

**Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the  
Economy**

**The Role of Trade and Foreign Investment in the  
Inland Empire's Regional Economy**

Wednesday, November 6, 2013  
Riverside City Council Chambers, Riverside California  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Witness Biographies**

**Dr. John Husing  
Chief Economist  
Inland Empire Economic Partnership**

Dr. John Husing is a research economist who has specialized in the study of Southern California's growing economy since 1964. For decades, he has produced city and county specific economic development strategies for the region's local government. With his significant understanding of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, he assists the Inland Empire Economic Partnership as its Chief Economist.

Dr. Husing's extensive study of the region has led to economic strategies that combine analytical work with extensive interviews with executives and entrepreneurs to understand the forces shaping Southern California. His firm, Economics & Politics, Inc., based in Redlands, has produced project specific economic impact studies for transportation and water agencies, housing developers, environmental entities and the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. In 2007, the Los Angeles Times listed him as one of the "100 people wielding the most influence over Southern California.

For an economist, he has a unique viewpoint of our political process, having managed over 100 partisan (*Democratic*) and non-partisan campaigns. Today, his prolific knowledge of the region and his political experience has him briefing business leaders and policy makers throughout California on the economic trends and issues relating to budgets, state initiatives and public policy. His eclectic career has remarkably included managing a Nevada casino, running for Congress in his twenties, teaching college and running the world's largest whitewater rafting company.

Dr. Husing enjoys a less studious life as an adventurer, taking treks into uncharted territories as well as traveling to 65 different countries. He has twice entered the unexplored jungles of New Guinea to make first contact with previously undiscovered stone-aged tribes. Dr. Husing has traveled throughout most of Africa and his last two adventures took him over the Himalayas from Nepal into Tibet, and 25 days traveling by ship to 77 degrees south latitude to Scott's 1910 Antarctic expedition hut. A fourth generation Californian, he is an amateur genealogist having traced his American heritage back 12 generations to Edward Fuller on the Mayflower.

Dr. Husing was born in Alameda, California. Received in B.S. degree at St. Mary's College in Moraga, and his MA and Ph.D. at Claremont Graduate University.

**Mr. Tom Freeman**  
**Commissioner**  
**Foreign Trade Commission**  
**Riverside County**

Commissioner Freeman is responsible for the County of Riverside's diplomatic relations, trade, export, and foreign direct investment programs and strategies. Riverside County is the fastest growing county in the nation and the fourth largest county in the State of California. Riverside County ranks 23 in the entire nation in exports in 2010. In 2009, it ranked 47th in the nation, and has leapfrogged 24 regions. As the Commissioner of Foreign Trade, Tom is frequently called to testify in the state legislature and is counted upon to advise the senate and assembly on trade policy, legislation and law.

Tom has negotiated and executed a series of bilateral trade agreements with Japan, Canada, and Croatia on behalf of the County of Riverside. Tom has also opened bilateral trade negotiations with Peoples Republic of China including the provinces of Beijing, Hubei, Jiangsu, Henan, Sichuan, and Shandory. Commissioner Freeman has also helped the County establish trade and export relationships with 35 nations. Tom has served in the nation's capital, state capitol, and in local government in various positions. A retired Colonel (CA) with the Military Department of the State of California, Tom served as the Assistant to the last four Adjutant Generals of the California Military Department, and was responsible for international affairs and government relations in the National Guard domestically and internationally. Tom also worked on anti-gang and anti-drug campaigns in Central America.

Tom's private sector experience includes serving as the Vice President of government affairs and marketing for Fortune 50 Waste Management, Inc. Amongst his numerous national and state awards are the Distinguished Service Medal-Order of California and the Thomas Jefferson Award for community service, presented by former President of the United States Gerald R. Ford. Tom is an Alumni of Saint Catherine's Military Academy, the United States Air Force School of Medicine, and John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. He resides in Banning, California with his wife Brenda Salas Freeman.

**Dr. Imran Farooq**  
**Chief Advisor**  
**Inland SoCal Link iHub**

Dr. Imran Farooq is a Partner at The Omnius Group, a Southern California based Economic Development firm that specializes in public-partnerships. His project on revitalizing neighborhoods is the subject of a regional PBS documentary called SOS: Sustaining Our Society. Dr. Farooq's work has been profiled by media such as The Huffington Post and the USC Price School of Public Policy. He has been a featured speaker at conferences for a variety of distinguished institutions including the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the US Department of Housing & Urban Development. Dr. Farooq is also the author of a book called, Private Partnership for Public Benefit, which was published by the Scholar's Press.

The Greenling Institute invited Dr. Farooq to present his housing policies in individual meetings with key national stakeholder such as Federal Reserve Chairman Bernanke, FDIC Chairman Gruenberg, Comptroller of the Currency Curry and others.

In 2013, Dr. Farooq was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown on the California Workforce Investment Board. He currently serves as the Vice Chairman for the Advanced Manufacturing Workforce Development Council and is a member of the Green Collar Jobs Council. The State Board has adopted Sector Strategies as the statewide framework for workforce development, and is working closely with the Economic Strategy Panel, other State Agencies and departments and its 49 local Workforce Investment Boards to support the emergence of effective statewide and regionally driven sector initiatives.

Dr. Farooq is actively involved in the community and sits on several boards that include: Chair of the Western Region Committee for County of Riverside Workforce Investment Board, Board of Directors for Building Industry Association – Baldy View and Founding Board of Directors of the Inland Empire chapter of the US Green Building Council (2007-2009). He was also a featured expert in the 2009 Emmy Award winning production for "Instructional Programming" called "Understanding Chemistry in Our World" and the specific segment called "Energy Makes Things Happen."

Dr. Farooq received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of California at Berkeley, his Master's Degree from the University of Southern California and Doctorate of Policy, Planning and Development at USC. Dr. Farooq's favorite hobby is to travel and he has visited 22 countries that span 5 continents.

**Dr. Michael Pazzani**  
**Vice Chancellor, University California Riverside**  
**Research and Economic Department**

Dr. Michael J. Pazzani is Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development at University of California, Riverside. His responsibilities at UCR include oversight of research, external funding for research, corporate partnerships and technology commercialization. Dr. Pazzani is also a Professor of Computer Science. He has published over 150 papers on machine learning, knowledge discovery from databases, personalization, internet search, and recommendation systems. He serves on the Editorial Board of Machine Learning. He is a Fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Education, DARPA, AFOSR, ARO, and several companies including SAIC, Hughes Aircraft, Qualcomm, NYNEX, , and Touchstone Software. He received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from UCLA and was an assistant, associate and full professor at the University of California, Irvine, where he also served as Chair of Information and Computer Science.

Dr. Pazzani comes to UCR from Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey where he was Vice President of Research and Economic Development. Prior to his appointment at Rutgers, Dr. Pazzani was the Director of the Information and Intelligent Systems Division at the National Science Foundation from 2002-2006 where he oversaw a research budget of \$200M. In addition, Dr. Pazzani coordinated NSF's homeland security research. He also served as a member on the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health from 2003-2005.

Dr. Pazzani was a founder of AdaptiveInfo, a start-up company involved in personalization for the mobile web acquired by Versifi Technologies in 2003. Dr. Pazzani has served on the board of directors of Combichem (NASDAQ: CCHM), a start-up company involved in computational drug discovery that was purchased by DuPont. He was a member of the scientific advisory board of several companies, including Pharsight Corporation (NASDAQ: PHST), a company that enables improvements in the clinical development of therapeutic products, and TripleHop Technologies, Inc that was acquired by Oracle.

**Mr. Paul Cramer**  
**Director of Sales**  
**Star Milling Co.**

Paul Cramer is currently the Director of Sales for Star Milling Co., located in Perris, CA. He is 3<sup>rd</sup> generation in the operation of the family owned milling business in Perris and 4<sup>th</sup> generation in the egg laying industry in the Southern CA.

He currently serves on the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) Leadership Council in CA and is Chair of the Legislation and Policy Subcommittee for NFIB

Also a member of two advisory committees for the CA Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF), Tax and Land Policy Committee and Tax and Aquaculture Advisory Committee.

Star Milling Co. distributes animal food, pet food and aquaculture diets primarily on the west coast (CA, NV, AZ and UT). Star Milling Co. also has significant export business to Mexico and various countries in the Pacific Rim and this continues to be a significant growth area for our business.

Paul graduated with a BS in Finance from the University of Southern California and currently resides in Irvine, CA.

**Mr. John Walburg**  
**Manager of Marketing and Sales**  
**California Steel Industries, Inc.**

John Walburg serves as Manager, Marketing and Sales Administration at California Steel Industries (CSI). John has worked at CSI since 1997, where he began his career with the company as Senior Product Metallurgist for Pickled and Cold Rolled Products. In 1999, he joined CSI's Commercial Department, where he worked as an Outside Sales Account Manager and as the Sales Manager for OEM customers. In 2009, he was asked to lead the Marketing Department and in 2012 also assumed responsibility for Sales Administration, which includes a team of account representatives and marketing analysts.

Prior to joining CSI, Mr. Walburg was employed by Republic Engineered Steels in Canton, Ohio, where he held a number of product, plant and process metallurgist positions, working primarily in the field of quality control management of products in the Canton and Baltimore Facilities. Mr. Walburg graduated from Ashland University with a Master's Degree in Business Administration and from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's Degree in Materials Engineering.