Distinguished Speaker Series

February 18
Richard J. Dugas, Jr.
President and CEO
Pulte Homes

March 18
Deborah A. Elam
Manager of Diversity & Inclusive Leadership
General Electric Company

All lectures begin at 10:00 a.m.
Please visit www.bus.lsu.edu/dss 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/calendar.

For more information contact:
David T. Crary
Associate Dean
E. J. Ourso College of Business Administration
tel: 225/578-8867 • fax: 225/578-2421

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Richard J. Dugas, Jr.

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Richard J. Dugas, Jr. is president and CEO of Pulte Homes, one of the largest home and active adult community builders in the United States. Pulte Homes, headquartered in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, has built more than 370,000 homes and employs more than 13,000 people.

Dugas earned his bachelor’s degree in marketing from LSU in 1986. Before joining Pulte Homes in 1994, he was employed by PepsiCo in the process improvement and plant operational efficiency divisions, and also served earlier in a variety of marketing, retail, and customer service positions with Exxon.

Dugas has held several management positions during his career with Pulte Homes. He served as both process improvement vice president and city president and market manager for Pulte Homes’ Atlanta Division, where he was responsible for driving system-wide process improvement in two national initiatives. He went on to become coastal region president with responsibility for Pulte’s Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee operations. In 2002, Dugas was appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer. He assumed his duties as president and CEO in July 2003.
Deborah A. Elam is manager of Diversity & Inclusive Leadership for General Electric Company, a diversified technology, media and financial services company dedicated to creating products that improve life. GE operates in more than 100 countries and has more than 300,000 employees worldwide.

Elam is a native of New Orleans. She graduated from Ursuline Academy and received her bachelor’s degree in sociology from LSU. Elam then went on to earn her Master of Public Administration degree from Southern University.

Elam’s career with GE began during her graduate studies. She was an intern in the human resources department of GE Global Exchange Services in Rockville, Maryland. After earning her graduate degree in 1987 Elam joined GE’s Human Resources Leadership Program and was given three rotational assignments at GE Global Exchange Services and GE Aircraft Engines in Evendale, Ohio. After completing the program, she was promoted successively larger human resources assignments at GE Consulting Services in Atlanta and GE Capital Mortgage Corporation in Raleigh. In 1995, Elam was appointed senior vice president of human resources for GE Capital Insurance Services in Stamford, Connecticut. She went on to be named managing director of human resources for GE Capital Markets Services in 1997, and managing director of human resources at GE Capital Commercial Finance in 2000. Elam assumed her current role as manager of Diversity and Inclusive Leadership in 2002.

Elam serves as a leader in the GE African American Forum and GE Women’s Network. She is also on the boards of directors of several civic and community organizations.
Distinguished Speaker Series

The James C. and Cherie H. Flores MBA 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 MBA 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 two executives who are recognized as leaders in their industries and communities.
• Jacqui Vines, vice president & general manager, Cox Communications, Inc.

• Eduardo Aguirre, Jr., director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

• Markham McKnight, CEO & president, Wright & Percy Insurance Agency

• Fran Keeth, president & CEO, Shell Chemical L.P.

• E. Robert Theriot, managing director, Merrill Lynch Private Client Group

• Carol Calkins, national partner in charge, PricewaterhouseCoopers Transaction Tax Group

• 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, LA

• 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, Startek, 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

• Joseph H. Campbell, Jr., president, Associated Grocers, Incorporated

• John G. Davies, president and CEO, Baton Rouge Area Foundation

• D. Martin Phillips, senior managing director and principal, EntCap Investments, LLC

• Frederick E. "Rick" Wolfter, president and CEO, GE Capital Healthcare Financial Services

• David M. Eppler, president, CEO and director, Cleco

• R. Blake Young, executive VP, Dynegy and president, Global Technology, Dynegy

• Sandra P. Meyer, VP of customer services, sales and marketing, Duke Power

• Jonathan E. Martin, chairman and CEO, Roy O. Martin Lumber Company

• Joseph L. Herring, president and COO, Covance