

# ECHO

**\*Please note this meeting will be at the Dunlap Champions Club; use external elevators to the 4th Floor.**

## Monday, March 27th

Lunch Buffet	11:30 AM
Program Begins	12:00 PM
Introductions	12:10 PM
Presentation Begins	12:15 PM
Member Questions	12:45 PM
Meeting Adjourned	1:00 PM

## Onsite & Virtual Program

**Dunlap Champions Club**  
225 Champions Way, Bldg B  
Tallahassee, FL 32304

To RSVP, please email  
[mail@economic-club.com](mailto:mail@economic-club.com)  
or  
Call: (850) 224-0711

**REGISTRATION IS CLOSED  
FOR ONSITE**

**Virtual remains open**

## Geopolitics and the Global Economy

Retired four-star US Army General and former CIA Director **David Petraeus** joins us in person this month to discuss the state of the world and the global economy. He'll specifically focus on the Russia-Ukraine war and the consequences for the US and European nations. General Petraeus will share his unique perspective on what might lie ahead in the near term, sanctions and responses of the US and other allies to support Ukraine, what an end to the war may look like, its long-term consequences, and other geopolitical trends investors should be paying attention to. Plus, questions submitted from our Club members.

General Petraeus is a Partner at the New York-based global investment firm of KKR and Chairman of the KKR Global Institute, which he established in 2013. The Global Institute supports the KKR investment process and its portfolio companies with analysis of the relationship between countries and

security risks. In international relations, geopolitics is a method of studying foreign policy to understand, explain, and predict international political behavior through geographical variables. He is also a member of the boards of directors of Optiv and OneStream, and a Strategic Advisor for Sempra, a venture investor in more than 25 startups. The General is a Visiting Fellow and Lecturer at Yale University, a speaker with the Washington Speakers Bureau, and an Honorary Professor of International Security at the University of Birmingham (UK).

Prior to joining KKR, General Petraeus served for 37 years in the U.S. military, including tours in Cold War Europe, the US, Central America, Haiti, Bosnia, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, and the greater Middle East. His military career culminated with six consecutive commands as a general officer, five of which were in combat, including Command of the Surge in Iraq, US Central Command, and



**General David Petraeus**  
Chairman  
KKR Global Institute

the Coalition and US Forces in Afghanistan. Following his military service, the General served as Director of the CIA, leading the Agency during a period that saw significant achievements in the global counter-terrorism effort and in increasing global human intelligence coverage.

The General will be introduced by Club Board Member John Bradley, Senior Investment Officer for the Florida State Board of Administration. Our program will be a fireside chat format between General Petraeus and Club Board Member Ash Williams, Vice Chair of Asset Management for J.P. Morgan.

Thank you to our meeting sponsor:



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## Recent New Members

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## NAME BADGES



We have newly designed name badges. If you have an old name badge and would like one of the new design, the cost is \$15. If interested, you can purchase a new name badge at the [Club's website](#) or call the office at 850-224-0711.

## Agriculture's Surprising Role in the Economy

The February Club meeting featured Florida Agriculture Commissioner **Wilton Simpson**, who discussed the breadth of Florida's second largest industry and why, amid threats of greater regulation, it should be viewed through a national security lens.

Commissioner Simpson spoke to the Club fresh from his recent duty as state Senate President which capped ten years of service in the Senate. A fifth-generation Floridian, he has deep personal and professional roots grounded in agriculture, including running a family-owned large-scale egg-laying operation that supplies supermarkets statewide with two million dozen eggs monthly.

Florida agriculture is a \$180 billion per year industry, employing 2.5 million people, second only to tourism. Beyond being an economic driver, Commissioner Simpson told the luncheon meeting that agriculture is a national security issue, too.

"You should thank a farmer three times a day. We just got finished eating food that was grown by a farmer. And if you don't put it in national security terms, think of it like going to the grocery store for a week with no groceries there. Think about two weeks. Then it becomes a national security issue in a hurry, right?" Simpson posed.

He said agriculture "should be elevated to that lens" when discussing further regulation on farmers. The majority of farms are using best management practices and the fertilizer and waste runoff "coming off most farms is a thimbleful of nutrient load relative to the five gallons of nutrient load that's being created around them." He said water use for most crops has also been reduced from 50% to 80% over the last 20 or 30 years.

To help preserve farmland and safeguard the environment, Simpson said the state last year appropriated \$300 million to the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program, three times the amount spent since its inception. The commissioner also spoke about the price of eggs in the grocery store, noting that the Avian flu has taken out about 20% of the birds that lay eggs, resulting in prices increasing from \$2 per dozen to \$6 over the winter, which is now receding. He shared some of the general security and bio-security protocols in place on Florida farms to prevent disease and other contamination. (You can read more and listen to the Club's podcast with Commissioner Wilton Simpson on our [Podcasts and Summaries webpage](#).)



Pictured Left to Right: Katina Glasco, Justin Thames, Commissioner Simpson and Marion Hoffmann

## Membership Renewal Due—March 31

Renewal notices were sent via email and a hardcopy was mailed. If you have not received your letter, please let us know. We may not have your current contact information. **Credit card payment is available through our website, or send in your check so that we can count you as a continuing member in good standing.** Because demand for membership is increasing, we have established a renewal deadline of March 31, after which a renewal re-initiation fee of \$100 will be added to the membership fee.

Contact Lisette Mariner, Economic Club of Florida Executive Director at [mail@economic-club.com](mailto:mail@economic-club.com) or (850) 224-0711 to update your information.

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### Onsite/Virtual Programs

April 20, 2023



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June 6, 2023



**Katie Yeutter**  
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## Contact Us

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## Member Spotlight

**Mary Lou Rajchel** retired in 2014, capping a career representing government and Florida's major industries. Along the way, she's been a trailblazer for women in many of her roles: first female associate in her first law firm, first female Vice President of Regulatory Affairs and later President & CEO of the Florida Phosphate Council, and first woman President & CEO of the Florida Trucking Association. She also served as Cabinet Affairs Director for Education Commissioner Betty Castor and as Assistant General Counsel under Commerce Secretary and Lt. Governor Wayne Mixson.



Ms. Rajchel has served on the Club's Board of Directors and is a Club Trustee. "The Economic Club brings in speakers on a wide range of relevant topics, and I think we all benefit from the content and perspective."

Ms. Rajchel was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and traveled the world with her military family before settling in Winter Park for high school. She was one of the original Liberty Tree Tavern Singers at Walt Disney World when it opened in 1971. Today she continues to enjoy singing in her church choir and ballroom dancing. She graduated from Florida Technological University (now UCF) with a BA in English and earned a master's degree in higher education from Southern Illinois University and her law degree from FSU. She and her late husband Gerald Jaski have a son Jay and two grandchildren. She remains active in statewide and community organizations, including the Oversight Board of FSU's DeVoe Moore Center and the Board of Florida TaxWatch.

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