

A Reprint from *Tierra Grande*

Center Welcomes New Advisory Committee Members

When the Real Estate Center's Advisory Committee held its first meeting of 2007, most of those seated around the table were new. In recent months, Gov. Rick Perry, himself a former chairman of the committee, has appointed six new members.

The ten-member committee includes nine gubernatorial appointees and one ex-officio, nonvoting member representing the Texas Real Estate Commission. The ex-officio member also is new.

Committee members review the Center's proposed research agenda, provide advice and counsel, review results prior to release and approve the operating budget for the nation's largest publicly funded real estate research organization.

J. Michael Boyd. Active in the commercial real estate industry since 1972, Boyd is a nationally recognized specialist in industrial property brokerage. Before launching his own firm in 1977, he worked as a Houston industrial broker. He



has been active in the most prestigious trade and professional organizations. He is a member of the Texas Association of Realtors and chairs the Houston Association of Realtors Commercial Gateway.

He is a life member of the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo and trustee of the Boyd Foundation Charitable Trust.

Catarina Gonzales Cron. Cron is legislative liaison and director of health and environmental initiatives for the office of Harris County Judge Robert Eckels in Houston. She is a member of the State Bar of Texas and serves on the bar's



environmental and natural resources law section.

Cron chairs the Houston-Galveston Area Council's Regional Air Quality Planning Committee. She also serves on the HGAC Trauma Care Policy Council, Greater Houston Partnership State Relations Committee and the Texas Department of Insurance Houston Pilot Project Steering Committee. She volunteers with the Dachshund Rescue of Houston and the Junior League.

Jacquelyn K. Hawkins. Hawkins is an information technology consultant in charge of e-government initiatives for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service in Washington, D.C. She has held positions ranging from



state agency computer programmer to software development manager.

With an avid interest in education, Hawkins has devoted countless volunteer hours to organizations with scholarship objectives and adult literacy programs. She has served on advisory committees to local school boards for the purpose of developing and maintaining specialized magnet schools, particularly in science and technology.

D. Marc McDougal. Since 1988, McDougal has been president of his own real estate firm, which includes more than 30 real estate agents and staff. He supervises the day-to-day operations of the multimillion-dollar company.



His list of community activities is long, including service as mayor of Lubbock from 2002 to 2006. McDougal's activities have included church, the Lubbock Apartment Association, West Texas Homebuilders Association, Lubbock Board of Realtors, Red Raider Club, Leadership Lubbock, Lubbock Traffic Commission and the city council. At his

first meeting of the Real Estate Center, he was elected vice chairman.

Barbara Russell. A Realtor and owner of her own firm, Russell is a member of the Texas Association of Realtors (TAR), Greater Denton/Wise County Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors (NAR). She is a former NAR and TAR director.



She is active in the Adopt-a-School program and is past chair of the Denton Chamber of Commerce. She holds the Certified Residential Broker, Certified Residential Specialist and Graduate Realtor Institute designations.

Ron C. Wakefield. Wakefield is owner and CEO of Wakefield Realtors and MidAmerican Mortgage. He is a member and past director of the National Association of Realtors, Texas Association of Realtors and the San Antonio Board of Realtors.



He is a member of the Texas Association of Builders, San Antonio Builders Association, National Mortgage Bankers and National Mortgage Brokers.

He served two terms on the Texas Mortgage Advisory Board to the Savings and Loan Commission. Wakefield is founder of San Antonio Affordable Housing, director of the San Antonio Easter Seals, member of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and a volunteer coach for McAllister Little League.

John D. Eckstrum. A native Texan, Eckstrum is co-owner of First Group, a company founded in 1974. He has specialized in commercial and industrial real estate in Montgomery County where he has a lifelong history of participation and leadership in civic and professional organizations.



Eckstrum was the 2001 chairman of the Texas Association of Realtors and currently serves on various committees and as a trustee for the National Association of Realtors. He is vice chairman of the Texas Real Estate Commission. ♣



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