FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2014 Masters Program Participants Announced by the
Gulf Coast Business Council Research Foundation

Mississippi Gulf Coast – The Gulf Coast Business Council Research Foundation has announced nineteen Gulf Coast leaders to participate in the 2013 Masters Program (full list on page two of the release). The program was developed in 2007 to identify and develop emerging leaders of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Masters Program is a one year “think tank” for the Gulf Coast on various topics and consists of eight sessions, including a trip to a “model city”. Final white paper reports from previous classes can be found on the Gulf Coast Business Council website: www.msgcbc.org

“We are excited to announce the 2014 Masters Program participants. We have an impressive group and we thank them for dedicating their time and expertise over the next year to help elevate the Gulf Coast,” said Jack Norris, President of the Gulf Coast Business Council. “I would also like to specifically thank Horne LLP for pledging their sponsorship for the fifth year, and their dedication to this program. This year our co-chairs are Stephanie Taylor, Chief Legal Office & General Counsel with Singing River Health Systems, Julia Weaver of USM’s Gulf Coast Research Lab and Patrick Bonck, Harrison County Zoning Director. Their valuable commitment will lift the Masters Program to a significant and impactful level for the Mississippi Gulf Coast.”

The 2014 program theme is, “Leveraging the Assets of the Gulf of Mexico for Regional Viability” and will examine how the region can take greater advantage of potential and existing resources that are unique to the Mississippi Gulf Coast because of its location on the Gulf of Mexico, using them as a springboard to accelerate economic development. They will explore how to achieve sustainable growth of the environmental, social and economic resources in the region. The class is facilitated by consultant Brent Henley, CEO of The Pyramid Group.

The Gulf Coast Business Council created the Gulf Coast Business Council Research Foundation in June 2008. The Research Foundation is responsible for educational, research and leadership programming.

The Gulf Coast Business Council engages top executives of businesses – large and small – to be the united voice on public policy issues important to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, to serve as a facilitating organization and help develop future leaders. The Gulf Coast Business Council champions common economic and business interests through identifying issues, convening resources, framing public policy and finding solutions for the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
The 2014 Gulf Coast Business Council Research Foundation Masters Class

*Please note headshots can be made available on disk, jump drive or FTP such as YouSendIt.*

- **Sherri Bevis**  
  South MS Service Coordinator | Mississippi Secretary of State
- **Dannon Butts**  
  Manager 3 – Quality Audits | Ingalls Shipbuilding
- **Mary Bourdin**  
  Director of Finance | Mississippi State Port Authority at Gulfport
- **Gretchen David**  
  Owner/Creative Director | Gretchen David Design Studio
- **Patrick Guild**  
  Associate Attorney | Boyce Holleman & Associates
- **Lori Harper**  
  Vice President, Supply Chain Mgmt. | Ingalls Shipbuilding
- **Michael Heindl**  
  Vice President of Admin. & Finance | Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College
- **Laurie Jugan**  
  Client Services & Tech. Transfer | Mississippi Enterprise for Technology (MSET)
- **Lee Klein III**  
  CPA/Supervisor | Horne LLP
- **Kelly Lucas**  
  Chief Scientific Officer | Mississippi Dept. of Marine Resources
- **Monte Luffey**  
  Principal | Southeast Commercial
- **Jason Manley**  
  Division Manager | Mississippi Power
- **Celeste Oglesby**  
  Senior Counsel | Singing River Health System
- **Eric Powell**  
  Director, Gulf Coast Research Lab | University of Southern Mississippi
- **Gavin Shepherd**  
  Associate Attorney | Rushing & Guice, P.L.L.C.
- **Sugar Stallings**  
  Attorney/Radio Host | WQFX Radio
- **Jennifer Sutton**  
  Partner/Veterinarian | Gulf Coast Veterinary Emergency Hospital
- **Heath Thompson**  
  VP/Administrator, Ocean Springs Hospital | Singing River Health System
- **Alane Young**  
  Environmental Project Mgr. | Neel-Schaffer, Inc.

To find out more about the Gulf Coast Business Council go to [www.msgcbc.org](http://www.msgcbc.org)  
or contact Jack Norris at 228-897-2020.