Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation Receives Endowment

The University of Southern Mississippi’ Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation (CULT) recently established the Gary LaGrange Endowment, which will be used to support the Center’s activities and initiatives.

LaGrange served as president and chief executive officer of the Port of New Orleans since 2001. Under LaGrange’s direction, the Port made significant progress in spite of tremendous adversity. During his tenure, the Port opened new, state-of-the-art container and refrigerated terminal, and successfully handled the Port of New Orleans’ worst two hurricanes since 1956, the most extensive natural disaster in U.S. history.

The LaGrange Endowment will make a significant difference and will support the Center’s mission to respond to the Gulf region’s government and industry stakeholders’ need for the creation and dissemination of practical, cutting-edge, interdisciplinary knowledge and technology to advance logistics, trade and transportation, intermodal economic development, and promote an integrated freight system within the region.

LaGrange serves on the boards and executive committees of the Waterways Council, Inc. and National Waterways Council. He also serves on the boards of the Gulf Ports Association of the Americas and is past chairman and past president of the Gulf Intermodal Council Association.

LaGrange served on the executive committee of the Transportation Research Board and has served as chairman of the American Association of Port Authorities. He is a member of the Committee on Seaborne Commerce.

LaGrange was named the Maritime Person of the Year by the Propeller Club of New Orleans in 2005, and Gold Line Person of the Year by the Propeller Club of the Port of Galveston in 2002. He was named the “Man of Steel” by the American Institute for Steel Construction, and received the Leadership Award and was named to the Hall of Fame by the International Maritime Association of the United Nations in New York. He was also named to the National Hall of Fame in Dubuque, Iowa.

LaGrange served on the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s Advisory Council on Trade and Transportation and the U.S. Department of Transportation Maritime Administration’s Port Transportation Policy Committee.

Before taking leadership of the Port of New Orleans, LaGrange served as the Executive Director of the Missisippis State Port Authority in Gulfport, Miss., the Port of South Louisiana and the Port of West St. Mary.

For more information about the Southern Miss Center for Logistics, Trade and Transportation, visit www.southernmiss.edu/logistics-trade-transportation.

About the Author:

Gary A. LaGrange
Expert: Port of University Communications
Phone: 601-266-2515
E-mail: gary.lagrange@usm.edu

RELATED TERMS: Logistics, Trade and Transportation