The James C. and Cherie H. Flores M.B.A. Program is the flagship academic program of the E. J. Ourso College of Business Administration at Louisiana State University.

The Distinguished Speaker Series is an integral part of the Flores M.B.A. Program. Students gain insight through the series to new ideas and forces shaping American and international business from executives who face these issues daily. Interaction with executives provides students significant educational enrichment to complement their classroom curriculum.

This semester we are proud to showcase three executives who are recognized as leaders in their industries and communities:

**January 24**
Fran Keeth  
President and CEO  
Shell Chemical L.P.

**February 21**
E. Robert Theriot III  
Senior Resident Vice President  
Merrill Lynch

**March 7**
Carol Calkins  
National Partner of Transaction Tax Group  
PricewaterhouseCoopers

All lectures begin at 10 A.M.  
Please visit [www.bus.lsu.edu/corporate/speakerseries](http://www.bus.lsu.edu/corporate/speakerseries) for event details.

Calendar of Events  
For a listing of activities at the E. J. Ourso College of Business Administration, visit [www.bus.lsu.edu/about/calendar](http://www.bus.lsu.edu/about/calendar).
Fran Keeth holds both global and regional positions with Shell Chemicals Limited. At the global level she is executive vice president, customer fulfillment and product business units, and deputy CEO for Shell Chemicals Limited. At the regional level she is president and CEO of Shell Chemical L.P., a U.S. operating company. Shell's global chemicals businesses are among the largest petrochemical operations in the world. They comprise one of the five core businesses of the Royal Dutch/Shell Group—the others being Exploration and Production, Oil Products, Gas and Power Generation, and Renewables. Shell Group companies operate in 135 countries and employ more than 90,000 people worldwide.

Keeth joined Shell Oil Company in 1970, where she held positions of increasing responsibility in the Head Office Finance and Tax Departments. In 1988, she assumed the position of assistant general counsel, Litigation and Research. She was named general manager, Auditing, in 1989, and general manager, Products Finance, in 1991. In 1992, she moved to London to handle a series of assignments in Shell International Petroleum Company as deputy group controller, area coordinator for the Far East, and finance manager, Oil Products. Keeth left Shell to join Mobil Corporation as controller and principal accounting officer in 1996. She returned a year later to assume the position of executive vice president, Finance and Business Systems, for Shell Chemicals Limited. She was appointed to her current position in 2001. As part of her current role, Keeth sits on the boards of Basell, a 50/50 polyolefin joint venture between Shell and BASF; CNOOC and Shell Petrochemical Company Limited, a 50/50 Chinese petrochemical joint venture; and Infineum, a 50/50 additives joint venture with ExxonMobil. Keeth is a chairperson of Elemica, an industry-wide ERP-to-ERP solutions company.

Keeth holds a bachelor's degree in accounting, an M.B.A. and a J.D. degree from the University of Houston in Texas. She is the first woman to head a major U.S. chemical company, and was recently named one of the 50 most powerful women in business in the United States by Fortune Magazine.
E. Robert "Bobby" Theriot III is a managing director of Merrill Lynch Private Client Group. He is the most senior branch manager in the firm and presently oversees Merrill Lynch's seventh largest domestic office in Houston, Texas. This office generates greater than $110 million in revenue, and stewards assets in excess of $20 billion. Theriot was asked, in the fall 2002, to organize and manage Merrill Lynch’s Private Wealth Advisory Hub for the State of Texas. He celebrated his 26th year in management in October 2002.

Theriot joined Merrill Lynch in Baton Rouge, beginning what has been a distinguished career in the financial services industry spanning longer than 34 years. A financial consultant for seven years, he was accepted in 1976 into management training and began his management career as the sales manager of the New Orleans office. In March 1979, Theriot became manager of the Dallas-Campbell center office. He went on to manage an office in Columbia, South Carolina, where he also helped organize and served on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Security Dealers Association. While at Merrill Lynch, Theriot has been active in developing professional training programs, assisting in the design of the firm's first formal training program covering the first two years of a new financial advisor's career. He currently serves as assessor at the Merrill Lynch Management Selection Center and helps evaluate financial advisors for High Net Worth accreditation. Theriot is active in the firm’s Wealth Management Training Program and in training new office managers. He is on task forces responsible for defining the firm’s asset-based pricing strategy and for revising the Financial Advisor Compensation Program.

Theriot graduated from LSU in 1963 with a general business degree. He has played an active role in several civic and charitable organizations, including the Boy Scouts and the Rotary Club. Theriot serves on the Board of Governors of the Houston Center Club, the Advisory Board of the American Heart Association, the underwriting committee of the Ronald McDonald House Ball, and the Board of Directors of Central Houston, Inc. He is on the Board of Directors of the Greater Houston YMCA, where he serves on the Finance and Investment Committee. Theriot served, for three years, as cochair of the American Heart Association Bear Bryant Coach of the Year Award Banquet. He is a member of the Downtown Houston Association, the Tiger Athletic Foundation, and the LSU Foundation.
Carol Calkins is the national partner in charge of PricewaterhouseCoopers' Transaction Tax Group, which is comprised of 17 partners and more than 300 staff. PricewaterhouseCoopers, included in the "Big Four" accounting firms, has locations in 150 countries and territories. PricewaterhouseCoopers is headquartered in New York City with 9,400 partners and over 124,500 employees.

Calkins joined the multistate Tax Practice at PricewaterhouseCoopers in 1986. Calkins also leads the PARR™ business unit, which is the firm's accounts payable recovery service offering. She has also served as PricewaterhouseCoopers' National cochair on Diversity and Worklife Quality. Calkins served as the state tax supervisor for Sun Oil Co. of Delaware, responsible for tax compliance, audit, legislation, litigation and planning. During her six years with Sun, she helped formulate proactive state tax legislation in Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Calkins, after graduating from LSU in 1970 in accounting, was a field auditor for the Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation in Baton Rouge and later a supervisor in Dallas. Calkins is a nationally recognized specialist on state taxation. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Texas Society of CPAs, Institute of Professionals in Taxation, International Accounts Payable Professionals, and TTARA. She has published several articles on electronic commerce, the deregulation of the electric utility industry, and the impact of legislation on the oil and gas industry. Calkins also served as the Dallas chapter president of the Institute of Management Accountants and vice-president of the Dallas chapter of the LSU Alumni Association. Calkins recently served on the board and the finance committee for the Dallas Theater Center and as treasurer of the Dallas Theater Center Endowment Fund. She currently serves on the grants and nominating committees of TACA, the umbrella organization for funding the performing arts in Dallas County. Calkins serves on the Partners for Excellence Board of the E. J. Ourso College of Business Administration at Louisiana State University.
Past Distinguished Speakers

We are grateful to the following executives who have participated in our Distinguished Speaker Series:

- James T. Hackett, Chairman of the Board, President, and CEO, Ocean Energy, Inc.
- Jan S. Jobe, President and CEO, Pan American Life Insurance Company
- K. Randall Russ, President and CEO, Community Coffee
- Jeffery A. Kleinpeter, Vice President, Kleinpeter Farms Dairy, Inc.
- Eddie J. Jones, President and CEO, Miami Dolphins
- Kimberlee Bernson DeBosier, Founder and President, Bayside Engineering, Inc.
- James E. Maurin, Founder, Chairman, and CEO, Stirling Properties, Inc.
- Gerald L. Kohlenberger, President, Global Services at ExxonMobil Corporation
- Roland Toups, Chairman and CEO, Turner Industries, Ltd.
- Kathryn Sullivan, President and CEO, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana
- James M. Bernhard, Jr., Founder, President, and CEO, The Shaw Group, Inc.
- Richard Zuschlag, President, Co-Chairman, Acadian Ambulance and Air Med Services, Inc.
- James C. Flores, Chairman, President, and CEO, Plains Resources, Inc.
- G. Lee Griffin, CEO, Chairman, and President, Bank One, Louisiana, NA
- Robert M. Wohleber, CEO, Freeport-McMoRan Sulphur, Inc.
- Matthew G. Stuller, Founder and CEO, and Charles D. Lein, President and COO, Stuller Settings, Inc.
- James H. Stone, Chairman of the Board and CEO, Stone Energy
- Kevin P. Reilly, Jr., CEO, Lamar Corporation
- Carroll Suggs, Chairman, President and CEO, Petroleum Helicopters, Inc.
- Robert C. Davidge, Jr., CEO, Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center
- Emmet Stephenson, Jr., Chairman, Stratek, Inc.
- Donald T. "Boysie" Bollinger, Chairman and CEO, Bollinger Shipyards, Inc.
- Milton Carroll, Chairman, President, and CEO, Instrument Products, Inc.
- John D. Folse, Owner and Executive Chef, Chef John Folse and Company

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