

IACCGH Advisor Larry Kellner keynote speaker at IACCGH Shell Distinguished Lecture

Houston, Texas. March 9, 2011: IACCGH Advisor LAWRENCE “LARRY” KELLNER, President, Emerald Creek Group and Chairman, Greater Houston Partnership (GHP) was the keynote speaker at the IACCGH Shell Distinguished lecture. IACCGH Advisor Dr. Renu Khator, Chancellor of University of Houston System introduced Mr. Lawrence “Larry” Kellner.

IACCGH President Mona Parikh welcomed the guests to the 1st Thought Leadership series for 2011 and acknowledged the strong relationship between IACCGH and the GHP. Ms. Parikh also noted that it is rather commendable that the Greater Houston region, which was once mainly dependent on the upstream energy, having survived the oil and gas bust era and the earlier recessions, has strategically diversified into downstream energy as well as industries unrelated to the energy sector. On behalf of IACCGH and GHP, she submitted that Houston is uniquely situated to capitalize on its varied resources and be a Gateway to the Global Market.

Mr. Kellner spoke about the advantages of Houston and its potential as a business hub. He stressed on several key points:

- **Houston is home to diverse ethnic people and cultures from all over the world and their entrepreneurial spirit;**
- **Houston is a great place for business, actively supported and encouraged by various chambers of commerce, representing various cross sections of the society;**
- **Houston has fabulous educational universities like Rice, TSU, HBU, University of St. Mary and University of Houston with its branches at Clear Lake and Downtown;**
- **Houston has the largest medical center in the world which offers world class treatment and is a pioneer in advance medical research, besides generating employment opportunities;**
- **Houston has a great Park System, Johnson Space Center/NASA and world class airports like Bush Intercontinental and Hobby airport. He also mentioned how under his stewardship, Continental Airlines spread its wing to Europe and Asia, particularly to India and China;**
- **Houston also has a busy port that handles tremendous amount of business;**
- **The recently completed Beltway 8 shows the growing infrastructure planning and resources of the City of Houston;**
- **On questions fielded by the audience, he stressed the need for further development of infrastructure, public transportation and image of the city, and remarked that Houston needs “*outside air conditioning*” to handle its sweltering summer heat.**

The luncheon was attended by the Presidents /Executive Directors of 15 area Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development agencies, who also participated in an All Chambers meeting hosted by IACCGH prior to the luncheon.

The IACCGH is a Houston based non-profit organization, founded in 1999, with the objectives of strengthening commercial ties between the United States and India, and promoting business within the Greater Houston area. As a result of the broad support from major corporations, business leaders, the Indian Consulate and various United States Federal and State Officials, the IACCGH has

become an important resource for companies conducting business or exploring trade opportunities - both in the United States and India.

IACCGH plans for the year 2011 include the following:

- **Distinguished lecture series - guest speakers: dignitaries and business Leaders;**
- **Focused educational programs and business development opportunities in diverse business sectors: Trade, Energy, Healthcare, Finance, Taxation, etc.;**
- **Trade missions (Inbound and Outbound to Explore Trade Opportunities between the U.S. and India) and**
- **Mentorship programs for young entrepreneurs and professionals.**

On April 6, 2011, IACCGH Advisor Dan Wolterman will be speaking on Healthcare Reform and provide a high level summary of the health reform legislation that was put into law in March 2010.

Visit www.iaccgh.com for information on joining the Chamber and to register for the Healthcare Reception.