



For Immediate Release

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## **New and Enhanced “Engage” Breakfast Series Kicks Off Oct. 6 at the Long Center for the Performing Arts**

### **“ATXpansion” opening event expected to generate key dialogue and discussion on Austin’s growth toward the future on healthcare, education and government**

Sept 16, 2011 – Leadership Austin is proud to announce a new and enhanced “Engage” breakfast series for the 2011-12 season, which will focus on the implications of growth on Austin and Central Texas. Join us at our new location on the Dell Hall Stage at the Long Center for the Performing Arts, and enjoy an all-new menu and expanded programming from our new program partners.

The season kicks off with a timely and thought-provoking theme: “ATXpansion. Central Texas Grows toward the Future.” What are the cautions and benefits of our current growth curve? Join us to engage in the conversation about the constraints and opportunities at large from the perspective of healthcare, education, and government.

#### **Expert Panel Members Include:**

- Jesus Garza - Executive Vice President/COO, Seton Family of Hospitals
- William Powers - President, The University of Texas at Austin
- Senator Kirk Watson - Texas State Senate, District 14

KXAN Austin News - a new partner for this year’s series will provide moderators for all eight events. Anchor Robert Hadlock will serve as the moderator for the Oct. 6 event.

#### **Event Details:**

- When: Thursday, October 6  
7:30 - 8:00 am - Breakfast and Networking  
8:00 - 9:00 am - Interactive Panel Discussion
- Where: Dell Hall Stage at the Long Center for the Performing Arts  
701 W. Riverside Drive (at the corner of S. 1st Street)
- Ticket information: Single event: \$25.00 (\$20.00 for Alumni Association members)  
Series pass (all 8 events): \$175.00 (\$140.00 for Alumni Association members)
- To purchase tickets visit [www.leadershipaustin.org](http://www.leadershipaustin.org) or call (512) 499 0435
- Parking is available in the Palmer Events Center garage, accessible via Barton Springs Road or Riverside Drive. Depending on time of arrival and other events at the PEC there may be a \$7.00 parking charge. Free parking is available along Riverside Drive and in the surrounding areas.

“Our location has changed, but our mission remains the same,” said Heather McKissick, Leadership Austin CEO, “We are proud to provide thought-provoking, issues-based programs for community leaders throughout Central Texas. Our new partnership with Long Center Corporate Council provides a stellar new venue, and in addition to providing skilled moderators, KXAN-TV will be offering companion programming on KXAN Austin News.”

Capital One Bank provides primary program support for the 2011-12 Leadership Austin Engage Breakfast Series.

"Capital One Bank is proud to return as presenting sponsor of the Engage Breakfast Series. Whether it's inside our local branches or out in the community, Capital One Bank is committed to investing in Austin to help it grow and thrive," says Laura Mathieu, Austin Market President for Capital One Bank.

“Civic engagement, strong local economies and the quality of our lives can only be merged into one experience by a leadership whose visions, values and outcomes are based upon the balance between self fulfillment and the common good,” said Long Center Corporate Council chair Mark Curry. “Leadership Austin and the Long Center are providing a creative home where leaders of today influence and expand the understanding of these three elements for the leaders of tomorrow. “

In addition, attendees will enjoy all-new breakfast fare provided by Sterling Affairs Catering and Events, another new Leadership Austin partner.

#### **ATXpansion Engage Breakfast Dates and Discussion Topics:**

October 6 - Central Texas Grows toward the Future (Dell Hall Stage)

November 1 - TBD (Rollins Theater)

December 6 - TBD (Kodosky Lounge)

January 17 - TBD (Dell Hall Stage)

February 7 - TBD (Kodosky Lounge)

March 6 - TBD (Rollins Theater)

April 3 - TBD (Dell Hall Stage)

May 1 - TBD (West Donor Lounge Terrace)

The Engage Speaker Series presents in-depth and interactive discussions of important, timely, and often complex regional issues. High profile leaders and key stakeholders discuss their viewpoints with participants in thought provoking, balanced dialogues to encourage further civic involvement. Engage also offers opportunities for networking and professional development with accomplished leaders in the community. Events are generally held on the first Tuesday morning of the month from October through May.

#### **About Leadership Austin:**

Leadership Austin fosters a non-partisan environment where people of diverse backgrounds and experience come together to learn about civic leadership, engage in meaningful dialogue about important public issues, and collaborate to make a difference in Central Texas. Leadership Austin offers programming that serves the broad continuum of leadership experience and interests at every stage in an individual's leadership career. Those who have trained with Leadership Austin are influencing the community in measurable ways and improving the quality of life in our region. For more information go to [www.leadershipaustin.org](http://www.leadershipaustin.org) or call 512.499.0435.