

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Susan R. Meisinger, SPHR, JD

Susan Meisinger is a columnist for HRExecutive Online, and a consultant and speaker on HR leadership issues. In 2008, Ms. Meisinger retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the world's largest professional association devoted to human resource management with a mission to serve the needs of HR professionals by providing the most current and comprehensive resources, and promoting HR's essential, strategic role.

Under Ms. Meisinger's leadership, SHRM grew from 170,000 members to more than 245,000, revenue grew from \$66 million to more than \$110 million, and net assets grew from \$66 million to more than \$150 million. SHRM was recognized by *Washingtonian* magazine as one of the top 50 "Great Places to Work" in the Washington, D.C. area in 2003. Acting on behalf of SHRM, Ms. Meisinger took an active role to help shape public policy. She was one of thirteen members appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Labor to serve on the Secretary's Committee on the Future of the Workplace under the President's Council on the 21st Century Workforce. She has provided testimony and commentary to public policy makers, and is a respected advocate on behalf of the HR profession.

Prior to joining SHRM, Ms. Meisinger was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to be the Deputy Under Secretary for the Employment Standards Administration at the Department of Labor, where she was responsible for the more than 4,000 employees, a budget of more than \$3 billion, and the administration of more than 90 federal laws and regulations. She also served as special legal counsel for the Association of Builders and Contractors in Washington, D.C. She currently is a Fellow and board member of the National Academy of Human Resources. Ms. Meisinger serves on the board of the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards and is a Fellow of the Human Resource Policy Institute of Boston University. She is a former board member for the World Federation of Personnel Management Associations, where she also served as General Counsel. She previously served on the boards of Women's Policy, Inc. and the Ethics Resource Center.

Ms. Meisinger received her bachelor's degree from Mary Washington College and her law degree from George Washington University. She also has earned her certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources from the Human Resource Certification Institute.

Elizabeth H. Shuler

Elizabeth Shuler is the Secretary-Treasurer, one of three top-level officers, of the AFL-CIO, the largest federation of unions in the United States. The first woman ever elected to the position in 2009, Ms. Shuler holds the distinction of being the youngest officer ever to sit on the AFL-CIO's Executive Council. As Chief Financial Officer of the AFL-CIO, she oversees six administrative departments and is leading its young worker outreach initiative and repositioning efforts. She also represents the AFL-CIO on various boards and committees, such as the Women's Committee of the International Trade Union Confederation and the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust.

Prior to joining the AFL-CIO, Ms. Shuler worked her way up through the ranks of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), from Local Union 125 in Portland,

Oregon, to the Executive Leadership at the international headquarters in Washington, DC. She served as Executive Assistant to the President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), where she supervised and coordinated eleven of IBEW's departments, including its utility, manufacturing, telecommunications, broadcasting and government, education, research, political/legislative affairs, human services, media, and safety divisions. Prior to becoming Executive Assistant to the President, Ms. Shuler served for six years as an International Representative in the Political/Legislative Affairs Department. During her tenure with IBEW, she also managed the IBEW green jobs initiative, the planning and construction of the IBEW museum, a training partnership with the Panamanian government, sexual harassment/diversity training, and electronic tracking systems for political contribution requests, among other projects.

Active in several women's caucuses, Ms. Shuler is a member of the boards of Women's Policy, Inc. and the Women's Campaign Fund. For several years, she volunteered with the International Women's Democracy Center, an organization that sponsors mentoring programs encouraging women to run for office and seek change in countries overseas. She has been active with the American Council of Young Political Leaders, which brings emerging leaders under age 40 to the United States, a program to which Ms. Shuler has succeeded in bringing a stronger labor component.

Ms. Shuler earned her bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Oregon.