

*“Even the most rational approach to ethics  
is defenseless if there isn't the will  
to do what is right.”*

— *Alexander Solzhenitsyn*

*“Ethics is knowing the difference between  
what you have the right to do and  
what is the right thing to do.”*

— *Unknown*

### **Introduction**

*Ethics* is defined by the *Merriam-Webster Dictionary* as “an area of study that deals with ideas about what is good and bad behavior: a branch of philosophy dealing with what is morally right or wrong.”

Reviewing past, current, and future events through the lens of ethics allows students to gain valuable insights of how they may wish to conduct themselves in corporate world.

With that stated, our School of Business strives to provide opportunities for ethical reflection to critically analyze what an individual may or may not choose to do in the course of their professional business dealings.

Since the world of business is enormously diverse, for this forum, we will focus on ethics in the accounting realm through the life experiences of three talented speakers. It is our hope that sharing their experiences will provide tools to assist in ensuring success in the world of business.

Thank you for joining us in this year's forum.



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## **The Forty-Ninth Annual**

# **J. Walter Porter Forum**

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Thursday, October 8, 2015

***Enron and Beyond:  
What the Rise and Fall of this Fortune 500  
Company Should Mean to You***

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*Sponsored by the School of Business and made possible by the endowment established by the family and friends of the late J. Walter Porter in recognition of his interest in improving the image of business as a career field for college students and of his concern for moral and ethical standards as expressed in his philosophy of business. The forum is an effort to translate the textbook into practice by bringing capable, successful business executives to the campus to speak on selected topics in their area of expertise.*

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***School of Business  
College of Business and Technology  
Northwestern State University Natchitoches,  
Louisiana***

***Schedule of Events***  
***2015 J. Walter Porter Forum***

***Russell Hall, Room 107***

**9:40 a.m.**

***Welcome***

**Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne**, *Interim Dean* College of  
Business and Technology

**Dr. Jim Henderson**

*President*

Northwestern State University

**Dr. Lisa Abney**

*Provost and Vice President*

Northwestern State University

**Introduction of Speaker**

**Carmella Parker**, Esq./MBA

*Coordinator of Outreach and Special Projects*

**9:50 a.m.**

**Theodore “Ted” Jones, Esq.**

**10:30 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.**

**Break-Natchitoches Room**

**11:05 a.m.**

**Joseph K. Dowley, Esq.**

**11:40 a.m.**

**Wilbert J. “Billy” Tauzin, Esq.**

**12:15 p.m.**

**Lunch – Natchitoches Room**

(Guests, Speakers, Faculty,  
Director’s Executive Advisory Board Members, and  
School of Business Seniors)



**J. Walter Porter**  
**(1900-1965)**

A native of Kaufman County, Texas, Mr. Porter graduated from Texas A&M, class of 1922, and earned a Master’s Degree in Civil Engineering at Harvard in 1924. In 1931, he helped organize the Gifford-Hill Pipe Company in Grand Prairie, Texas. Mr. Porter saw the need to sell business to the college and to bridge the gap between the college campus and industry. Mr. Porter felt that many people in the academic, professional, governmental, and even in the business world, fail to understand the workings of the competitive system and the motivating force behind it. He was determined to contribute to a better understanding of that system among his own employees, associates, and where he could, on college campuses. His death came on the eve of a scheduled three-day lecture program at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. The J. Walter Porter Forum is a continuation of his efforts to increase this understanding.

*This year’s speakers are ...*

**Theodore “Ted” Jones, Esq.** – *Northwestern State University’s Charles Ragus Family Endowed Chair*, is an attorney and lobbyist from Baton Rouge, LA, who provided counsel to governors, U.S. representatives, senators, and presidential candidates. Jones was briefly the chief of staff to U. S. Representative Speedy Long of Louisiana’s 8th congressional district. He served as counsel for the then newly implemented Medicare program for Gov. John McKeithen. He was a special counsel for Gov. Edwin W. Edwards. He worked on the 1968 presidential campaign staff for VP Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota.

Ted Jones holds honorary doctorates of humanity from both his alma mater Northwestern State University and Nicholls State University. He is an inductee of the NSU “Long Purple Line of Distinguished Alumni” and the former director of the NSU Foundation. In 2007, Jones was himself inducted into the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame.

**Joseph K. Dowley, Esq.** – is an attorney with 35 years of practice involving public policy, involving tax, international trade and healthcare at the federal level. A former Chief Counsel of the House Committee on Ways & Means, among other items of legislation, he participated in the development and enactment of the landmark Tax Reform Act of 1986. In private practice Mr. Dowley has advised and represented corporate and individual clients with issues involving the Congress and major federal agencies including especially Treasury, the IRS, HHS, and USTR. A member of the Virginia and DC Bars, he was a partner with Dewey Ballantine LLP and McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, retiring from the latter in January of this year. He has 15 years of federal service, including three in the U.S. Army where he served as an Infantry Platoon Leader in Vietnam. He is currently engaged in several writing projects.

**Wilbert J. “Billy” Tauzin, Esq.** – is a former US Congressman and former Chair of the U.S. Coast Guard Committee (hearings on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and Oil Pollution Act of 1990) chair of the Panama Canal Committee and the Telecommunications Committee (law providing for Satellite Television Competition, broadcast deregulation and laws managing the transition from analog to digital TV and cellular telephone and internet broadband service provisions); and Chairman of the powerful, the oldest and most jurisdictionally diverse Committee of Congress, the Energy and Commerce Committee. There, Chairman Tauzin conducted the historic Enron hearings, the Ford Firestone hearing (first comprehensive reform of highway safety laws) and floor managed the passage of the Medical Part D reform to Medicare. He participated actively in the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996; and in January 2005 assumed the Presidency of PhRMA. Upon retirement from PhRMA in 2010, he and his son formed the government relations firm Tauzin Consultants where he works currently.