Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen!

Our first guest speaker we have the honor of having this afternoon is Dr. Pechacek.

As Professor in the Division of Health Management & Policy, Dr. Pechacek provides leadership in teaching, research and service to the School of Public Health. He also is a Senior Investigator in the Georgia State University’s Tobacco Center of Regulatory Science.

Before coming to Georgia State University, Dr. Pechacek served as deputy director for research translation at the CDC’s Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) and is the senior author of the 1999 Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs and the 2007 Update.

Dr. Pechacek earned both his Masters and Ph.D. in counseling/clinical psychology from the University of Texas at Austin in 1977.

Dr. Pechacek has been involved in tobacco prevention and control research and public health activities since the 1970’s. He is the author of more than 250 scientific papers, major government reports, and book chapters and regularly provides expert testimony across the United States on the efficacy of public health strategies to prevent smoking and tobacco-related diseases. In 2006, Dr. Pechacek was awarded the Surgeon General’s Medallion in recognition of his work to support the Office of the Surgeon General in communicating the risk of tobacco use. In 2009, Dr. Pechacek received the Jeffery P. Koplan Award from National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion for Outstanding Scientific Contribution.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in welcoming Dr. Pechacek.