

We welcome the participation and input of the following panelists.

**February 2009 Forum Speakers**

**Kenneth D. Boyer, PhD.**  
**Professor of Economics**  
**Department of Economics**  
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Dr. Ken Boyer is a Professor of Economics at Michigan State University. His primary research interests are in the economics of transportation and the economics of regulation. He is a 1979 winner of the Michigan State University teacher-scholar award and has taught at the Sino-American Training Center in Shanghai, China and the University of Michigan as well as at Michigan State University. He has conducted research on regulation and transportation in Western Europe, and is currently a member of two committees of the National Academy of Sciences. His textbook, Principles of Transportation Economics, was published in 1997. Prof. Boyer is the former Chair of the Transportation and Public Utilities Group of the American Economic Association. He received his B.A. (economics), Amherst College, and Ph.D. (economics), University of Michigan.

**Leon Hank**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**  
**Michigan Department of Transportation**  
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Mr. Leon E. Hank is MDOT's Chief Administrative Officer, overseeing the Bureaus of Finance and Administration, Transportation Planning, Aeronautics and Freight Services, and the operations of the International Bridge. He is also responsible for development and oversight of MDOT's \$3.4 billion budget.

Prior to his appointment in June 2002, Mr. Hank directed the Office of Financial Management for the State of Michigan's State Budget Office. He served as the state's financial controller, responsible for publishing the State of Michigan's financial statements, and processing payroll for 64,000 employees. A licensed CPA, Leon's distinguished State of Michigan career spans 31 years in various finance and technology positions in five state departments. He earned a master's degree in business administration from Michigan State University and a finance degree from Central Michigan University.

Mr. Hank served ten years as an elected trustee on the Holt Public Schools Board of Education and chaired the National Association of State Controllers (NASC) Committee on Accounting and Financial Reporting for three years. He made four trips to Asia and Africa to teach economic development and government regulation classes to the governments of 25 developing nations as a member of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Team.

In 2007, Mr. Hank received the "Best of Michigan 2007 Technology Leadership Award" for excellence in managing information technology in government. In 2002, he won two of the nation's top government financial leadership awards: the Excellence in Government Leadership Award from the Association of

Government Accountants and the President's Award from the NASC for his leadership in the financial reporting area.

**Rick Lyles, Ph.D.**  
**Professor of Transportation Engineering and Planning**  
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Rick Lyles is a professor and associate chairperson in Michigan State University's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. In his 25+ years at MSU, he has taught courses in transportation engineering and planning, public transportation, travel demand forecasting, and transportation research methods. His research interests include traffic safety, mobility options, older driver issues, and traffic control device evaluation. He is the former co-director of the Michigan Transit Center of Excellence. He was also a senior investigator on FHWA-funded research on rural road safety in Maine; Chief Planner for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh; and a private consultant. He holds a PhD from Carnegie-Mellon University; is a registered professional engineer in Michigan, Maine, and Pennsylvania; and is a Fellow in both the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

**John C. Taylor, Ph.D.**  
**Associate Professor of Marketing and Logistics**  
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Dr. Taylor is an Associate Professor of Marketing and Logistics in the Seidman College of Business. His teaching focuses on logistics management, transportation policy and management, and international logistics. Dr. Taylor also heads up Grand Valley's Logistics Management program.

His Ph.D. dissertation dealt with the manufacturing plant and distribution center location implications of the NAFTA. He has also conducted a number of academic studies on U.S.-Canada-Mexico border crossing issues. Additional research has been published on issues related to trucking economic regulation, ocean shipping in the Great Lakes, intermodal transportation, Michigan highway funding, "in-stock" performance levels in the supply chain, and the value of outdoor billboard advertising.

Dr. Taylor is a past member of the National Commission on Intermodal Transportation, an 11 person Presidential Commission created to make legislative recommendations on ways to improve intermodal transportation. He is also a past member of the National Motor Carrier Advisory Committee to the U.S. Department of Transportation, and has been a member of the Michigan Motor Carrier Advisory Committee. He also has served on various Michigan DOT and Detroit Chamber committees focusing on Michigan transportation and logistics issues. He is a frequent witness on international trade and transportation policy issues before Congressional and Michigan legislative committees and has spoken or debated on these topics before a number of organizations and for print and electronic media. He has also been qualified as a Michigan court expert witness on logistics and transportation issues.

## Forum Moderator

**AnnMarie Schneider**  
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AnnMarie serves as director of policy education and of the Legislative Leadership Program for Michigan State University's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. In addition, she serves as interim director for the MSU Canadian Studies Center. With more than 20 years experience in university and government relations, public policy and communications, AnnMarie Schneider has directed her passion and expertise toward linking research, policy, education, and public deliberation that is focused on society's most challenging issues, domestic and international.

Schneider was instrumental in developing Michigan State University's Legislative Leadership Program, an education forum that links research scholars and newly elected lawmakers in an information exchange that results in well informed policy decisions. With the advent of term limits, she has helped model the development of similar partnerships on a national and international level. As director of this program, she manages a multi-million dollar grant program focused on providing incoming legislators research on contemporary topics.

Schneider's interest in international relations is evident in her work with the Romanian Leadership Partnership, the Canadian National (CN) Forum, and the International Economy Forum. She has worked with faculty to strengthen a reciprocal education and leadership exchange network between Michigan State University and Babes-Boylia University in Cluj, Romania. While serving on the advisory board of the Canadian Studies Center, she helped to orchestrate a *CN Forum*, a public event that addresses U.S. and Canadian Relations and invites discourse between business and nonprofit stakeholders as well as scholars and students. Yet another example is her work with MSU's International Studies and Programs to build a venue that informs policymakers about how they might address Michigan's role in a global economy.

## IPPSR Director

**Douglas B. Roberts, Ph.D., Director**  
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Dr. Roberts currently serves as Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) at Michigan State University and has been affiliated with IPPSR since April 2003. He holds more than 28 years experience in Michigan government, including 10 years as state treasurer, and time as director of the Senate Fiscal Agency, deputy superintendent of the Department of Education, deputy director of the Department of Management and Budget (DMB), and acting director of DMB. He holds a doctorate and a master's degree in economics from MSU and a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Maryland. He has been affiliated with IPPSR since April 2003.