



## *April Networking Event (Sponsored by Oakland Park)* **Oakland Cemetery: Past and Future Real Estate Centerpiece**

Please join us on Wednesday, April 29, as the Georgia State University Real Estate Alumni Group presents a look at the past and future real estate projects in the Oakland Cemetery area. Historic Oakland Cemetery is one of Atlanta's gems, a cultural and historic touchstone on the city's character. Less than a mile from the heart of downtown Atlanta, this garden cemetery, founded in 1850, is a showplace of sculpture and architecture, and a botanical preserve with ancient oaks and magnolias.

Join the Real Estate Alumni Group for a tour of Oakland Cemetery, then stroll across the street to Six Feet Under for a networking event with other Georgia State alumni, and a discussion of recent and future real estate projects in the area, including: development of the Jane, where Six Feet Under is located; Oakland Park, Atlanta's first residential LEED Silver-certified community developed by Urban Realty Partners; and the Georgia State University football program practice fields.

We look forward to seeing you all at the event on April 29. Free appetizers and cash bar will be available. Pre-registration for Oakland Cemetery is required by Monday, April 27. Register and learn more at [www.gsu.edu/alumni](http://www.gsu.edu/alumni)!

## **Letter From the President**

Dear fellow alumni:



My first year as president of the Real Estate Alumni Group was filled with many changes and challenges. Our greatest challenge, and success, was revising the format of Views From the Top, the annual economic forecast breakfast we host each January.

The venue changed from the ballroom to a shell-condition space in at Barry Real Estate's Allen Plaza in downtown Atlanta. Our traditional speaker's panel evolved into a discussion led by David Haddow; his own unique perspective was peppered with hard-hitting questions about the state of our industry in these challenging economic times. Dr. Rajeev Dhawan's "down and dirty" view of the economy for the year ahead was much anticipated; he delivered the key information and insight for which he is nationally known. The program has been

brought back in line with its original intent: our industry's top business leaders delivering relevant market information.

Our committees are working hard to plan the coming year. We will begin work in May for the 2010 Views From the Top. Sponsorship opportunities are available for our networking programs for the year's remainder, which offer companies a low-cost way of gaining exposure to the local real estate community.

Our next networking event is coming up; see the details above. I encourage all of you to attend, to consider joining a Real Estate Alumni Group committee and aiding our mission.

Yours truly,

*Sara Smith  
President, Georgia State University Real Estate Alumni Group*

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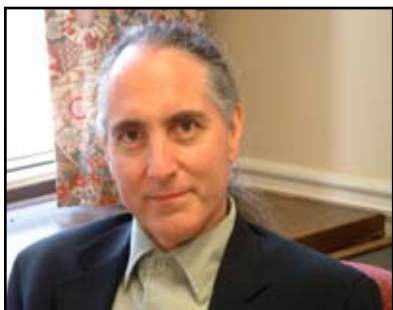
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**Contact Philippe Pellerin at [philippe@ps-realestate.net](mailto:philippe@ps-realestate.net) for opportunities**



## Letter from the Chairman

In these exigent times, my thoughts remain with you. I hope we meet our challenges together, and emerge stronger and wiser than ever before. The real estate programs at Georgia State are in no way immune to trials, but we are blessed with dedicated alumni and friends whose commitment of energy and resources has never failed to see us through. Thank you for your support. There would not be real estate at Georgia State University without you.

The department is doing well. Demand for our degrees remains high.

Our efforts to engage the professional community and enhance the relevance of our programs are successful. Your alumni board's activities, like Views From the Top, as well as efforts of the Honorary Board and our annual REIAC Challenge and REIAC Distinguished Lectures, continue to raise Georgia State's profile in Atlanta and Georgia. Around 200 members of the GSU real estate community recently celebrated the induction of Hal Barry into the REIAC/GSU Real Estate Hall of Distinction. Julie McIntosh, with the Integral Group, delivered a stimulating lecture on public-private partnerships in urban revitalization.

At the April Honorary Board Breakfast, Coach Bill Curry filled us in on Georgia State football, set to begin competition in 2010. Members of the Board expressed their views on the strength of and outlook for real estate and the general economy. The Board's consensus was the general economy's condition, like the overall real estate market, is poor, but has some upside potential over the next six months, although the office market in Atlanta will worsen in the short run. Commercial market stability is about two years out and residential markets will begin stabilizing in a year. They see interest rates remaining steady over the next six months but cap rates moving slightly upward. Members tended to agree the areas with the best investment potential were Midtown and the north side, and multi-family residential and land show the highest potential. The majority opinion was the current economic stimulus plan would have a slightly positive impact on both the U.S. economy and its real estate markets.

We are looking forward to Scott Jackson, founder and CEO of Jackson Oats Shaw Corporate Real Estate, delivering the REIAC Distinguished Lecture in October 2009. We also will have our annual career networking reception in October. It is open, free of charge, to all alumni and friends of the Department: please attend! Few things are more important to our students than networking with practicing real estate professionals like you.

Please keep in touch, and if we can be of help to you, let me know.

*Julian*

### The 2009 - 2010 Real Estate Alumni Group Board of Directors

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## Share Your News

If you have any news or announcements to share with other alums, please email Andrea Ivory at [alivory@comcast.net](mailto:alivory@comcast.net). We look forward to hearing from you soon!



## Get in on the Action!

Have you ever wondered how to get involved with your Real Estate Alumni Group? Well, now's your chance to get in on the action! The 2009-2010 Georgia State University Real Estate Alumni Group is actively seeking volunteers for the following committees:

- **University Relations**
- **Fundraising**
- **Membership**
- **Views From the Top**
- **Awards**
- **Sponsorship**
- **Communications**
- **Golf Tournament**

If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact Sara Smith at (404) 239-7262 or [shsmith@crescent-resources.com](mailto:shsmith@crescent-resources.com).

# Views From the Top

The 22nd annual Views From the Top event was held Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2009, at the recently constructed office building at 55 Allen Plaza, conveniently located in downtown Atlanta. Hundreds attended the event this year and were treated to a fantastic presentation on “The State of the Industry.”

The much-anticipated annual economic forecast by Dr. Rajeev Dhawan, Director of Georgia State University’s Economic Forecasting Center, kicked off the event, followed by a panel discussion of industry heavy weights: Hal Barry, Chairman of Barry Real Estate Cos.; Brett Hunsaker, Grubb & Ellis; and John Woodward, Director of Foreign Investments, Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. The panel was moderated by David Haddow, CRE, President and Founder, Haddow & Company.

Views From the Top is presented by the Georgia State Real Estate Alumni Group to support the university’s Department of Real Estate through endowments and annual gifts. Over the years, this event has provided much-needed funding for educational programs, research projects, professional associations and technological advances in the department, to assist both faculty and students in staying current in the industry. In 1996, the REAG established an endowment with the goal of creating an endowed professorship for the department. This goal was reached due to the generous contributions from the professional real estate community; we are now working toward a second endowed professorship. Once again, we would like to thank our annual corporate sponsors and contributors whose generous support allows the Georgia State University Real Estate Alumni Group to make Views From the Top a success year after year.



## FACULTY NEWS

### Diaz Honored with Research Award

Dr. Julian Diaz was named the 2009 recipient of the Richard Ratcliff Award by the American Real Estate Society. The award was given in recognition of his innovative research contributions in applying behavioral economic theories to real estate. The award was created to honor a significant innovative research contribution that extends the real estate discipline, introduces a new paradigm and “pushes the envelope” of real estate knowledge.

### Gibler Receives Red Pen Award

The editor of the Journal of Real Estate Practice and Education presented Dr. Gibler with that journal’s “red pen” award to recognize service above and beyond the call of duty in the review of articles submitted for publication. The award was given at the annual ARES meeting in Monterey, Calif. Nine faculty and doctoral students presented research papers at the conference.

### Rabianski Has Two New Publications

Joseph Rabianski et al, Shopping Center Appraisal and Analysis (2nd edition), Appraisal Institute: Chicago, Illinois 2009; and Joseph Rabianski, “Local Economic Analysis for Market Valuation,” The Appraisal Journal, April 2009.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Oakland Cemetery

April 29, 2009

### Alumni Night at the Braves

May 15, 2009

### Views From the Top

January 2010

## BECOME A FRIEND OF THE DEPARTMENT

If you would like to support the Real Estate Department in the J. Mack Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University, please make a contribution by credit card by going to [www.gsu.edu/giving](http://www.gsu.edu/giving) (Gift Designation: Choose *Other* and Write in *Real Estate*) or send your contribution by mail to:

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Your gifts help the Department maintain its reputation as one of the world’s best real estate programs. Gifts of \$1,000 or more will be recognized on a plaque in the Department. Regardless of the amount, we sincerely appreciate your support.

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