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**For Immediate Release**

## "Jobs and Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century": an SBA forum at Governors State University

University Park, September 9, 2004 - Governors State University announced today that Patrick Rea, Regional Administrator for the Small Business Administration for the Midwest Region, will preview the findings of the SBA's report, "21st Century Jobs and Entrepreneurship." The report focuses on economic opportunities in Illinois and surrounding states.

The presentation will be held on September 15 at 4 p.m. in the university's Hall of Honors.

As Regional SBA Administrator, Rea oversees SBA operations in Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and Minnesota. Under his direction, the SBA is completing a study that focuses on job and entrepreneurship opportunities in Illinois and nearby states.

William Nowlin, dean of the College of Business and Public Administration, said, "Mr. Rea is in a unique position to discuss the problems and the opportunities this part of the U.S. will face over the coming years. We hope that local businesses and the general public will take advantage of this opportunity to learn what lies ahead for the region and use that information to prepare for the future."

Rea was named to his present position in November, 2003. Prior to his appointment, he was executive director for the Illinois Development Finance Authority. Previously he served as vice president and corporate banker of Bank One Capital Markets. He has served for more than 32 years as an elected trustee of Tinley Park, and has been the chairman of the village's Finance and Economic Development Committee since 1980.