



NEWS RELEASE

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Martin Walke named Chair of Louisiana Business & Technology Center Advisory Board

BATON ROUGE—Martin Walke of Baton Rouge is the new Chairman of the Advisory Board for the award-winning Louisiana Business and Technology Center, a high-tech business incubator program located at LSU's South Campus Research Park.

Walke, a member of the LBTC advisory board since 2006, replaces Dr. Christel Slaughter as Chair. Eli Jones was elected Vice Chairman. Charlie D'Agostino was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer.

Officers are elected to two-year terms. The 24-member Advisory Board is comprised of leaders in business, education and government from around the state who give advice and networking assistance to LBTC staff and tenant companies.

Walke is Vice President of Economic Development for the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority. The LPFA is a self-supporting public trust and public corporation that finances industrial and economic development projects. Through its various programs, the LPFA provides low-cost funding for hospitals and hospital equipment, universities and other educational facilities, student loans and essential programs for state and local governments.

Jones is Dean of the E.J. Ourso College of Business at LSU. Prior to joining LSU's staff in 2008, he served as a professor of marketing and Associate Dean for Executive Education Programs in the Bauer College of Business at the University of Houston.

D'Agostino is Executive Director of the LBTC, a position he has held since the center's founding in 1988.

The LBTC, an integral part of LSU's E.J. Ourso College of Business, is in its 21st year of operation as a university-based business incubator and specializes in providing management assistance and counseling to small businesses and entrepreneurs statewide. The LBTC, acting as a proving ground for technology applications and utilization, has documented the creation of more than 10,000 jobs since its inception.

The LBTC was named the 2005 National Business Incubator of the year by the National Business Incubation Association and has won numerous awards for innovative programs and best practices. The LBTC was established in 1988 with the financial support and assistance of LSU, Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce and the Louisiana Public Facilities Authority.

For more information about LBTC, contact Charlie D'Agostino at (225) 578-7555, or visit www.bus.lsu.edu/lbtc.

