

Economic Shockwaves: Impact on Employers and Unions

LERA Gateway Chapter

Breakfast Meeting

February 24, 2009; 7:30 - 11:00 A.M

**Genesis Banquet Center, 2651 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO
I-255 to Telegraph (exit #2, north on Telegraph about one mile)**

The Gateway Chapter is pleased to offer a timely seminar on the economy and its effect on employers and unions. How will fundamental changes in the structure and performance of our economy affect labor-management relations? What impact will the bailouts, stock market collapse, and housing foreclosures have on negotiations? A prominent economist with expertise on the St. Louis region and international experts discuss the economy and how current events will shape the future of labor relations.

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW: John Navin, a professor at SIUE, provides data about the economy. Dr. Navin focuses on employment, productivity, inflation, housing, and the credit and financial markets. He describes events that led to our current situation and what he believes is needed to improve the economy.

EXPERT PANEL: A distinguished panel of labor-management experts discusses how the changing economy will impact collective bargaining. They will address the economics of bargaining and cover issues critical trends as well as wages, costs of medical and insurance, leave, cost of living issues, and pensions/retirement. The panelists are:

Tom Schneider, CEO and Founder, Restructuring Associates, Inc. in Washington, DC. Dr. Schneider was the design and implementation consultant for the first unionized high performance work system in North America, the first joint union-management strategic visioning process, and the largest labor-management partnership in history.

Joel Cutcher-Gershenfeld is dean and professor of industrial relations at the University of Illinois, School of Labor and Employment Relations and president-elect of LERA. He is the author of five books and over eighty articles, book chapters and policy monographs that address new work systems, labor-management relations, negotiations, conflict resolution, organizational learning and change, and public policy.

Steve Sleigh, Principal, Yucaipa Companies, and former Director, Strategic Resources, IAM. Dr. Sleigh is a past president of the Industrial Relations Association. Previously, he was the Director of Research for the Teamsters Union and the Deputy Director of the Center for Labor-Management Policy Studies at the City University of New York. He is the author of two books and numerous articles and policy reports.