



New Politics Forum Post-Election Debriefing and Conference

*November 12, 2010
State of Texas Capitol
Austin, Texas*

The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation
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The New Politics Forum is sponsored by:

The Hatton W. Sumners Foundation
The Hearst Endowment at the University of Texas
The Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation
The University of Texas at Austin

In cooperation with:

The Center for Politics and Governance
LBJ School of Public Affairs

SUMNERS FOUNDATION

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finance director and a deputy campaign manager in two congressional races during the 1996 election cycle.

Jenifer graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with bachelors' degrees in journalism and speech communication, and received her Master's in Public Administration from American University. Jenifer is an adjunct professor at Concordia University and at American University, teaching writing and political communication, and in 2009 she became a Fellow at the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation at UT Austin. She also served on the faculty of The University of Texas, teaching policymaking to the Archer Fellows. She is on the boards of the Austin Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America, the Archer Center, and the Texas 4000 for Cancer, a charity bike ride from Austin to Anchorage. She was selected as a member of the 2010 Leadership Austin Essential Class, is a member of the Austin Chamber of Commerce Communications Committee and serves on the National Public Relations Committee for the Texas Exes.



Welcome to the New Politics Forum

Francisco Magellan's circumnavigation in 1522 proved that the world was round. Some 486 years later our world (through globalization, new exciting technologies and the Internet) has "flattened" once again. Political candidates, consultants, pollsters, and fundraisers are using new technology and media to dramatically change the dynamics of elections and the political process. The news media of other nations closely watch and report on our democratic elections on a daily basis. This puts young professionals in a tremendously advantageous position. By being here today, you have taken an important step: you are becoming educated, connected, and inspired.

The New Politics Forum offers skills to young people that will help prepare them for immediate entry into the political arena. The Forum shares political knowledge with young people on a strictly non-partisan basis by bringing students into contact with experienced political professionals, members of the working press, and university researchers. Students get practical, ethical, and well-rounded experiences that will provide a solid foundation for work in politics.

It is our hope that your experience with the New Politics Forum will open a world of political possibilities, not just in how campaigns are run, but in how they can be better: better for candidates, better for young people, and, most importantly, better for citizens.

We could not host this event without the support of the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation, an organization committed to preserving self-government and ethics. We deeply appreciate the Foundation's generosity and support. Thank you for attending this year's Forum.

Chuck Courtney
Associate Director
Annette Strauss Institute

Our Purpose

The Annette Strauss Institute was established at The University of Texas at Austin in 2000 to respond to growing political cynicism and disaffection in the United States. Studies that show deep pockets of unhappiness in the United States also indicate equally strong pockets of civic hope. Our challenge is to blend one of the oldest human instincts - the need for community - with new ways of helping people help one another.

The goals of the institute are (1) to conduct cutting-edge research on the ways in which civic participation and community understanding are undermined or sustained, and (2) to develop new programs for increasing democratic understanding among citizens.

The Strauss Institute is well positioned to carry out its national mission. Based in the nation's second most populous state at a premier public research university, it is aligned with the University's public role of designing and testing new ways of increasing civic involvement. It benefits from the collective expertise of faculty who are nationally renowned for their contributions to the study and development of civic participation. Dedicated to applied research, the institute will focus on how new technologies of communication can be used to increase political understanding.

Our Mission

The Institute's mission is strictly non-partisan. It works within communities to engage people in the political process, teach them about the nation's democratic heritage, and encourage them to take leadership roles.

Our History

Founded in 2000, the Institute is named after Annette Strauss, an extraordinary woman whose accomplishments and commitments were legion. Mrs. Strauss served on the Dallas City Council from 1983 through 1987 and then as mayor from 1987 to 1991. By the time she became mayor, Mrs. Strauss had spent some forty years as a city volunteer and community activist. As mayor of Dallas, Mrs. Strauss was said to be one of the few persons who had equal access to the City's diverse communities. When she died in December of 1998, an entire city mourned her passing.

later as a speechwriter for the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services. Immediately following the fellowship, Mehta joined the U.S. Senate campaign of former Dallas Mayor and current U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk.

Mehta is a second-generation Indian American from Central Texas. He is a graduate of The University of Texas at Austin where he received his B.A. in the Plan II Honors Program. He was awarded a Master's degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University in 2000. Currently he lives and works in Washington, DC.

JENIFER SARVER

Jenifer Sarver has built a career out of breaking down complicated topics and turning them into effective key messages. At Burson-Marsteller, she provides crisis and strategic communications counsel and tactical support to a range of clients from non-profits to Fortune 500 companies. Additionally, she supports global vice chair, Karen Hughes, in new business development, client support and community outreach in the Austin area.

Most recently, she worked in the Bush Administration as the Deputy Director of Public Affairs at the U.S. Department of Commerce. There she crafted and communicated messages through print, broadcast and digital media on topics ranging from the digital television transition to international trade. Jenifer helped place more than 60 opinion editorials on behalf of Commerce Secretary Gutierrez, launch two government websites and craft nearly 900 speeches, among other initiatives while at the Department.

Previously, she served as the director of The Archer Center, the home of all Washington, D.C.-based student programs for The University of Texas System, which was named for retired U.S. Representative Bill Archer. Before joining the Archer Center she served as a senior advisor on the Washington, D.C. staff of U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. There she worked with the Senator to effectively communicate with Texans regarding legislative priorities and issues ranging from transportation to energy policy.

Jenifer has also worked in public relations at Cunningham Communications and Public Strategies, representing high tech and communications clients, and in political campaigns serving as a

Mehta served on the Obama-Biden Presidential Transition Team as Public Liaison to the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) communities. He also managed then President-Elect Obama's outreach efforts around education and the arts. In March of 2009, former Washington Governor Gary Locke recruited Mehta to manage his confirmation process to become the 36th U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Locke's confirmation was one of the smoothest and speediest of the Obama cabinet.

During the 2008 elections, Mehta served as Director of External Communications for the Democratic National Committee. In that role, he worked to keep political opinion leaders, Democratic surrogates and allied organizations on message with the Obama-Biden campaign. Mehta previously spent three years as National Training Director for the DNC, organizing trainings for more than 22,000 Party staff, candidates, leaders and activists in all 50 states and around the world. Mehta also managed a team of 183 field organizers who ran training programs in 49 states. During his four-year tenure at the DNC, Mehta was one of the most visible leaders of the Democratic Party and was frequently called upon to represent the committee at conferences, debates, fundraisers, conventions, on Webinars and to visiting delegations of foreign leaders.

Prior to joining the DNC, Mehta was Deputy Political Director for America Votes, a coalition of the largest progressive organizations in the country who joined forces to register, educate, recruit, and mobilize voters during the 2004 elections. While at America Votes, Mehta developed new media tools that allowed the coalition's 32 partner groups to coordinate voter contact activities and direct their 21 million members to unified campaign events in 17 battleground states.

In 2003, Mehta served as a Deputy Political Director for Governor Howard Dean's presidential campaign, based in Burlington, Vermont. There he handled Congressional and union endorsements for the campaign and coordinated political call time with the candidate. He also directed the campaign's Asian, Arab, Muslim and Pacific Islander outreach, working with elected officials, community leaders, and grassroots activists to build support for Governor Dean.

In 2000, Mehta was one of 400 finalists selected from graduate programs across the country for the prestigious Presidential Management Fellows program. As a fellow, Mehta spent two years working in the federal government first as a policy analyst for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and



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Conference Agenda

1:00 PM Welcome

Chuck Courtney, Associate Director
Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation

The Honorable Elliott Naishtat
member of the Texas House of Representatives

1:15 - 2:30 PM

"Red States / Blue States" Election Results Overview

Chris Perkins, *Wilson Research Strategies*
Dana Chiodo, *TexasCandidates.com*
Harvey Kronberg, *The Quorum Report*

Moderator: **Ross Ramsey**, *The Texas Tribune*

2:45 - 4:15 PM

A "Blunt Tell-All" from the Texas Campaign Trail

Chairman Steve Munisteri
Republican Party of Texas

Michael Moore, *Campaign Manager*
Bill White for Texas

Rob Johnson, *Campaign Manager*
Rick Perry for Texas

Matt Angle, *Democratic Strategist*
Founder – Democratic Trust

Moderator: **Wayne Slater**, *Senior Political Writer*
Dallas Morning News



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Conference Agenda cont'd.

4:30 – 6:00 PM

Hot Topics in 2011: A Look to the 82nd Texas Legislature

Dr. Lloyd Potter

Official State of Texas Demographer

Dr. Michael Brandl

Red McCombs School of Business

Professor Steve Bickerstaff

UT-Austin School of Law

Moderator: **Hon. Sherri Greenberg**, *Interim Director
Center for Politics and Governance*

6:00 - 7:00 PM – Dinner - Capitol Grill

7:15 – 9:00 PM – Keynote Event

**“An Evening with Governor Howard Dean: A Look Toward
the 2012 Elections”**

Welcome: **Dr. Roderick P. Hart**, Director
Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation
Dean of the College of Communication
University of Texas at Austin

Moderators:

Parag Metha (D), former Director of Training
Democratic National Committee

Jenifer Sarver (R), Chief of Staff
Office of Karen Hughes, Burson-Marsteller

9:30- 12:00 AM

Young Professionals After-Party @ the Snack Bar

Dean also serves as a CNBC contributor and is the founder of Democracy for America.

Dean began his career in public service in 1982 when he transitioned from a full-time practicing physician to an elected representative in Vermont. Dean served as Governor for 12 years - the second longest serving in the state.

Respected on both sides of the political aisle, Dean was chairman of the National Governors' Association, the Democratic Governors' Association, and the New England Governors' Conference while he served as Governor of Vermont. Dean left office in Vermont to run for President in 2003 where he implemented innovative fundraising strategies such as use of the Internet.

As chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Dean created and implemented the “50 State Strategy” and the development of 21st century campaign tools. Dean is credited with helping Democrats make historic gains in 2006 and 2008. Under his leadership, significant resources were dedicated to revitalizing the Party by building and strengthening the organizational tools, technological capabilities and infrastructure required to win while laying the foundation for a long-term Democratic majority.

Before entering politics, Dean graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in political science in 1971, and received his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City in 1978. Upon completing his residency at the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, he went on to practice internal medicine in Shelburne, Vermont.

He is married to Dr. Judy Steinberg and they have two children, Anne and Paul.

PARAG METHA

Parag Mehta is a communications and political strategist with more than a decade of experience in government, politics and community advocacy. He has worked as a policy analyst, speechwriter and community liaison for the past three U.S. presidents and currently directs communication strategies for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs at the U.S. Department of Labor, one of the leading civil rights agencies in the federal government.

DEAN RODERICK P. HART

Dr. Hart was named Dean of the College of Communications at the University of Texas at Austin in 2005. He received his B.A. degree from the University of Massachusetts and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the Pennsylvania State University. His area of special interest is politics and the mass media and he is the author of ten books, the most recent of which is *Campaign Talk: Why Elections Are Good for Us* (Princeton University Press, 2000). He is also the author of *DICTION 5.0*, a computer program designed to analyze language patterns.

Hart has delivered public lectures at more than seventy colleges and universities and received grant support from the Ford Foundation, Carnegie Foundation, Exxon Foundation, Hatton Sumners Foundation, Annenberg Foundation, Dorot Foundation, and the Pew Charitable Trusts. A former Woodrow Wilson Fellow, Hart is listed in *Who's Who in America*, the *Directory of American Scholars*, *International Who's Who in Education*, and *American Men and Women of Science*. He was named a Research Fellow of the International Communication Association, a Distinguished Scholar by the National Communication Association, and the National Scholar of the Year Award from Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and has received the Murray Edelman Career Award from the American Political Science Association.

Hart has been inducted into the Academy of Distinguished Teachers at the University of Texas and has also been designated Professor of the Year for the State of Texas from the Carnegie/C.A.S.E. Foundation. Previously he received the Eyes of Texas Student Involvement Award and the Texas Excellence Teaching Award from the University of Texas, the Excellence in Teaching Award in the Humanities from Purdue University, and the Outstanding Young Teacher Award from the Central States Communication Association. He has supervised over fifty graduate theses and dissertations.

GOVERNOR HOWARD DEAN, M.D.

Governor Howard Dean, former DNC Chairman, presidential candidate, six term Governor and physician, currently works as an Independent consultant focusing on the areas of health care, early childhood development, alternative energy and the expansion of grassroots politics around the world.



You're Invited!

Join the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation at the **SNACK BAR** after the conference to celebrate 10 years of creating...
“more voters and better citizens.”

Mingle with fellow conference attendees, network with past NPF alumni, and unwind with us until midnight.

When:
9:30 – 12:00 am

Where:
Head south on Congress Avenue
(away from the UT Tower)
Just past the bridge, look on your right.
You'll see the blue sign!
1224 South Congress Ave.
for directions, call 512.445.2626

Cash Bar
Light Hors D'oeuvres provided

The Snack Bar is a locally owned restaurant in the South Congress District. The University of Texas at Austin will not be providing alcoholic refreshments for participants.



Conference Speaker Bios (in order of appearance)

ST. REPRESENTATIVE ELLIOTT NAISHTAT

Elliott Naishtat, a native New Yorker, has lived in Texas for thirty-nine years. He served as a VISTA volunteer in Lyndon Johnson's War on Poverty before moving to Austin and earning a Masters in Social Work and law degree from The University of Texas.

Elliott served as staff counsel for Senator Gonzalo Barrientos before entering private law practice. He also served as chairman of Austin's Community Development Commission and directed the U.T. School of Social Work's Legislative Training Program.

In November, 1990, Elliott was elected to the District 49 seat in the Texas House of Representatives. He has been re-elected ten times and serves as a member of the Human Services Committee and Vice Chair of the Public Health Committee. He is a founding board member of the House Progressive Caucus.

In ten sessions, Rep. Naishtat has passed over 200 bills, including the Braille Literacy Act of 1991, Landlord-Tenant Security Devices Act of 1993, Indoor Air Quality Act of 1995, Nursing Home Reform Act of 1997, Newborn Hearing Screening Act of 1999, Medicaid Simplification Act of 2001, Mold Remediation Licensure Act of 2003, Child Protective Services Act of 2005, Seniors' Property Tax Relief Act of 2007, and Fire Safety Inspectors Act of 2009. He also passed bills that improved child labor law enforcement, expanded protective services for elderly and disabled people, created a statewide guardianship program, and enhanced crime victims' rights. In addition, he co-sponsored the Texas Anti-Stalking Act and Hate Crimes Act as well as bills that increased protections for patients in managed care organizations and psychiatric, substance abuse and rehabilitation facilities.

In recognition of his accomplishments, Rep. Naishtat has received awards from numerous organizations including AARP, American Foundation for the Blind, American Cancer Society, People First!, Common Cause, Sierra Club, Texas Council on Family Violence, Texas Freedom Network, and Texas Legal Services Center. In 2002,

Republic of China (2003). In 2008 he lectured in London, England and Caen, France for the London School of Economics. He has taught as an adjunct or visiting professor at the U.T. law school since 1992. An Endowed Presidential Scholarship was created in Steve Bickerstaff's name at the University of Texas School of Law in 2002 by his former law firm.

THE HONORABLE SHERRI GREENBERG

Sherri Greenberg served for 10 years as a member of the Texas House of Representatives, completing her final term in January 2001. In 1999, she was appointed by the Speaker of the House to chair the House Pensions and Investments Committee and to chair the Select Committee on Teacher Health Insurance. She served two terms on the House Appropriations Committee, and served on the Appropriations Committee's Education, and Major Information Systems Subcommittees. Other committee assignments included the House Economic Development Committee, Elections Committee, and Science and Technology Committee.

Greenberg's professional background is in public finance. She served as the Manager of Capital Finance for the City of Austin from 1985 to 1989, overseeing the City's debt management, capital budgeting, and capital improvement programs. Prior to that she worked as a Public Finance Officer for Standard & Poor's Corporation in New York, where she analyzed and assigned bond ratings to public projects across the country.

Greenberg has a B.A. in Government from UT Austin and an M.S. in Public Administration and Policy from the London School of Economics. Her teaching and research interests include public finance and budgeting, Texas state government, local government, education, housing, technology, and campaigns and elections. Her recent publications include *State E-Government Strategies: Identifying Best Practices and Applications*, and *Beyond the Bid: An Evaluation of State and Local Government Procurement Practices*.

Currently, Greenberg serves as the interim director for the Center for Politics and Governance at the LBJ School of Public Affairs, as a board member and treasurer of Austin Voices for Education and Youth, and is an appointed member of the City of Austin General Obligation Housing Bond Review Committee.

Fall 2009; The Joe D. Beasley MBA Teaching Award, 2008-2009; the College of Business Administration Foundation Advisory Council Award for Teaching Innovation for 2007-2008, The Outstanding Professor Award for the Texas MBA at DFW and Texas MBA at Houston programs in both 2008 and 2009.

Dr. Brandl is a frequent speaker at professional conferences and seminars in the area of the current status of the United States and global economy, financial markets analysis, economic policy and regulation. He has conducted customized training programs for 3M, Brinker International, LG, Motorola, Frito-Lay, Texas Association of Counties, and the American Public Power Association. He also serves as a legal expert witness in economic damages and anti-trust cases.

Professor Brandl and his work have been cited in numerous media outlets including The Associated Press, Boston Globe, CBS Evening News, CBS Early Show, Charlotte Observer, CNBC, CNN, Forbes, Fortune, The Economist, Money, National Public Radio, Dallas Morning News, Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Houston Chronicle, Kansas City Star, Miami Herald, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Pittsburg Post-Gazette, Sacramento Bee, San Diego Union-Tribune, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post.

STEVE BICKERSTAFF

Steve Bickerstaff served as Parliamentarian of the Texas Senate and special assistant Texas Attorney General before founding the private law firm of Bickerstaff & Heath in 1980. The firm continues to be one of the premier election law firms in the country. Bickerstaff retired from the private practice of law in 2001 after 35 years, but, although living in the mountains of far West Texas, he continues active as a member of the adjunct faculty of the University of Texas School of Law and several nonprofit corporation boards.

He is the author of *Lines in the Sand (2007)*, a book about the controversial 2003 congressional redistricting in Texas, a coauthor of *International Election Principles (2009)*, and an author of more than 25 law journal articles dealing primarily with election law or telecommunications regulation.

Bickerstaff was a Fulbright Foundation Scholar teaching in Germany (2000), a Rockefeller Foundation Scholar in Residence at the foundation's Villa Serbelloni in Bellagio, Italy (2002), and a member of a Carter Commission team advising on elections in the Peoples

he received the National Consumer Health Advocate award from Families USA. In 1999, he received the Public Elected Official of the Year award from the National Association of Social Workers. He has also been named Legislator of the Year by the Texas Apartment Association, one of Texas' Ten Best Legislators by the State Bar Family Law Section, and one of Texas' Outstanding Public Servants by the Consumers Union, Public Citizen, Gray Panthers, and Texas Citizen Action.

CHRIS PERKINS

Chris Perkins is Vice President of Wilson Research Strategies and runs the firm's Austin office. With extensive background in research, district-by-district analysis, and message development, Perkins is an expert in formulating winning campaigns for Republican candidates, non-profit organizations and external coalitions.

Prior to joining WRS, Perkins was Executive Director and Vice President of two 501c4-non-profit organizations dedicated to grassroots advocacy in 15 of the top 25 national media markets. In these roles, Perkins directed extensive research projects, developed polling data and formulated the message to target various issues of importance to put into action the winning strategy.

Perkins also managed the Republican National Committee's 2006 Senate independent expenditure (IE) unit, in which he was part of the team that developed the strategy in the Republican's lone victory in Tennessee.

A native of Houston, Perkins was the Director of Americans for a Republican Majority PAC; the leadership PAC of the former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. While Director, Perkins help establish the PAC as the #1 leadership PAC on Capitol Hill for two straight election cycles, being strategically involved in virtually every targeted House race for the 2002 and 2004 election cycles; cycles in which House Republicans made significant gains.

Because of Perkins' deep Texas roots, he oversaw the historic Texas redistricting process which overturned decades of Democrat gerrymandering and helped make the Texas Republican Delegation the largest of any state in the country. Using various mathematical data and a number of research methods, Perkins was involved in every step of this winning process.

DANA CHIODO

Dana Chiodo has 30 years experience troubleshooting issues within the Texas Legislature and representing clients before elected officials, state agencies, boards and commissions. Dana Chiodo Consulting offers its clients a direct connection with Legislators and their staff. Services include drafting and monitoring of legislation, bill analyses, development of advocacy materials, and planning political strategies. During the election cycle, Dana Chiodo Consulting is the premier source of critical information on candidates and election demographics for business groups, lobbyists, and political action committees.

Ms. Chiodo's legislative clients include the Technology Association of America (a national association of small and large high technology companies), Freescale Semiconductor, Raytheon and the International Council of Shopping Centers (a trade association of the shopping center industry).

Dana Chiodo has been producing information on Texas candidates for business organizations, political action committees and lobbyists since 1994. She designs a formula to determine the Republican/Democratic base vote in each district, and several organizations rely on her numbers including Harvey Kronberg's Quorum Report. Kronberg says, "I have been involved with Chiodo's campaign reporting service since its inception. Her statistical analysis of district profiles is unique and has been more accurate than most."

Prior to establishing a professional consulting business, Dana was the Director of Government Relations for Roan & Autrey and served as Legislative Liaison at Jones, Day law firm where she advocated for several clients on legislative issues from 1984-1998. Her ten years experience within the Texas House of Representatives includes a tenure as Chief-of-Staff to Representative Bob Simpson and Chief Clerk of the House Insurance Committee.

HARVEY KRONBERG

Harvey Kronberg has been editor of the *Quorum Report, the Newsletter of Political Texas* since 1989. The Quorum Report is a non-partisan newsletter covering state politics and government from an insider's perspective. Although non-partisan, the newsletter is

worked for the Associated Press in West Virginia, Kansas, Illinois, and Colorado. He earned an undergraduate degree at West Virginia University and attended graduate school in journalism at Ohio University.

LLOYD B. POTTER, Ph.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Potter was appointed by the Governor to serve as the Texas State Demographer in May of 2010. Dr. Potter also serves as Professor of Demography at the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA). He is Director of the Institute for Demographic and Socioeconomic Research and the Texas State Data Center at UTSA.

Prior to this position Dr. Potter served as the Director of the National Suicide Prevention Resource Center funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) while working at the Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC) in Newton, Massachusetts. While at EDC, he also served as Director of the Children's Safety Network funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration. Prior to joining EDC, Dr. Potter managed the youth violence and suicide prevention efforts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.

Dr. Potter's current work focuses upon training applied demographers in the area of public policy and health and conducting research on public policy and health related topics.

MICHAEL W. BRANDL

Dr. Michael Brandl is a Senior Lecturer in Economics & Finance at the McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas at Austin, where he teaches undergraduate, MBA and Executive MBA courses in economics and financial markets. Professor Brandl is also an affiliate faculty member of Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies at UT. His academic research interests include examining the relationships between financial market development, public policies and economic growth. Dr. Brandl has also published papers in labor economics, monetary policy and economic history.

During his time at UT Professor Brandl has won over 30 teaching awards including most recently: The UT Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award in 2010, The Fawn & Vijay Mahajan Teaching Excellence Award for Executive Education, 2009 – 2010, The Faculty Honor Roll for Outstanding Teaching in the Daytime MBA Program,

Today, Angle directs the Texas Democratic Trust (TDT). The TDT is a unique and ambitious effort to invest the resources of key Texas supporters within the state to rebuild basic party structures and to devise and implement new political targeting and communication strategies. Angle and the TDT have been credited in large part with the advances made by the Democrats in Texas in 2006 and in 2008.

Angle also runs the Lone Star Project, a Federal Political Action Committee that conducts political and policy research to serve as an aggressive “fact-checker” on the Republican Party on both the state and national levels. On the national level, Angle is recognized as an authority on redistricting and he also serves on the boards of Progressive Americans and America Votes Education and Action Fund.

Matt Angle was raised in Haltom City, Texas and received a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Texas at Arlington. Matt and his wife Dolly have two sons, Luke and Will.

WAYNE SLATER

Wayne Slater is Senior Political Writer for The Dallas Morning News. He was appointed to his new position after serving 15 years as Austin bureau chief for the News. He has appeared on numerous network television shows and is coauthor of the New York Times best seller, *Bush’s Brain: How Karl Rove Made George W. Bush Presidential*, published by John Wiley & Sons.

Slater has reported on a variety of political and public figures, including Pope John Paul II and Presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and both George Bushes. He traveled for 16 months full-time covering the presidential campaign of George W. Bush. He has covered every Republican and Democratic national convention since 1988, seven sessions of the Texas Legislature, and the administrations of Texas Governors Bill Clements, Ann Richards, George W. Bush, and Rick Perry. He has appeared on NBC’s “Meet the Press,” CNN’s “Crossfire” and “Inside Politics,” ABC’s “Nightline” and “Good Morning America,” C-Span, National Public Radio and Fox News’ “The Beltway Boys” and “The O’Reilly Factor.” He was also featured in the film documentary about the 2000 Bush presidential campaign, “Journeys with George,” which appeared on HBO. His book, *Bush’s Brain*, has been made into a feature documentary.

Slater began his journalism career as a reporter with the Parkersburg (W.Va.) Sentinel. Before joining The Dallas Morning News, he

written from a business point of view and is known for analysis and perspective rather than spin.

Kronberg was originally a contract writer for Quorum Report and bought the publication in 1998 and initiated a website which is half free/half password protected with over 1,000,000 hits every month. He also is a political analyst for News8Austin and has been quoted in numerous publications as diverse as *the New York Times*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *Congressional Quarterly*, *the Dallas Morning News*, *the Houston Chronicle*, and *Christian Science Monitor*.

Mr. Kronberg, a Houston native, is a graduate of the Plan II Honors program at the University of Texas at Austin and graduated with special honors in history in 1972.

ROSS RAMSEY

Ross Ramsey is managing editor of The Texas Tribune and continues as editor of Texas Weekly, the premier newsletter on government and politics in the Lone Star State, a role he's had since September 1998. Texas Weekly was a print-only journal when he took the reins in 1998; he switched it to a subscription-based, internet-only journal by the end of 2004 without a significant loss in subscribers.

As Texas Weekly's primary writer for 11 years, he turned out roughly 2 million words in more than 500 editions, added an online library of resources and documents and items of interest to insiders, and a daily news clipping service that links to stories from papers across Texas. Before joining Texas Weekly in September 1998, Ramsey was associate deputy comptroller for policy with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, also working as the agency's director of communications.

Prior to that 28-month stint in government, Ramsey spent 17 years in journalism, reporting for the Houston Chronicle from its Austin bureau and for the Dallas Times Herald, first on the business desk in Dallas and later as the paper's Austin bureau chief. Prior to that, as a Dallas-based freelance business writer, he wrote for regional and national magazines and newspapers. Ramsey got his start in journalism in broadcasting, working for almost seven years covering news for radio stations in Denton and Dallas.

CHAIRMAN STEVE MUNISTERI

Steve Munisteri grew up in Houston, TX, and is a 38 year veteran of Republican politics in Texas and the United States as a conservative grassroots activist. He started his involvement in Republican politics in 1972 as a volunteer for Hank Grover, Richard Nixon and John Tower. He then went on to form a conservative club at Memorial High School in Houston, and in 1975, contacted then Harris County GOP Chairman Ray Barnhardt to become involved in the Ronald Reagan for President campaign and to become more involved in the local party. He went on to serve the party in numerous volunteer capacities, including working as a precinct chairman of two different precincts in Harris County, serving as a delegate or alternate delegate to numerous state conventions, and serving on the State Republican Executive Committee for Senate District 17. He has experience in working in over 50 campaigns, in all aspects from blockwalking and phone banks, to sitting in on strategy sessions for national Presidential campaigns.

Steve also has a long history of involvement in the conservative movement. In 1976, he was selected as state Vice Chairman for Texas Young Americans for Freedom and served as state Chairman from 1977 to 1980. He also was elected to YAF's national board of directors. AS State Chairman of the Texas chapter of Young Americans for Freedom, Munisteri begun the practice of issuing legislative rankings for members of the Texas House of Representatives and State Senate. In 1980, Munisteri founded Young Conservatives of Texas, a group which continues to produce the future generations of our conservative leaders and elected officials in college campuses across the State.

Mr. Munisteri attended Memorial High School in Houston, before graduating from the University of Texas in Austin with a BBA in Finance with honors. He also earned a J.D. from the University of Texas Law School. Upon graduation from law school, was hired as an associate with the law firm of Funderburk & Funderburk. Munisteri founded his own law firm in 1982, and built it up from a one man operation, to a business with 49 employees, 20 attorneys and a multi-million dollar budget. In 2008, he retired in part, so that he would be available to volunteer in political activities.

Following his election to the State Chairmanship at the 2010 Texas GOP Convention in Dallas, Mr. Munisteri obtained a second residence in Travis County and currently serves full-time as the State Party Chairman at the RPT headquarters in Austin.

MICHAEL MOORE

Michael J. Moore managed former Houston Mayor Bill White's \$26 million statewide campaign for Governor of Texas. For six years after managing White's first successful race for Mayor in 2003, Moore served as Chief of Staff to Mayor White at the City of Houston. Houston has one of the strongest mayor forms of government in the country, and Moore worked with the Mayor to make city government more efficient, cut crime rates to lowest levels in decades and improve services for all neighborhoods. Moore was on the front lines leading the city's efforts during Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Ike, marshaling city resources and volunteers for nationally-recognized, effective, and compassionate disaster responses. Moore is a veteran of two presidential campaigns and was a presidential appointee to the Department of Energy. Moore graduated with a B.A. in Economics from The University of Texas at Austin.

ROB JOHNSON

Rob Johnson currently serves as Campaign Manager to Governor Rick Perry. Prior to running Governor Perry's successful re-election campaign, he served as Chief of Staff to Texas Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst. Before moving to Austin, Rob served as Chief of Staff to a U. S. Congressman from Arkansas. He is a graduate of Southern Methodist University, where he served as Student Body President. Rob and his wife Allison are active throughout the Austin community and are the proud parents of two sons, Carter and Tyler.

MATT ANGLE

Matt Angle is veteran of national and state Democratic politics with a proven record of success. Over his 26 years as a political professional and during his tenure as Chief of Staff to former Rep. Martin Frost of Texas, Angle has won a reputation as a shrewd and practical problem solver. While Angle's roots are deeply planted in Texas, his non-nonsense political skills have made him one of Washington's most respected voices within Democratic circles.

From 2000 – 2004, Matt Angle served as the Executive Director of the House Democratic Caucus. Angle also served as Executive Director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) during the 1996 and 1998 election cycles. During his four years heading the DCCC staff, Democrats picked up a net 14 seats.