

...news release...

KENTUCKY

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www.kltprc.net/pressreleases/pr_2009leadership.htm

Reginald Meeks and John Chowning to Lead Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center Board

FRANKFORT, KY (November 25, 2008) — Rep. Reginald Meeks of Louisville has been elected to serve as the 2009 Chair of the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center's Board of Directors. "It is especially challenging, in these times of economic and political change in Kentucky, to help provide insight and perspective on many issues facing the state," Meeks observes. "The Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center Board has been doing this for many years, and I feel blessed to be associated with such a respected organization." As a member of the Kentucky General Assembly, he has represented the 42nd House District (Jefferson County) since 2001. Rep. Meeks is the Associate Director of Development at the University of Louisville and Adjunct Professor at McKendree College. He comments, "We hope to forge new relationships throughout the state for the Board and help bring our vast array of information to a broader Kentucky audience." Rep. Meeks received his B.A. from Wabash College and his J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law. He is a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures; National Black Caucus of State Legislators; Kentucky Association of Blacks in Higher Education; Leadership Kentucky; Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels; and Kentucky Native American Heritage Commission. In addition, Rep. Meeks has been named to Who's Who Among Emerging Leaders In America; Outstanding Young Men of America; Who's Who Among Black Americans; and Who's Who in the South. He has received the Y.M.C.A. Adult Achiever Award, and been named by Ebony Magazine one of their *Fifty Young Future Leaders*, and by Louisville Magazine one of their *People to Watch*.

John Chowning has been elected to serve as the Board's 2009 Vice Chair. He serves as Vice President for Church and External Relations and Executive Assistant to the President at

Campbellsville University (CU). Mr. Chowning is the founding director of CU's Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy and teaches part-time in the institution's political science program. He has served on a number of boards, including serving as Chair of the University's Board of Trustees, Kentucky State Board of Elections, The Center for Rural Development, Campbellsville-Taylor County Industrial Development Authority, Southern Kentucky Economic Development Corporation, the Heartland Parkway Foundation board, the Heartland regional heritage tourism advisory committee, and Greater Campbellsville United which works to promote racial and ethnic harmony in the community and region. He is an ordained Baptist minister having served as senior pastor for several years of Saloma Baptist. Mr. Chowning is active in Kentucky Baptist Convention life and has been recognized for his leadership in racial and ethnic reconciliation ministry. He has a master of public administration (planning emphasis) from Eastern Kentucky University; a bachelor of arts in political science from Transylvania University; and an associate of arts from Lindsey Wilson College. He has completed several courses in the program of alternate studies at Memphis Theological Seminary and has completed additional graduate hours in education at ECU. Mr. Chowning's professional career has included serving as a public school teacher, public sector grant writing and planning, vice president and partner in a Lexington-based consulting firm, and former director of economic development for U.S. Representative Ron Lewis. Mr. Chowning is a member of several professional and civic organizations and has received a number of awards, including Governor's Economic Development Leadership Award in 1999; local Citizen of the Year in 1998 and 2001; local Man of the Year by the local BPW Club in 1999; CU's Faculty Challenger Award two years; and the 2007 Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award by the Taylor County Civic League. His wife, Cathy, is a licensed physical therapist, and they are the parents of four children and have three grandchildren. Mr. Chowning is the head of a family farm operation in his native Cumberland County, Kentucky. The Chownings have lived in Campbellsville for the past 30 years.

The Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center is a state agency dedicated to research into trends and issues that are likely to influence the future of the state. Created by the General Assembly in 1992, the Center is governed by a 21-member board and has a mandate to increase knowledge about issues on Kentucky's horizon, guide planning efforts throughout state government, and engage citizens and policymakers in preparing for the future.

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