



Session II: Identifying Economic Opportunities December 8-9, 2021

Wednesday, December 8
All Times Eastern

Morning Session

- 9:00 – 9:10 am **Welcome & The Day Ahead**
- 9:10 – 9:20 am **Coffee Talk**
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact, LLC
- 9:20 – 9:30 am **You are Here: Welcome to Mississippi!**
Todd Jordan, Mayor, Tupelo
Mike Armour, State Director, ARC Mississippi
Andrea Rose, Project Manager, ARC Mississippi
- 9:30 – 10:00 am **Foundations: Economic Development Strategies & the Creative Class**
Tim Ezzell, Ph.D., Assistant Research Professor, ISSE and Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 10:00 – 11:00 am **Fireside Chat with Governor Haley Barbour (R-MS)**
Moderator: Katie Cahill, Ph.D., Associate Director, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy
- 11:00 – 11:30 am **Break**
- 11:30 am – 12:15 pm **Snapshot: A Picture of the Appalachian Economy**
Logan Thomas, Economist, Appalachian Regional Commission

Afternoon Session

- 2:00 – 2:15 pm **Coffee Talk**
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville

- 2:15 – 3:15 pm **Strengthening Economic Resilience in Appalachia**
Stephan J. Goetz, Ph.D., Professor of Agriculture and Regional Economics, Penn State University
Christine Gyovai, Principal, Dialogue + Design Associates
Evan Hansen, Founder, Downstream Strategies
Kostas Skordas, Director, Research & Evaluation, Appalachian Regional Commission
Moderator: Tim Ezzell, Ph.D., Assistant Research Professor, ISSE and Political Science, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- 3:15 – 3:30 pm **Break**
- 3:30 – 4:15 pm **Key Tool: Strategic Planning**
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 4:15 – 5:30 pm **Breakout Discussion: Finding Common Ground**
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact, LLC

Thursday, December 9

All Times Eastern

Morning Session

- 9:00 – 9:05 am **The Day Ahead**
Jessica Mosley, Program Manager, Appalachian Leadership Institute
- 9:05 – 9:20 am **Coffee Talk**
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact, LLC
- 9:20 – 10:15 am **Family Feud: Appalachia Edition**
- 10:15 – 10:30 am **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:30 am **A 21st Economy: the future of energy and transportation**
Electric Vehicles and the Auto Industry:
Jonathan Overly, Executive Director, East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
Solar Power and the Energy Industry:
Charles Sims, Ph.D. Director, Energy & Environment Program, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Rare Earth Elements and the Mining Industry:
Deborah Penchoff, Ph.D., Associate Director, Innovative Computing Laboratory
Moderator: Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact, LLC
- 11:30 am – 12:15 pm **Leadership Reports: Profiles & Behaviors**
Katie Cahill, Ph.D., Associate Director, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy

Afternoon Session

- 1:45 – 2:00 pm **Coffee Talk**
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville
- 2:00 – 3:00 pm **The Possibilities of Technological Advancements for the Region: Book Reaction and Discussion**
Deacon Stone, Director of Innovation, Robert C. Byrd Innovation Center at Marshall University
Moderator: Katie Cahill, Ph.D., Associate Director, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy
- 3:00 – 3:15 pm **Break**
- 3:15 – 5:00 pm **Team Challenge: Disruptive Opportunities**
Katie Cahill, Ph.D., Associate Director, Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy
- 5:00 – 5:45 pm **Team Challenge Presentations**
- 5:45 – 6:00 pm **Synthesis**
Bruce Decker, Owner, Collective Impact, LLC
Cat Wilt, Research Director, University of Tennessee Knoxville