per year. Slay provides its customers with value-added, quality services and an emphasis on safety.

Slay Industries was established in 1920 in St. Louis, Missouri. John R. Slay, coming home highly-decorated from World War I, returned to South St. Louis where he grew up. There he became a close friend of Edgar Queeny, the founder of Monsanto Chemical Corporation. Needing transportation services, Mr. Queeny called upon John Slay, who responded by forming the original Slay Motor Freight. At that point, a long and prosperous business relationship began.

Later adding warehousing and river operations for the purpose of widening distribution services, Slay has evolved into a logistics powerhouse that is driven by the principles of quality and customer service. The tradition begun by John R. Slay in 1920 continues today as the third generation of Slay leadership takes Slay Industries into the new millennium.

Slay has over 800 team members and is uniquely suited by size and location to meet the varied and complex needs of its customers, helping them address the economic and environmental issues facing their companies in today's changing world marketplace. From general rail, barge and truck logistics to special product warehousing, Slay consistently lives up to the philosophy that "Quality Is Our Driving Force."

Chairman Representative Flook called for a lunch break at 11:57 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 12:26 p.m.

**The minutes from the March 2, 2007 were introduced and reviewed. With no changes or corrections Al Gonzalez made the motion to approve the minutes. Lilly Hurst seconded the motion to accept the December 12, 2006 minutes. All approved, motion carried unanimously.**

Chairman Representative Flook reminded the Commission members of our next meeting on June 22, 2007 to be held in Joplin, MO and opened the meeting up for discussion on future dates and meeting content. The Commission discussed the following for possible meeting subject matter: capital access for small business, agriculture-soy bean and Angus beef, finance, labor needs, and immigration process. The Commission discussed the

possibility of having a meeting in the southwest part of Missouri. The Commission concluded to try to have a meeting in Cape Girardeau on August 31, 2007.

Chairman Representative Flook made note to Krista Zurkamer to put discussion of the Missouri Commission on Hispanic Affairs Report 2004 on the Agenda for the June 22, 2007 meeting and reminding those members present to review the Report to be prepared.

Chairman Representative Flook also made note that he and Krista Zurkamer would be starting in late August the Hispanic Business, Trade and Culture Commission 2006 Report to the Governor and Director Steinhoff. This report would be a topic at a later meeting.

**With no further business Chairman Representative Tim Flook asked for a motion to adjourn.**

**Al Gonzalez moved. Jasha McQueen seconded the motion to adjourn the April 27, 2007 HBTCC meeting. All approved, motion carried.**

**With no further business Chairman Representative Tim Flook adjourn the meeting at 1:07 p.m.**