

Guangdong Province, People’s Republic of China



October 18—Deputy Director Daniel Menendez represented the Engineering and Construction Division of the City of Houston Public Works and Engineering Department in a meeting with 16 government officials and technical experts from the Guangdong Provincial Communications and Transportation Department. Both sides shared best practices and pertinent experience related to the design and implementation of major public infrastructure projects.

Consulate General, Republic of Equatorial Guinea



October 19—Council Member Jarvis Johnson joined the Honorable Domingo Mba Esono, Consul General of Equatorial Guinea, in honor of the Equatorial Guinea’s 43rd national day. Equatorial Guinea has benefited from the discovery of major oil and gas reserves, which have contributed to dramatic economic growth in the past two decades. Along with Houston, Malabo, which is Equatorial Guinea’s capital city, is a member of the World Energy Cities Partnership.

City of Brisbane, Commonwealth of Australia



October 20—Vice Mayor Ed Gonzalez met with Mr. Steve Silvester, Marketing Representative for the City of Brisbane in Queensland, Australia. Vice Mayor Pro Tem Gonzalez and Mr. Silvester discussed areas of potential economic cooperation between Houston and the state of Queensland. During his visit to Houston, Mr. Silvester also met with representatives of the World Energy Cities Partnership, the Greater Houston Partnership and local companies.

City of Ningbo, People’s Republic of China



October 26—Council Member Sue Lovell hosted a group of 25 government officials from the City of Ningbo, China. Council Member Lovell guided the group of officials for a tour of City Hall and City Council Offices. The delegation’s visit to Houston will have a duration of three months, where its members will study Public Administration with the University of Houston’s Hobby Center for Public Policy.

The Texas Southern University Department of Transportation Studies (“Department”) has a mission to provide a comprehensive curricula that builds on the latest data systems and technologies which define the transportation sector. Currently the Department offers three degrees: a Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation Management and Security, Master of Science Degree in Transportation Planning and Management and a Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy, with a specialization in transportation.

A unique partnership forged with the Port of Houston Authority has resulted in Texas Southern University being the first Houston-area university to offer a degree program related to Maritime Transportation and Security in the Houston area, and the first such at any Historically Black College or University in the country. Graduate study in Transportation Planning and Management is designed to train students for successful careers in the various field of transportation. Programmatic emphasis rests on preparing the students to enter the public and private sectors with considerable training and advanced knowledge concerning planning and policy, logistics and management, systems and technology, and homeland security.

The Department hopes to address three nationally recognized priorities: logistics, freight, security, and environment in a single curriculum. Graduates of the program will be qualified to:

- Work in a variety of administrative and managerial positions in the maritime industry and port operations.
- Function effectively in the disciplines of logistics, security, and environment.
- Pursue advanced studies in the field of maritime transportation or its affiliated areas.

In 2007, Texas Southern University was among seven institutions earmarked as the National Transportation Security Centers of Excellence in the Bush Administration’s *Improving America’s Security Act*. The Earmarks, which provide \$18 millions dollars annually, are intended to support research and education activities and to develop professional security training, including the training of transportation employees and transportation professionals. Texas Southern University has also been selected by the U.S. Congress and the Department of Homeland Security as a designated “National Transportation Security Center of Excellence for Petrochemical Transportation” (NTSCE-P), aiming to address the highest priority transportation security needs in the region, especially in the petrochemical and maritime industries.

The Department is presently affiliated with a number of significant research centers and special programs including Center for Transportation Training and Research (CTTR), NTSCE-P, Innovative Transportation Research Institute (ITRI), and Houston National Summer Transportation Program. The transportation research programs at TSU are provided through two specialized research units, ITRI and CTTR, which are also supported by top-of-the-line lab facilities, including a full-motion driving simulator, mobile traffic van, real-time traffic monitoring system, and portable emission measurement system. Students pursuing the graduate program have the opportunity to associate with the first-class researchers and scholars, and be involved in the most advanced transportation research activities and technologies. The Department’s research programs are sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Southwest Region University Transportation Center, Department of Homeland Security, Texas Department of Transportation, and various other public and private organizations.

For more information on the Department, please visit <http://transportation.tsu.edu>.

—By Dr. Yi Qi, Interim Chair, Department of Transportation Studies, Texas Southern University



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY



Korean Community Center Houston

The halls of the newly established Korean Community Center of Houston (KCCH) echo with the sounds of children laughing, teachers instructing pupils in at least three different languages, the soothing rhythms of traditional Korean changgo drumming, and various festivities celebrating Korean cultural heritage. By the sheer volume of programs offered by KCCH, one would think that these facilities have been in place for decades, while in fact, KCCH first opened its doors in early March 2011. KCCH Member Dr. Casey Youn notes that the organization's incredible array of services is made possible by the ingenuity and dedication of the men and women of the Korean-American community of Houston, who, over the past 35 years, have had an active presence in Houston.

KCCH's goal is to serve, enable, and shepherd the Korean-American community, thus empowering it, as well as other communities throughout Houston, with education, advocacy, service, and the development of shared resources. In offering these services at its facilities, KCCH hopes to become a vital building block for the future development of Houston's social infrastructure.

Education, Dr. Youn believes, is one of the most important services that any organization can offer to its community. Indeed, KCCH has made educational outreach central to its mission. In any immigrant community, there sometimes exist communication barriers and difficulties in both adjusting to a new language and cultural norms. KCCH has designed programs and initiatives in order to help community members overcome this barrier, says Dr. Youn, and dedicated members of KCCH offer translation and technical assistance on a variety of important issues such as healthcare, law, licensing, and citizenship application. In partnership with Harris County, Houston Community College, Houston Korean School, and even the Korean national government, KCCH was also able to offer no less than eight separate language classes, covering English, Korean, and Chinese at both conversational and academic levels. After seeing its initial success in these areas, KCCH is preparing to expand its language offerings further with a class in Spanish planned for the first quarter of 2012.

As KCCH plans to expand its services and role within the community of Houston at large, it has looked to the successful models of other organizations, such as the Jewish and Chinese Community Centers, and sought to learn from the past experiences of these organizations. Dr. Youn stated that KCCH can benefit from this exchange of best practices, tailoring its own programs to generate the greatest possible success, while adhering to characteristics common to the Korean-American community. KCCH has already established major partnerships in its language programs, and is expanding ties with local Hispanic organizations to better serve Houstonians in its surrounding neighborhood. In October 2011, KCCH's members celebrated a major success in supporting the 2011 Korean Festival, which attracted upwards of 20,000 attendees.

In the near future, KCCH plans to expand and formalize the outreach and assistance services it offers, bringing on dedicated staff employees to aid its constituents' needs. There are also plans for establishing a Korean senior center program, with day-long programs in fitness, nutrition, and hobbies for elders. While the facilities may be only seven months old, Dr. Youn feels that KCCH has hit the ground running and established itself as a highly effective entity within the greater Houston community. Together with its partners, Dr. Youn believes that the KCCH will serve invaluable in developing the potential of Houston's Korean-American Community and Houston as a whole.

For more information on the KCCH, its events, and services, please visit <http://kcchouston.org>.

—By Tyler Smith, Mayor's Office, City of Houston



Event Spotlights

Destination Turkey

November 3—Turkish Airlines will host an educational workshop at the Courtyard Hotel by Marriott. The workshop will feature presentations by Turkish Airline representatives and opportunities for attendees to interact one-on-one with Turkish Airlines and travel agencies. For more information, please contact Mr. Rahsan Acar at racar@thy.com.

Houston Hispanic Chamber Annual Awards Gala

November 5—The Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will host its 28th Annual Awards Gala at the Hobby Center Downtown in celebration of leading Hispanic entrepreneurs and executives. The celebration is the largest Hispanic business gala in Houston, with over 1,200 people in attendance. For more information, please visit www.houstonhispanicchamer.com.

Iraq Oil Minister

November 7—The Bilateral US-Arab Chamber of Commerce will host a briefing with Dr. Ibrahim M. Bahr Alolom, former Iraqi Minister of Oil (2003-2005). Dr. Alolom will share his perspective on future management of Iraq's oil and gas resources and pending legislation in this field. For more information, please visit www.bilateralchamber.org.

Invest in Ukraine

November 8—The State Agency for Investment and National Projects of Ukraine will host its InvestUkraine National Project Showcase at the Hotel Granduca. The showcase will cover three major new investment trends shaping Ukraine's economic landscape and provide the opportunity for attendees to meet with senior Ukrainian government and business officials. For more information, please visit www.investukraine.com.

Das Haus

November 8—The German-American Chamber of Commerce will host a reception to celebrate the Das Haus solar model at the Houston Permitting Center. The tour features demonstrations and presentations of the latest solutions and technologies in sustainable building and energy efficiency from Germany. For more information, please visit www.dashaustour.com.

Doing Business in Angola

November 9—The U.S.-Angola Chamber of Commerce, in association with the Consulate General of the Republic of Angola, will host a business and investment seminar at the Houston Club. The event will provide information promoting economic development and crafting partnerships with Angola. The Honorable Alberto Ribeiro, Ambassador of the Angola to the U.S., will be in attendance along with various government and business officials. For more information, please visit www.us-angola.org.

International Event Calendar - November 2011

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Contact
11/1	9:30 AM	U.S. Trade and Development Agency: Re-energize with Turkey: Opportunities in the Turkish Energy Sector (Investment Seminar)	Hilton Americas Hotel	www.usea.org
11/2	—	City of Houston: Delegation from China—Beijing Institute of Graphic Communications (through 11/22)	City of Houston	moitd@houston.tx.gov
	7:00 AM	Houston Minority Supplier Development Council: Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) to MBE Breakfast	Café Express	www.hmsdc.org
	8:00 AM	U.S. Trade and Development Agency: Iraq: Oil & Gas Sector Reverse Trade Mission	Hyatt Regency Hotel	Nyamusi.Igambi@trade.gov
	11:30 AM	Greater Houston Partnership: Thought Leader Series—Jennifer L. Howse, Ph.D.	Hyatt Regency Hotel	ksmith@houston.org
	6:00 PM	World Affairs Council of Houston: “Rock the Casbah”	The Junior League	www.wachouston.org
11/3	9:00 AM	Turkish-American Tourism Council and Turkish Airlines: Destination Turkey (Specialist Education Workshop)	Courtyard Houston Galleria Hotel	racar@thy.com
	6:30 PM	Greater Houston Partnership: Regional Delegation Dinner	Ciao Bello Restaurant	bortega@houston.org
11/4	6:00 PM	U.S.-China People's Friendship Association: Houston Annual Gala	Kim Son Restaurant	uscpcfacasey@gmail.com
11/5	6:00 PM	Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: 28th Annual Awards Gala	Hobby Center for the Performing Arts	www.houstonhispanicchamber.com
	6:15 PM	British-American Business Council: The One and Only Gala (Annual Gala)	Westin Galleria Hotel	www.babchouston.org
	6:30 PM	Chinese Community Center: 32nd Anniversary Gala	Westin Galleria Hotel	www.ccchouston.org
11/7	11:30 AM	Bilateral U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce: Briefing with Former Iraq Oil Minister (Leadership Series)	Four Seasons Hotel	bilateralchamber.org
11/8	—	Greater Houston Partnership: Trade Mission to Colombia (through 11/11)	Bogota, Colombia	jtan@houston.org
	8:30 AM	State Agency for Investment and National Projects of Ukraine: “InvestUkraine” National Project Showcase	Hotel Granduca	mwilliams@usubc.org
	9:30 AM	German-American Chambers of Commerce: Das Haus: Innovation in Renewables and Energy Efficiency (through 11/17)	Houston Permitting Center	www.dashaustour.com

11/8	11: 30 AM	Norwegian-American Chamber of Commerce: Ekofisk—A Journey from 1970 to 2050 (Luncheon)	Westin Houston Memorial City Hotel	nacchouston.org
11/9	8:00 AM	U.S.-Angola Chamber of Commerce: Doing Business in Angola (Business Symposium)	The Houston Club	bmendonca@us-angola.org
	8:30 AM	Houston Minority Supplier Development Council: Strategic Alliance—Six Dynamic Stages of Growth (through 11/10))	Marathon Oil Company	www.hmsdc.org
	12:00 PM	Greater Houston Partnership: State of the METRO	Westin Oaks Hotel	bortega@houston.org
	4:00 PM	Houston Technology Center: Orientation Seminar	Houston Technology Center	www.houstontech.org
11/10	—	BG Group: Gastech—Houston Oil and Gas Networking Event	Omni Houston Hotel	www.gastech.co.uk/houston/
	3:30 PM	World Affairs Council of Houston: U.S.-India: Doing Business Together (4 O'clock Forum)	Thompson & Knight LLP Offices	www.wachouston.org
	7:30 AM	Houston Technology Center and Gulf Coast RCIC: NASA/Johnson Space Center—Introduction to Entrepreneurship Workshop	Johnson Space Center	www.houstontech.org/events/946/
11/11	7:30 PM	International Trade Center: 1st Annual International Trade Center Grand Ball	Westin Galleria Hotel	www.itchouston.org
11/12	6:30 PM	Indo-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston: 12th Annual IACCGH Gala	Intercontinental Hotel	www.iaccgh.com
11/14	—	City of Houston: Delegation from China—SINOPEC Petrochemical Cost Accounting (through 11/24)	City of Houston	moitd@houstontx.org
11/15	7:30 AM	International Trade Center: Quarterly Alief Networking Breakfast	International Trade Center	marie-lee@sbcglobal.net
	8:00 AM	Greater Houston Partnership: Annual Tax Summit	Westin Galleria Hotel	ksmith@houston.org
	8:00 AM	Women's Global Leadership Conference: Energy and Technology (through 11/16)	Hyatt Regency Hotel	www.wglnetwork.com
	6:00 PM	World Affairs Council of Houston: Inside Hezbollah	Junior League	www.wachouston.org
11/16	—	City of Houston: Delegation from China—Tianjin Municipal Management Committee of Amenities and Landscape (through 11/23)	City of Houston	moitd@houstontx.org
11/17	6:00 PM	World Affairs Council of Houston: The Evolution of Al-Qa'ida in the Post -9/11 World	Omni Houston Hotel	www.wachouston.org
11/28	—	City of Houston: Delegation from China—SINOPEC Shengli Oilfield Company (through 12/15)	City of Houston	moitd@houstontx.org

11/29	9:00 AM	The Houston Business Journal: The Fast Tech 50 Technology Conference	Hilton Americas Houston Hotel	lasemmel@bizjournals.com
11/29	9:00 AM	BioHouston: Breakfast Forum	Trevisio Restaurant	biohouston.org
12/1	6:00 PM	Greater Houston Partnership: Annual Elected Officials Reception	Gulf States Toyota	bortega@houston.org
12/2	7:15 AM	Houston Technology Center: Tech Champs Forum	HTC Conference Center	smoore@houstontech.org
12/5	—	U.S. Commercial Service: Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Executive Business Development Mission to Turkey	Ankara, Istanbul, and Izmir, Turkey	www.export.gov
12/6	9:00 AM	German-American Chamber of Commerce: 4th German American Energy Efficiency Conference—The Future of 'Green Buildings'	CityCentre Houston	www.gacctexas.com
12/7	7:00 AM	Houston Minority Supplier Development Council: Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) to MBE Breakfast	Café Express	www.hmsdc.org
12/8	7:30 AM	Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce: Procurement and Summit and Business Expo	Hilton - University of Houston	www.houstonhispanicchamber.com
	TBA	Rice Alliance: 9th Annual Information Technology and Web Venture Forum	Rice University	www.alliance.rice.edu
12/9	—	Bilateral U.S.-Arab Chamber of Commerce: Trade Mission Series 2011 to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait (through 12/15)	Saudi Arabia and Kuwait	vranae@bilateralchamber.org
	7:30 PM	International Trade Center: 1st Annual International Trade Center Grand Ball	Westin Galleria Hotel	www.itchouston.org

International Cultural Events in Houston:

11/4	10:00 AM	Raindrop Turkish House: Annual Turkic Cultural and Food Fair (through 11/5)	Turquoise Complex	www.turkishhouse.org
	8:00 PM	Society for the Performing Arts: The Tiger Lilies–The Gutter and the Stars Tour	Cullen Theater	www.spahouston.org
	8:00 PM	Colombia Folkloric Ballet: Mi Colombia	Hobby Center	www.cfb-usa.org
11/5	10:00 AM	British-American Business Council: 38th Annual Daughters of the British Empire Bazaar and Car Show (through 11/11)	Sugar Land Town Center	www.babchouston.org
	6:30 PM	Club 24 Divali Celebration: An Evening of Illumination	Club 24	kohur@aol.com
11/7	8:30 PM	Italian Community and Cultural Center: Italian Meet up... With Taste	Pizzeria Piola	www.iccchouston.com

11/8	5:45 PM	World Affairs Council of Houston: WorldQuest 2011	Westin Galleria Hotel	www.wachouston.org
11/11	7:30 PM	Russian Cultural Center "Our Texas": "Russian Tango" Art Exhibition	RCC "Our Texas"	(713)395-3301
11/14	7:30 PM	Russian Cultural Center "Our Texas": Sergei Rachmaninoff (An evening with Maestro Hans Graf)	RCC "Our Texas"	(713)395-3301
11/17	—	Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston: The Annual Dinner Dialogues	Various private homes throughout Houston	www.imgh.org
11/20	5:30 PM	Dance of Asia America: East Meets West Gala	Omni Houston Hotel	www.danceaa.org
12/7	7:30 PM	Society for Performing Arts: "The Irish Tenors" Holiday Special	Jones Hall	www.spahouston.org

Events hosted by International Partners of Houston:

11/2	LAGO Energy & BNamericas: 8th Southern Cone Energy Summit (through 11/3)	Lima, Peru	info@lagoenergyusa.com
11/7-11	Evergreen Building Products Association: Fall China Sales Mission	Nanjing, Chongqing, and Chengdu, China	x.ep.org
11/15	WATEC Exhibition and Conference	Tel Aviv, Israel	reg_watec2011@kenes.com
12/7-8	Queensland International Gas Symposium	Brisbane, Australia	www.gas.business.qld.gov.au
2/15-17	SAMmeet 2012	Samsun, Turkey	sammeet2012.com

The International Newsletter is published monthly by the Mayor's Office of International Trade & Development, City of Houston, Texas

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