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## Texas Business Leaders Talk Global Trade in New York City

NEW YORK - Texas business leaders gathered in New York City today to discuss global trade policy and what the future holds for the state and national economy at the Texas Lyceum's conference, "A Global Perspective: The US Role on the World Stage." Texas boasts the 10th largest economy in the world with over \$264 billion in exports per year and is headquarters for 10 percent of the nation's Fortune 500, as well as more than 1,500 foreign companies.

Justin Yancy, president of the Texas Business Leadership Council noted that, "While the issues we discussed today concerning U.S. trade through NAFTA and with China may appear to be separate matters to many, they are very related in multiple ways. Having a constructive dialogue on the challenges and opportunities that businesses face in this arena is an important exercise."

Joined by Paul Dyck, Vice President of Global Governmental Affairs for Walmart and Lee Godown, Vice President for Global Markets at General Motors, Yancy participated in the Lyceum's "Leadership Round Table Discussion on Trade."

Texas Lyceum President, Brad Morrison, CEO of Innové in San Antonio and a member of the TBLC, said, "It is imperative that an open and honest dialogue be fostered between Americans and our colleagues abroad. Under a framework of trust and respect, our relationships will flourish. The Texas Lyceum is proud to play a role in this effort."

Yancy concluded that, "There are many important trade issues that the White House is attempting to improve and modernize for the United States with Mexico, Canada, and China which should be applauded, but it is crucial that we do no harm to the abundant partnerships and agreements that are beneficial to American jobs and companies."

TBLC Member Jason Schenker, President and Chief Economist at Prestige Economics in Austin, presenting on "Why Trade is Important to Texas." added, "NAFTA has been a cornerstone of the Texas economic miracle; the bottom line for the labor market is that around one million jobs in Texas depend on NAFTA trade."

*The Texas Business Leadership Council is a network of Texas based CEOs and senior business executives who advance a long-term vision of a prosperous Texas in a globally competitive business environment.*

*Justin Yancy is the President of the Texas Business Leadership Council and an alumnus of the Texas Lyceum. Brad Morrison is the Founder and CEO of Innové, a cybersecurity firm in San Antonio; President of the Texas Lyceum; and a Member of the Texas Business Leadership Council. Jason Schenker is the President and Chief Economist at Prestige Economics in Austin and is a Member of both the Texas Business Leadership Council and the Texas Lyceum.*

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