

NC'S NORTHEAST STATE OF THE REGION FEBRUARY 26, 2010

Creating New Wealth Through Innovation

Networking		8:30AM
Welcome	Ernest Burden NC's Northeast Commission	9:10AM
State of the Region	Vann Rogerson NC's Northeast Commission	9:15AM - 9:40AM
NC Innovation Council	Al Delia Introduced by Vann Rogerson	9:40AM - 10:05AM
Regional Tourism	Sec. Linda Carlisle Introduced by Representative Tim Spear	10:05AM - 10:30AM
	Break	10:30AM - 10:45AM
Rural Opportunities	Billy Ray Hall Introduced by Representative Michael Wray	10:50AM - 11:20AM
Biotech Innovations	Norris Tolson Introduced by Representative Arthur Williams	11:20AM - 11:45AM
The Regional Economy	George Jackson Introduced by Representative Bill Owens	11:45AM - 12:10PM
Lunch Served	Invocation by Ernest Burden NC's Northeast Commission	
Regional Awards	Presented during lunch by CONE, NET, and NEED	12:35PM - 12:50PM
State of the State	Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll	12:50PM - 1:20PM
Wrap Up	Vann Rogerson NC's Northeast Commission	1:20PM - 1:30PM

This event is co-sponsored by North Carolina's Northeast Committee of 1000

Special centerpieces provided by Northeast Tourism (NET)





Al Delia serves as Senior Advisor to Governor Bev Perdue. In that capacity, Al oversees all of the Governor's Office operations related to policy, inter-governmental and legislative affairs, as well as statewide volunteer services. He was first appointed by Governor Perdue to serve as her Director of Policy in March 2009.

Prior to accepting his current position, Al was a highly accomplished leader of economic development efforts in Eastern North Carolina, including the design, start-up, turn-around, growth and operation of a variety of business, political, governmental, and educational organizations. He has over 25 years of experience in working effectively with Boards and Advisory Groups and collaborating with diverse sets of workforce, economic development, and educational organizations. Al is a strategic planning expert and served as a consultant to private and public sector organizations. He is sensitive to both internal and external environments and constituencies and is able to build consensus and cooperation from conflict and competition.

He also spent several years working for North Carolina's University System – at East Carolina (ECU) and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Al has held positions as Director of Federal Relations within the Office of the Chancellor at ECU, Associate Vice Chancellor of Research, Development, and Community Engagement, Executive Director of the L.T. Walker International Human Performance Center, and Associate State Director of the Small Business and Technology Development Center. Al holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Drew University and several certificates in fundraising, grant-writing, and event and product sponsorship.

Al lives in Greenville and Raleigh, NC with his wife, Cecelia Karas. He has two children, Jordan, 19 and Alex, 15.



Deputy Sec. Dale Carroll

When Dale Carroll was appointed by Gov. Bev Perdue as the deputy secretary of the N.C. Department of Commerce in January 2009, he brought three decades of business management and executive leadership to the position.

Prior to joining Commerce, Carroll served for 12 years as the chief executive officer of AdvantageWest, one of the seven regional economic development partnerships that serves 23 counties in the western part of the state. Before that, he worked for 18 years with Carolina Power & Light (now Progress Energy) in roles that ranged from energy services engineer to manager of economic development.

During his tenure at AdvantageWest, Carroll's board and staff were recognized for excellence by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers, Southeast Tourism Society, Entrepreneur Magazine and Southern Economic Development Council.

He is a past president of the N.C. Economic Developers Association and has served on the state's Economic Development Board and the N.C. Biotechnology Center's Advisory Committee for Biotechnology in Western North Carolina.

Carroll received a bachelor of science degree from N.C. State University and a master's degree in management and human relations from Webster University in St. Louis.



Sec. Linda Carlisle

Linda A. Carlisle was named Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources by Gov. Bev Perdue in January 2009. Under Secretary Carlisle's direction, Cultural Resources works to fulfill its mission – to enrich lives and communities.

Since her appointment, Secretary Carlisle has worked on the local, state, and national level to communicate the impact Cultural Resources has in attracting and retaining jobs, enhancing the education of children and life-long learners, and growing stronger communities.

An experienced corporate executive, entrepreneur and community activist, Secretary Carlisle earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and a master's degree in Business Administration from Wake Forest University. She began her career in banking, and in 1979, started her own business, Copier Consultants, Inc., headquartered in Greensboro. Ten years later she sold the business, and remained as president until 1997, when she turned her focus to community and educational interests.

Secretary Carlisle is a committed community leader and has served on the boards of the Chamber of Commerce, Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro, UNC-G Board of Trustees and various roles with United Way, United Arts Council, Piedmont Craftsmen, Inc., and the Girl Scouts. She served as Co-chair of the UNC-G Students First Capital Campaign, surpassing the \$100 million goal one year early.



Billy Ray Hall

Mr. Hall is the founding president of the 23-year-old North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center. The Rural Center is recognized nationally as a leader in innovative rural economic development programs and policies. He serves on numerous economic development boards and is a graduate of North Carolina State University where he received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees.

Prior to the Rural Center, Mr. Hall served four governors of North Carolina in ascending levels of policy positions, ranging from Policy Director to Deputy Secretary for the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, as well as Chief Economist for the Office of State Planning. Governor Jim Hunt assigned him as Director of the Redevelopment and Disaster Recovery effort for North Carolina after Hurricanes Fran and Floyd.



E. Norris Tolson

An Edgecombe County native with a distinguished career of leadership in industry and state government, E. Norris Tolson took the helm of the Biotechnology Center July 2, 2007. Tolson has served on the Biotechnology Center's Board of Directors since 1997, as a member of the Executive Committee since 2001 and as Vice Chair since 2005. He was one of five co-conveners leading development of the recently completed North Carolina's Strategic Plan for Biofuels Leadership.

Gov. Mike Easley appointed Tolson Secretary of Revenue in January 2001. There he was responsible for administering the state's tax laws and collecting taxes in a fair, impartial and uniform manner.

Tolson held appointments as Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Department of Commerce and was charged with reorganizing both departments. Tolson also served in the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1994 until 1997 and represented parts of Nash, Edgecombe, Pitt and Wilson counties.

Prior to his election to the General Assembly, Tolson worked at E.I. DuPont from 1965 until his retirement in 1993. He worked in various research, marketing and sales assignments in the company's agricultural products and electronics business for 28 years. He was assigned both domestic and international business responsibilities and lived in Europe for several years.

Tolson graduated from North Carolina State University with a bachelor's degree in crop science and agribusiness in 1962. He also served in the U.S. Army Counter Intelligence Corps from 1963 to 1965.

He is a certified lay speaker in the United Methodist Church and a member of the Lions Club and the American Legion. In addition to the Biotechnology Center board, he serves on the Board of Visitors at North Carolina State University and the Alumni Association Board. He also serves on the NCSU College of Education and Psychology Foundation and is a member of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Society. Prior to his Department of Revenue service, he was a member of the North Carolina Community College Board.

Tolson and his wife, Betsy, have three children and five grandchildren.



George Jackson

George Jackson is a Professor in the Walter R. Davis School of Business & Economics at Elizabeth City State University. He is an attorney and CPA, with active North Carolina licenses. Jackson's education includes an undergraduate degree from East Carolina University, and graduate degrees from William & Mary (MBA), University of North Carolina (Juris Doctor), and Georgetown University Law Center (LL.M. - Tax).

At ECSU, Jackson teaches courses in Federal Income Taxation and Business Law. He also teaches an internet-based tax class through the University of North Carolina Online program. He serves as Chief Marshal of the ECSU faculty, and has published numerous articles on tax topics. His work can be found in The CPA Journal, The Tax Advisor, The CPA Journal, Tax Notes, and Real Estate Review.

Jackson serves as Vice-Chair/Chair Elect for the Board of Directors of Preservation North Carolina, and Immediate Past President for Arts of the Albemarle, and for Friends of the Museum of the Albemarle. He is also a member of Human Resources Appeals Board for the City of Elizabeth City.



Ernest Burden

Ernest Burden has been named the most recent Chairman of the North Carolina's Northeast Commission Board of Directors with a one year term beginning July 1, 2008. After a 32-year career with Weyerhaeuser, Ernest retired from the Plymouth location where he most recently worked as a Financial Analyst.

Originally from Maysville, NC, Ernest completed an Associate's Degree in Accounting at Craven Community College and then completed his Bachelor's Degree in Management from East Carolina University.

An active volunteer in his community, he served twelve years as a Washington County Commissioner and, in the past, was a member of the Tideland Mental Health Board and the Washington County Hospital Board. Ernest enjoys spending time with his wife, five grown children, and ten grandchildren. He serves as a Deacon at Second Zion Grove Missionary Baptist Church.



Vann Rogerson

Vann Rogerson is a native of Martin County and a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill with a B.S. in Business Administration. During his career as a Certified Public Accountant, he owned or managed several businesses in Williamston and New Bern, NC. Rogerson is credited with starting the first Small Business Center at Martin Community College in 1990. From 1991 to 1995 Vann was the Northeast Existing Industry Developer for the North Carolina Department of Commerce. From 1996-2006, he was the Regional Marketing Director and Recruiter for both the Northeast Commission and the North Carolina Department of Commerce. In August 2006, the board named Vann Rogerson President and CEO of North Carolina's Northeast Commission.

Vann lives in Williamston with his wife Peggy, a professional photographer. He has 2 children, Joanna and Bradley.

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