

2018 MITA'S WORLD TRADE CONFERENCE



Every year, the President of the United States declares the third full week of May as **World Trade Week**. Trade organizations, businesses and other stakeholders come together both nationally and locally to promote and facilitate international trade in the U.S. economy. This year the **Midwest International Trade Association (MITA)** is celebrating its **50th Anniversary** and will be hosting a special World Trade Conference on **May 16th** offering a full agenda of educational and global business speakers as well as recognizing a local businessman's exemplary lifetime of achievements in international trade. We are also taking this opportunity to honor our past MITA Presidents and Past Exporter and Importer of the Year award winners! Join **MITA** as we celebrate this milestone as well as the importance of international trade on the region's economy as well as to gain collective expertise to help your business grow.

[Register Here](#)

Pete Ricketts

Governor of Nebraska (invited)

Presentation of MITA's Golden Lifetime Achievement Award

Senator Ben Nelson

Tony "TR" Raimondo, Chairman & Coach, Behlen Mfg. Co.

Charles Braymen, Ph.D. CFA, Associate Professor, Creighton University

Looking Back to Look Forward Panel Interview

- Conducted by the Omaha World-Herald's Steve Jordon.
- Hear about the history of regional international trade from a government and local business perspective.
- Hear about what the future may hold from the same perspectives.

John Brasch

President

J. Brasch Co., LLC

My MITA Roots; How MITA Made Me What I Am

Ernie Goss, Ph.D.

MacAllister Chair in Economics

Department of Economics and Finance

Creighton University

Is International Trade the Next Economic Black Swan or Golden Geese?

- Findings from banker and manufacturer surveys.
- Regional economics and what our most recent past, current trends, and government actions are telling us about our future economy.

Tom Gouttierre
Dean Emeritus, International Studies & Programs
Director Emeritus, Center for Afghanistan Studies
University Nebraska Omaha

Globalization of Terrorism: Implications for the Future

- Is ISIS finished? What about Al Qaida? Where next?
- What economic sectors are the most vulnerable to threats of global terrorism?
- How does the Shia and Sunni rivalry destabilize the Muslim world?

Michael Salerno
Vice President, Global Banking Group
First National Bank

International Banking - Past, Present and Future

- How technology such as SWIFT and electronic trading have changed international finance.
- Current issues and innovations that could be game changers in the future.
- Cross border payments and trade.

Garrett Workman
Director of European Affairs
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Trade Policy Update: A View from Washington

- Where is U.S. trade policy headed?
- How can we shape trade policy?
- The rest of the world won't wait for us.
- What opportunities are there for new or improved trade agreements?
 - i.e. NAFTA, KORUS, the United Kingdom

Honor MITA Past Presidents and MITA Past Exporter and Importer Award Winners

EVENT DETAILS

- Date:** Wednesday, May 16, 2018
- Time:** 7:30-8:10 am -- Registration/Networking (breakfast included)
8:10-3:15 pm -- Conference
3:15-5:00 pm -- Networking Reception Sponsored by First National Bank
- Location:** Embassy Suites Omaha-LaVista Conference Center
12520 Westport Parkway
LaVista, Nebraska
- Fee:** This event is FREE to Platinum, Gold and Silver MITA Members.
- Bronze Members: \$50/person
Additional Member Fee: \$75/person
Non-Member Meeting Fee: \$95/person
Student/Retiree Meeting Fee: \$35/person

REGISTRATION

To register for this event, please contact Gloria Penas at 402.596.1210 or mita@mitaonline.org, OR just [click here](#).

Registration Deadline: Friday, May 11, 2018

Late Registration Fee: \$10/person

Payment options include:

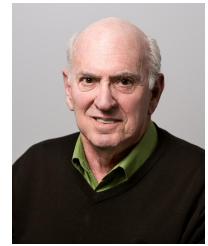
- Credit card payment at the meeting via Square Card Reader (an additional 3% processing fee will be applied)
- PayPal option available during final registration process on the MITA website (standard PayPal fees apply)

Dress: Business Casual.
No-shows will be billed.

SPEAKER BIOS

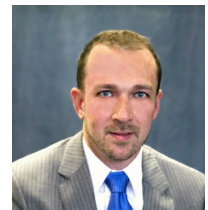
John Brasch
President
J. Brasch Co., LLC

John first joined MITA in 1970, a year or two after it started. He later served on the board and served two terms as President. Over a near 50 year career John has always been an exporter. He designed and taught the first International courses at the University of Nebraska. He consulted on exporting with dozens of Nebraska manufacturers working for Lincoln's National Bank of Commerce. He created an export management company and successfully exported hand tools and hospital-nursing home lifting and bathing systems in more than 14 countries. Later he founded Senior Technologies which engineered, manufactured and sold wanderer and fall safety technology for healthcare. He now leads two companies, one a UK distributor of Fall prevention technology in London. The other is developing Nursing care informatics for world-wide distribution. MITA was critical to John's later success.



Charles Braymen, Ph.D. CFA
Associate Professor
Creighton University

Charles Braymen is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance in the Heider College of Business at Creighton University. Dr. Braymen teaches International Economics, International Financial Management, and an upcoming travel course to the Dominican Republic: Practicum in International Development. He also teaches in Creighton's Master of Investment Management and Financial Analysis program. Braymen has published articles in such journals as the Southern Economic Journal, Journal of Portfolio Management, Pacific Economic Review, and International Trade Journal. He is also the founder of the BlueBox Project, which seeks to deploy solar-powered digital libraries at schools and refugee camps in developing countries around the world. Braymen received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned his B.A. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in Economics, European Studies, and Russian Language and Literature. He also holds the Chartered Financial Analyst® designation. Prior to joining Creighton, he taught at Kansas State University.



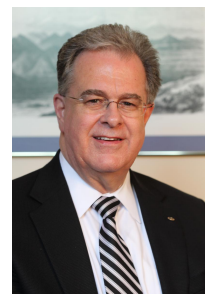
Dr. Ernie Goss
MacAllister Chair & Professor of Economics
Creighton University

Ernie Goss is currently the MacAllister Chair and Professor of Economics at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and Director of the Goss Institute in Denver, Colorado. He is also a Research Faculty member at California State University-Fresno. Dr. Goss was a visiting scholar with the Congressional Budget Office for 2003-04 and former faculty research fellow with NASA. His book, Changing Attitudes toward Economic Reform during the Yeltsin Era was published by Praeger Press in 2003 and his book Governing Fortune: Casino Gambling in America was published by the University of Michigan Press in 2007 (www.erniegoss.com). He is editor of Economic Trends, an economics newsletter published monthly that is distributed to more than 10,000 subscribers. He conducts three monthly surveys across 13 states. He will report the findings at MITA's May meetings.



Thomas E. Gouttierre
Dean Emeritus, International Studies & Programs
Director Emeritus, Center for Afghanistan Studies
University Nebraska Omaha

Thomas E. Gouttierre served as the Senior Officer for Global Engagement, Dean of International Studies and Programs, and the Director of the Center for Afghanistan Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) from August 1974 until September 2015. He also served as the Dean of IS&P at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) from 1987 until 2010. Between 1965 and 1974, he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer, a Fulbright Fellow, and Executive Director of the Fulbright Foundation in



Afghanistan. In 1996/1997, he served as Senior Political Affairs Officer on the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission to Afghanistan. Goutierre has testified on various topics related to Afghanistan, US-Pakistani Relations, International Terrorism, and Human Rights before hearings of the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the US House of Representatives Committee on International Relations, the British Parliament, the French National Assembly, the Norwegian Storting, and the UN Select Committee on Human Rights and regularly makes presentations to world affairs and foreign relations organizations, university and college campuses, service clubs, church organizations, and schools.

E. Benjamin Nelson
U.S. Senate (2001-2013)
Nebraska Governor (1991-1999)



From 2001-2013 Senator Ben Nelson served two terms representing the state of Nebraska in the United States Senate. He did not seek a third six-year term and was selected Chief Executive Officer of the National Association Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) from 2013-2016 based on his unique combination of executive, legislative, and state insurance regulatory experience. Senator Nelson began his career in state insurance regulation October 1, 1965, with the Nebraska Department of Insurance as Supervisor of Claims and Inquiries. In 1975 he was appointed by the Governor as Director of Insurance for Nebraska. In 1982 Nelson was selected as Chief of Staff and Executive Vice President of the NAIC to manage the transition of the NAIC Central Office. In 1990, he was elected Governor and reelected to a second term in 1994 by nearly 75% of the vote. Serving on the Senate Agriculture Committee, Senator Nelson's priorities began with the drought that had plagued the U.S. for the eight years prior to his election. He worked to make disaster relief a part of the budget, so producers did not repeatedly turn to emergency measures to receive help. Nelson sits on the Board of Advisors of Behlen Manufacturing Corporation as well as a founding board member of the National Strategic Research Institute, a United States Strategic Command sponsored University Affiliated Research Center at the University of Nebraska focused on combating and responding to national security threats. Senator Nelson earned a bachelor's degree in 1963, a master's degree in 1965 and a law degree in 1970, all from the University of Nebraska. Nelson also received the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Nebraska College of Law and an honorary doctor of letters from the University of Nebraska in 2013. Senator Nelson and his wife, former first lady Diane Nelson, have four children and five grandchildren.

Tony "TR" Raimondo
Chairman & Coach
Behlen Mfg. Co.



Tony Raimondo, Chairman & Coach of Behlen Mfg. Co. joined the company as General Manager for Wickes Corporation in 1982. He led the efforts to complete a successful management buy-out in 1984 as Behlen experienced major losses due to market changes, and Wickes emerged from Chapter 11. Tony spent several years in large corporations. He joined General Motors upon completing his BSME Degree from Michigan Technological University in 1962. Following management training and production supervisory experience at GM, Tony joined Moog, Inc., an aerospace company. He progressed from a Mfg. Engineer to Quality Assurance Manager to Mfg. Manager of this unique, people-oriented company that made the list of one of the best 100 companies to work for. He relocated from western New York to Omaha, Nebraska in 1976 where he spent several years at the Sperry Corporation as General Manager of Vickers, a \$90 million hydraulic products mfg. operation.

Pete Ricketts
Governor of Nebraska

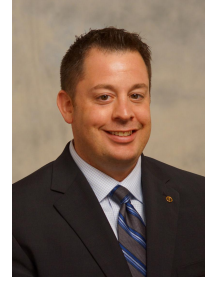


Governor Pete Ricketts was sworn in as Nebraska's 40th Governor on January 8, 2015. Governor Ricketts was first elected to office upon winning the Nebraska gubernatorial election on November 4, 2014. Prior to his election as governor, he worked to support Nebraska entrepreneurs and startup companies. Born in Nebraska City and raised in Omaha, Ricketts is the son of an entrepreneur and a public school teacher. Governor Ricketts and his wife, First Lady Susanne Shore, have been married for 20 years and live in Omaha. They have three children: Roscoe, Margot, and Eleanor.

Michael Salerno
Vice President, Global Banking Group
First National Bank

Michael A. Salerno Lead Director of Global Banking at First National Bank in Omaha,

Nebraska where he manages a diverse portfolio of corporate and correspondent bank customers. He consults with trade and treasury management professionals located throughout the Midwest to help define, create, and implement effective trade finance, global payments and international risk management solutions. Michael specializes in providing foreign exchange and international payment solutions for financial institutions. Michael is the Treasurer for the Nebraska District Export Council, and the National Association of District Export Councils. Michael holds a BS in Finance and Banking from the University of Nebraska, and an Executive MBA from the University of Nebraska.



Garrett Workman
Director of European Affairs
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Garrett Workman joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in June 2015. His work focuses on promoting transatlantic trade and investment, European digital economy and energy issues, and U.S.-EU regulatory cooperation. Workman actively supports the work of the Chamber's U.S.-UK Business Council, promoting a minimally disruptive British exit from the European Union and strengthening the close economic relationship between the United States and the United Kingdom. In addition, Workman manages the Business Coalition for Transatlantic Trade, which brings together leading voices from the private sector to promote jobs, growth, and increased competitiveness via an ambitious transatlantic trade and regulatory cooperation agenda. Previously, Workman spent four years as associate director of the Global Business and Economics program at the Atlantic Council. There he concentrated on a range of issues including the eurozone crisis, workforce development, and international trade. Workman played a leadership role in the Council's advocacy efforts for the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). He was managing editor of the TTIP Action email newsletter and the social media campaign. Workman authored a number of Council publications including TTIP and the Fifty States: Jobs and Growth from Coast to Coast and TTIP: Big Opportunities for Small Business, as well as numerous blogs and op-eds. He was also involved in the Council's efforts to raise awareness of the economic and geopolitical importance of both Trade Promotion Authority and the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Originally from Phoenix, Workman earned a bachelor's degree summa cum laude in political science from the University of Arizona and a master's in transatlantic relations and political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Sciences Po in Paris. He speaks fluent French and has a limited proficiency in Spanish.



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MEMBERSHIP

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2018 UPCOMING MITA EVENTS

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| June 15: | Summer Networking Event: Riverboat Cruise |
| Sept. 20: | In-Focus Country Series: Germany |
| Oct. 18: | Facility Tour |
| Nov. 15: | TBA |
| Dec. 7: | Holiday Networking Event: Lauritzen Gardens |

This meeting, as well as future meetings, may be eligible for NCBFA.

MITA | 402.596.1210 | Email: mita@mitaonline.org | Website: mitaonline.org

STAY CONNECTED:

