



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Coverage Request
IEDC's Leadership Summit

Changing Roles in Changing Times: Reorganizing the Engine of the Economy and Job Growth

WASHINGTON, DC (1/25/13) – The International Economic Council (IEDC) will hold its annual Leadership Summit January 27- 29, 2013, at the Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Florida. The 2013 Summit offers leaders of the economic development profession a chance to join together to analyze, review and discuss the trends impacting their profession.

The Leadership Summit will help economic developers learn how to identify and frame the new skills and needs of practitioners who are working to maintain the engines of their regional economies as the country recovers from recession.

In today's tight fiscal climate and competitive job market, the use of tax incentives and other public dollars to attract large companies has become a controversial, front page issue. Over a three-part series during the month of December, *New York Times* reporter Louise Story examined the use of incentives before a national audience, giving broader exposure to what has typically been a local issue. With Louise Story being a keynote speaker for this event, Summit attendees will get an inside view of how this provocative *Times* series moved the incentives debate forward.

Feature keynote speakers include:

- **Gert Garman**, Innovation and Creativity Catalyst, Disney Destinations, LLC, Orlando, FL
- **Deborah C. German, M.D.**, Vice President for Medical Affairs, Dean, College of Medicine, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
- **John C. Hitt, PhD**, President, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
- **Honorable Teresa Jacobs**, Mayor, Orange County, Florida, Orlando, FL
- **James E. Jardon, II**, CEO, JHT Incorporated and Medical Curriculum Technologies, Orlando, FL
- **Ken Potrock**, Senior Vice President, Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL
- **James M. Seneff, Jr.**, Executive Chairman, CNL Financial Group, Orlando, FL
- **Louise Story**, Reporter, The New York Times, New York, NY
- **Honorable Gray Swoope**, Florida Secretary of Commerce, President & CEO, Enterprise Florida, Inc., Tallahassee, FL
- **Rasesh Thakkar**, Senior Managing Director, The Tavistock Group, Windermere, FL

Participants at the Leadership Summit will explore the conference theme in seminars such as:

- Start-Up Manufacturing: Fab Labs, Hackerspaces and Crowdfunding
- Responsibilities of Businesses to their Communities

- Growing Opportunities: Small Farms, Slow Food, Co-ops, Farmer Markets and Sustainable Farming
- Business and Education Partnerships
- The Budget Conundrum: Leveraging Private Funding Sources

About IEDC:

The [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedconline.org) is the premier independent non-profit, non-partisan membership and research organization devoted exclusively to the field of economic development. IEDC assists economic development professionals in creating high-quality jobs, developing vibrant communities and improving the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,100 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services, and public policy tracking. Visit <http://www.iedconline.org> to learn more.

To attend, please contact Erin Way at eway@iedconline.org or (202) 942-9474.

Conference Website: <http://www.iedcevents.org/LeadershipSummit/index.html>

Program Outline: <http://www.iedcevents.org/LeadershipSummit/Program.html>

About IEDC: http://www.iedconline.org/?p=About_IEDC