

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Michael Aube, President & CEO
Eastern Maine Development Corporation
40 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401
207.942.6389 • maube@emdc.org

Michael Aube is the President and CEO of the Eastern Maine Development Corporation. He has also served as State Director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development for the state of Maine since 2001. In this capacity, he was responsible for directing USDA federal programs in community facilities, housing, business and industry and utilities. He also provided oversight and management for five regional offices and successfully obtained over \$225 million per year for the state of Maine. Aube holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston College.

Laurel Bistany, Chair,
New Hampshire Alliance of Regional Dev. Corporations and
Executive Director, Rockingham Economic Dev. Corporation
37 Industrial Drive, Suite F2, Exeter, NH 03833
603.772.2655 • laurel@redc.com

Laurel Bistany is the Executive Director of the Rockingham Economic Development Corporation. Bistany is currently a degree candidate at Harvard University studying Economic Development and Sustainable Design. She is an alumna of Southern New Hampshire University with a degree in Business Administration and Management. She is also an IEDC Certified Economic Developer.

Timothy Brennan, Executive Director
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission
26 Central Street, Springfield, MA 01104
413.781.6045 • tbrennan@pvpc.org

Tim Brennan joined the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in 1973 and since 1980 has served as the agency's Executive Director. Brennan holds a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a master's degree in regional planning from the University of Massachusetts. He is also an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts and serves on the faculty of the Graduate Public Administration Program at Westfield State College.

Sarah Bunch, Economic Development/Transportation Planner
GeoDASHSM Initiative
1015 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801
410.546.6001 • sabunch@salisbury.edu

Sarah Bunch is the Economic Development/Transportation Planner for the GeoDASHSM Initiative. Bunch worked as a Research Associate and as the Senior Practice Manager at BEACON. She holds a master's and bachelor's degree in Marketing and Management from the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University. She is a Scenario Analysis/Scenario Planning specialist using iDecide and is trained in Economic Impact Estimation using IMPLAN.

Tony Ceballos, Director, Philadelphia U.S. Export Assistance
Center, U.S. Commercial Service
601 Walnut Street, Suite 580, West Philadelphia, PA 19106
215.597.7141 • Antonio.Ceballos@trade.gov

As the Director of the Philadelphia U.S. Export Assistance Center, Tony Ceballos oversees programs in Pennsylvania and Delaware that provide customized overseas services to evaluate global opportunities and identify and qualify potential business partners. Ceballos also establishes program partnerships with state and federal agencies and other public and private sector entities to create an efficient export assistance network for U.S. companies. He received his master's degree in international studies from the Claremont Graduate University. He also holds a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in international relations from the University of California, Riverside.

Matthew Chase, Executive Director
National Association of Development Organizations
400 N. Capitol St., NW, Suite 390, Washington, DC 20001
202.624.7806 • mchase@nado.org

Matthew Chase has served as the Executive Director of NADO and the NADO Research Foundation since October 2003. From March 1997 to August 2000, he served as the association's Director of Legislative Affairs until his promotion to Deputy Executive Director. Prior to joining NADO, he was the Chief Operating Officer of the Professional Managers Association. He holds a bachelor's degree from Hartwick College and a master's degree in political management from The George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Tad Deriso, President & CEO
Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative, South Boston, VA
804.855.4057 • tad@mbc-va.com

Over the past 20 years, Tad Deriso has helped rural, underserved communities and telecommunications companies plan and coordinate broadband telecommunications networks. He has developed technology-based economic development strategies as well as performance-based management structures and viable operational business models. In 2003, Deriso helped form the Mid-Atlantic Broadband Cooperative to build an advanced open-access fiber optic network in Southern Virginia. Deriso holds a bachelor's degree in management and international business from Georgia State University.

Memo Diriker, Professor of the Practice of Business and
Economic Development and Director, Business, Economic, and
Community Outreach Network (BEACON), Perdue School of
Business, Salisbury University
BEACON House, 1015 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, MD 21801
410.546.6001 • mfdiriker@salisbury.edu

Dr. Memo Diriker specializes in the use of Scenario Analysis Planning and Modeling and in Demographic, Business, and Economic Trend Forecasting. He is the creator of the *Three E Model for Program/Project Evaluation*. As the Director of BEACON, Dr. Diriker advises a large number of private, public and nonprofit sector organizations. In addition to a book, he

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has authored numerous articles in academic and practitioner publications, and is the recipient of many honors and awards, including a University System of Maryland Board of Regents Award for Outstanding Public Service.

**John Fernandez, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave, NW, Suite 7800, Washington, DC 20230**

The Honorable John Fernandez was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development and sworn into office on September 14, 2009. Prior to his appointment, Fernandez led the new development and acquisition team at First Capital Group, an Indiana-based real estate investment firm. He also served as Of Counsel for Krieg Devault, an Indianapolis-based law firm, where he advised private and governmental organizations on economic development, public finance and policy issues. Fernandez also served as Bloomington, Indiana's mayor from 1996 to 2003. He received a Doctor of Law (J.D.) from Indiana University. He also earned a master's degree in public affairs and bachelor's degree from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

**Wayne Figurelle, Director
Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program
Penn State University
508 Keller Building, University Park, PA 16802
814.777.2965 • wfigure@psu.edu**

Wayne Figurelle provides technical direction and leadership to the senior technical specialists across Pennsylvania. Under Figurelle's leadership, PennTAP has been a proven performer in assisting entrepreneurial and medium-sized firms and organizations. Prior to joining PENNTAP, Figurelle was an e-business manager for Link Computer Corporation, where he started their e-Business Consulting Business Unit and grew their Custom Software Development Business Unit.

**Valarie C. Flanders, Rural Business Field Advisor
Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250
207.257.4441**

Valarie Flanders began her career with Rural Development in 1984 and has worked in the delivery of most programs offered by the agency, including the Multi-family Housing (rental) program, Community Facility, Rural Utility, Business and Industry and Renewable Energy Programs. Her most recent assignment as Regional Field Advisor is in support of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for Business and Industry Guarantee Loans. Her service area covers fourteen states, including those in the Northeast.

**Timothy Fogarty, Director
Energy Programs, Innovation Works, Inc.
2000 Technology Drive, Suite 250, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412.894.9508 • tfogarty@innovationworks.org**

Tim Fogarty is the Director of Energy Programs at Innovation Works. Prior to Innovation Works, Fogarty was a Managing

Director of MHI Energy Partners, a venture capital firm focused on energy technology seed stage investing in North America. In 2004, he founded and was co-CEO of Phoenix Coal Corporation, a coal technology and mining company based in Madisonville, Kentucky. He received a bachelor's degree from Harvard University.

**James R. Garrity, Eastern Shore Business and Economic Development Dashboard Specialist
BEACON**

**1101 Camden Ave Salisbury, MD 21801
410.428.9743 • Jgarrity@choosemaryland.org**

Jim Garrity is the Eastern Shore Business and Economic Development Dashboard Specialist. Garrity partners with BEACON, the Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative, the Tri-County and Mid-Shore councils and the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development to create the timely display and distribution of information to support workforce development, community outreach and economic development efforts. He holds a master's degree in GIS and public administration from Salisbury University.

**Maria Gooch-Smith, Executive Director
Southeastern EDC (SEED Corp.)
80 Dean Street, Taunton, MA 02780
508.822.1020 • mgoochsmith@seedcorp.com**

Maria Gooch-Smith has 35 years of experience in economic development and small business financing. She was instrumental in starting the Southeastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation in 1982. Prior to starting SEED, she served as the Economic Development Director for the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD). Gooch-Smith holds a bachelor's degree in government from Suffolk University and also attended graduate school at Boston University.

**Stephen P. Grady, Area Director,
North Atlantic Investment Services
U.S. Economic Development Administration
Philadelphia Regional Office
The Curtis Center, Suite 140 South,
601 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
215.597.0642 • sgrady@eda.doc.gov**

Stephen Grady serves as the principal advisor to the EDA Philadelphia Office Regional Director on the management and direction of major EDA regional programmatic and program support activities and issues. He is responsible for the development of a comprehensive federal investment strategy for the geographic sub-region of the Philadelphia Regional Office. He leads a program staff of Economic Development Representatives/Specialists and Construction Project Managers in assessing the highest-impact, highest policy-priority projects in development-ready distressed communities in the sub-region and ensures effective and efficient EDA program development and implementation. Grady holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Norwich University – The Military College of Vermont.

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**Jeffrey Hayes, Assistant Executive Director, North Country Council, 107 Glessner Road, Bethlehem, NH 03574
603.444.6303, ext. 22 • jhayes@nccouncil.org**

Jeffrey Hayes has worked with communities throughout northern New Hampshire and Vermont as an economic development planner and regional economist for the past 15 years. Hayes holds undergraduate degrees in economics, resource economics and philosophy from the University of New Hampshire, and a master's degree in regional planning from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

**Paul L. Hill, Ph.D., Director
West Virginia EPSCoR and Vice Chancellor for Science and Research West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
1018 Kanawha Blvd. E, Suite 1101, Charleston, WV 25301
304.558.4128 • paul.hill@wvresearch.org**

Dr. Paul Hill is the vice chancellor for science and research at the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. He also serves as Executive Director of the West Virginia Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, a state affiliate program of the National Science Foundation, and manages a number of competitive research programs with academic institutions throughout the state, including the WV Research Trust Fund – “Bucks for Brains” – as well as the WV Research Challenge Fund and WV Eminent Scholars initiative. Dr. Hill holds bachelor and master degrees from Marshall University and a Ph.D. from the University of Louisville in biology and chemistry.

**Nissen Isakov, President, LCR Electronics, Inc.
9 South Forest Avenue, Norristown, PA 19401
484.636.3201 • nisakov@lcr-inc.com**

Nissen Isakov is the Founder and President of LCR Electronics, Inc., a company specializing in the design, development and manufacture of Electro Magnetic Interference (EMI) Filters, Electronic Controls and Integrated Systems (Backplanes and Enclosures). LCR Electronics supplies these products and services to a diverse group of customers in both the commercial and military marketplaces. Isakov is a graduate of the University of Pretoria, South Africa with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering.

**Lenita Jacobs-Simmons, Regional Administrator
U.S. Dept. of Labor-Employment and Training Administration
170 S. Independence Mall West, Suite 825 East
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215.861.5201**

Lenita Jacobs-Simmons serves as Regional Administrator for DOL's Employment and Training Administration in Region 2, Philadelphia. She oversees ETA's Philadelphia region which includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Jacobs-Simmons is responsible for the oversight of almost \$2 billion in Federal grants administered by more than 120 grantee organizations. Previously, Jacobs-Simmons was the ETA Deputy Assistant Secretary for Field Operations. She is a graduate of Temple University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Jim Kelley, Project Engineer
Cumberland Plateau Co.
P.O. Box 548, 224 Clydesway Drive, Lebanon, VA 24266
276.889.1778 • jkelley@bvunet.net**

Jim Kelley is Project Manager for the Cumberland Plateau Company in Southwest Virginia. Prior to March 2009, Kelley was Vice-President of Operations for BVU's OptiNet Communications division. In 1999 he began managing the utilities' new telecommunications division. His responsibilities included management of the expansion, operation and maintenance of the OptiNet network that includes approximately 900 miles of carrier-class fiber-optic infrastructure. Kelley earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Commonwealth University, a degree in electrical engineering technology, and a master's degree in business administration.

**Mark Kleinschmidt, President
New Castle County Chamber of Commerce
12 Penns Way, New Castle, DE 19720
302.294.2066 • kleinschmidt@ncccc.com**

Mark Kleinschmidt was named President of the New Castle County Chamber of Commerce in 2006. He is responsible for managing the county's largest business trade organization with over 1,500 members. Prior to joining the chamber, Kleinschmidt owned and operated his own consulting company, MAK Associates, for ten years. The firm specialized in government relations, real estate development and project management. He attended the University of Delaware, where he studied economics and political science. He completed graduate work in finance at Temple University in Philadelphia.

**Frank Knott, President
ViTAL Economy, Inc.
P.O. Box 314, Riderwood, MD 21139
410.321.1484 • fknott@vitalconomy.com**

Frank Knott has led several regional community economic development initiatives for ViTAL Economy, Inc. Among them are the Tasmania Community Network for Tasmania, Australia; Clallam NetWorks on the Olympic Peninsula of Washington State; RAMP UP! for seven economic regions of British Columbia; Connect SI serving the 20-county southernmost region of Illinois, and Mobilize Maine serving the six economic development districts of Maine.

**Daniel S. Kuennen, Director, Rural Development Center
and Special Assistant to the President for University Outreach
and Community Engagement
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Princess Anne, MD 21853
410.651.6183 • dskuennen@umes.edu**

Daniel Kuennen has served as Executive Director of the Maryland Hawk Corporation, University of Maryland Eastern Shore's nonprofit affiliate, since 2003, as well as Director of the Rural Development Center and Special Assistant to the President for University Outreach and community Engagement since 1990. Kuennen has contributed to over 300 rural regional

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and community economic development projects. Kuennen holds master degrees in public administration and community development and a bachelor's degree in political science.

Elliot M. Levin

**11 Allison Drive, P.O. Box 5027, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034-0407
856.424.7100**

Elliot Levin is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. He is currently with a capital project management-consulting firm after having worked in the Philadelphia Office of PricewaterhouseCoopers. Past international business responsibilities have included European acquisitions, establishment of a Representative Office in China and Far East raw material procurement. Levin holds a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University and a master's degree from Philadelphia University.

Robert Lindyberg, P.E., Assistant Director

**AEWC Advanced Structures and Composites Center
The University of Maine**

5793 AEWB Building, Orono, ME 04469-5793

207.581.1465 • Robert_Lindyberg@umit.maine.edu

Dr. Robert Lindyberg is charged with coordinating and growing the marine-related composites R&D with industry clients. Dr. Lindyberg is AEWB's key point-of-contact to Maine's boatbuilding and composites industry, and is currently the Program Manager for the DeepCwind Consortium. He has managed projects ranging from the research and commercialization of AEWB-developed wood-composite products to the design and construction of the MAKO high-speed composite boat for the US Navy SEALs. Dr. Lindyberg received his BS in civil engineering from Union College, and his MS and Ph.D. from the University of Maine.

Denise McCloskey, Executive Director

Northwest Pennsylvania RPDC

395 Seneca Street, P.O. Box 1127, Oil City, PA 16301

814.677.4800 • denisem@nwcommission.org

Denise McCloskey currently leads a team of 21 employees as they seek to fulfill their mission working with a 22-member board of directors, comprising individuals from the public and private sectors. McCloskey holds a master's degree in business administration from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and is a graduate of the Oklahoma University Economic Development Institute.

Stephen Melnick, Director of Project Development

**Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation and
Director, Southside Bethlehem Keystone Innovation Zone
2158 Avenue C, Bethlehem, PA 18017**

610.266.7535 • smelnick@lehighvalley.org

Stephen Melnick joined the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) in 2001. He also assumed the leadership of the Southside Bethlehem Keystone Innovation Zone, a technology based initiative started by Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell. Prior to joining LVEDC, Melnick served as the Director of Development for the Bethlehem Economic

Development Corporation. Melnick holds a bachelor's degree in education/business from Parsons College in Fairfield, Iowa.

Russ Montgomery, President

**Regional Economic Development District Initiatives (REDDI)
1604 North Second Street, 1st Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17102
717.920.8450 • rmontgomery@reddionline.com**

Russ Montgomery facilitates the economic development initiatives for South-Central Pennsylvania. He has created an Agriculture Economic Development Initiative for REDDI, which links agriculture and economic development to create value-added opportunities for farmers. Montgomery is a graduate of Antioch College, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is a Certified Economic Development Finance Professional (CEDF).

Walter Mugdan, Director,

Emergency & Remedial Response Division

U.S. EPA Region 2

290 Broadway, New York, NY 10007-1866

212.637.4390 • mugdan.walter@epa.gov

Walter Mugdan heads a staff of 200 scientists, engineers and planners managing the region's air, water and hazardous waste programs. Prior to this appointment, Mugdan served as Regional Counsel, where since 1995 he headed a staff of 80 attorneys. For the prior ten years, Mugdan served as Deputy Regional Counsel. He joined EPA in 1975 as a staff attorney. Mugdan earned his Juris Doctor and his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Carrie Mulcaire, Senior Economic Development Associate International Economic Development Council (IEDC)

734 15th Street NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20005

202.942.9489 • cmulcaire@iedconline.org

Carrie Mulcaire is currently working on a UNIDO study on sustainable economic development in a rapidly developing industrial community in Shandong Province, P.R. China. Prior to joining IEDC, Mulcaire worked as an associate at Economics Research Associates (ERA) in Washington, D.C. and served as a consultant on an Asian Development Bank technical assistance project in mainland China. She obtained a master's degree in city and regional planning and a bachelor's degree in business administration from UC Berkeley.

John R. Mullin, Ph.D., FAICP, Dean of the Graduate School University of Massachusetts

514 Goodell Building, 140 Hicks Way, Amherst, MA 01003

jmullin@provost.umass.edu

Dr. John R. Mullin is the Dean of the Graduate School, Director of the Center for Economic Development, and Professor of Urban Planning in the Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning Department at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has a bachelor's degree in government from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; a master's degree in city planning from the University of Rhode Island; a master's degree in business administration from Boston University, and a Ph. D. in regional planning and resource development from the University of Waterloo in Canada.

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Neal E. Noyes, Executive Director
The Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission
701 E. Franklin Street, Suite 501, Richmond, VA 23219
804.786.2272 • neal.noyes@tic.virginia.gov

Neal Noyes was appointed in 2006 by Governor Kaine to his current position. He reports directly to the Commonwealth Secretary of Commerce and Trade and to the Chairman of a 31-member Board of Directors comprising cabinet level officials, state legislators, active tobacco producers and citizen members. Prior to his appointment, Noyes served as EDA Economic Development Representative to Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia. He also worked at the EDA Philadelphia Regional Office for several years in senior staff positions. Noyes holds a bachelor's degree from Earlham College and a master's degree from Temple University.

The Honorable Michael Nutter, Mayor, City of Philadelphia
1401 John F. Kennedy Boulevard, Philadelphia, PA 19102
215.686.6178

Mayor Michael A. Nutter is a lifetime Philadelphian with an accomplished career of public service, business and financial administration. Nutter served as a City Councilman for nearly 15 years. On November 6, 2007, Nutter was elected Mayor of Philadelphia and was sworn in on January 7, 2008. Before pursuing his career in public service, Nutter worked as an investment manager at one of the nation's leading minority-owned investment banking and brokerage firms. He graduated from the Wharton School of Business in 1979.

Erik Pages, President
EntreWorks Consulting
3407 North Edison Street, Arlington, VA 22207
703.237.2506 • epages@entworks.net

Erik R. Pages is the President of EntreWorks Consulting, an economic development consulting and policy development firm focused on helping communities and organizations achieve their entrepreneurial potential. Previously, Dr. Pages served as Policy Director for the National Commission on Entrepreneurship (NCOE). Pages received his Ph.D. from Georgetown University, where he now serves as an Adjunct Professor. He is a graduate of Dickinson College (Phi Beta Kappa) and the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs.

Michael P. Pennington, Executive Director
Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland
100 Pearl Street, Suite A, Snow Hill, MD 21863
410.632.4700 • mike@lowershore.org

Michael P. Pennington is the Executive Director of the Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Lower Shore Workforce Investment Board and helped oversee the development of the One Stop Job Market in Salisbury with the Workforce Investment Act partner agencies.

Dino Ramos, Chief Operating Officer
World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia (WTCGP)
1500 JFK Boulevard, Suite 305, Philadelphia PA 19102
215.586.4246 • dramos@wtcphila.org

Dino Ramos oversees the Pennsylvania Export Block Program, the Emerging Markets, and the Latin American Trade Development Program, Developing International Opportunities for Industry Clusters, and International Design and Engineering Consortium. As Export Sales Manager for the Hunt Corporation, Ramos was responsible for sales and marketing in over 50 countries. Prior to this, he spent five years working in Singapore as Far East Sales Manager for King Press and another five years in Vietnam and Thailand for the U.S. General Accounting Office. He holds a bachelor's degree in business management from East Tennessee State University and attended George Washington Graduate School of Business.

Carol Rogers, Deputy Director
Indiana University Business Research Center
777 Indiana Avenue, Suite 210, Indianapolis, IN 46202
317.274.2205 • rogersc@iupui.edu

Carol Rogers directs the Indiana University Business Center's information systems and services. She is also adjunct faculty in the School of Journalism at IUPUI, sits on the boards of the Association of University Business and Economic Research and the Indiana Geographic Information Council, and is the Governor's Census Liaison. Rogers holds a master's degree in information science from Indiana University and a bachelor's degree with triple majors in English, mass communication and history from Purdue University.

Michael Scott, Director, Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative (ESRGC) of the Richard A. Henson School of Science and Technology at Salisbury University, Salisbury University, Department of Geography, Henson School of Science and Technology, Salisbury, MD 21802
410.543.6456 • msscott@salisbury.edu

Michael Scott is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Geosciences at Salisbury University and the Director of the Master of Science in GIS and Public Administration degree program. He is also the Director of the Eastern Shore Regional GIS Cooperative. Scott has a doctorate and a master's degree in geography from the University of South Carolina and a bachelor's degree in geography from Salisbury (State) University.

Theodore Settle, Director, Office of Economic Development Virginia Tech
702 University City Blvd., (MC 0373), Blacksburg, VA 24061
540.231.9940 • settle@vt.edu

Ted Settle provides leadership to university activities and initiatives that generate economic development throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. He serves as the primary access point for business, state and local government agencies, and other potential clients and partners to the university's products and services. Settle holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Iowa State University, a master's degree from Harvard

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University, and a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Michigan.

**Howard B. Slaughter, Jr., D.Sc., MBA, President and CEO
Landmarks Community Capital Corporation
100 West Station Square Dr., Suite 400, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412.471.5808 • drhbs@landmarksgccc.com**

Dr. Howard Slaughter serves as the CEO of Landmarks Community Capital Corporation (LCCC) and CEO of Landmarks Development Corporation. The nonprofit corporation's focus is to provide equity, debt, and short and intermediate term financing for housing and economic development activities in western Pennsylvania, eastern Ohio and West Virginia markets. Dr. Slaughter holds five earned degrees, including a Doctorate in Information Systems and Communications from Robert Morris University, a master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University in public management and a master's degree from Point Park University.

**Bob Starzynski, Director, Innovation Adoption Grant Fund
Innovation Works
2000 Technology Drive, Suite 250, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412.681.1520 • bob@innovationworks.org**

Bob Starzynski oversees the operations of Innovation Works (IW) programs focused on providing assistance to regional manufacturers. He manages the fund and provides companies with direct connections to regional centers of excellence. Prior to joining IW, he worked for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, where he helped launch and manage a weekly technology business section for the newspaper. Before that, he was an entrepreneur and Editor-in-Chief of TECHcapital magazine. In less than three years, Starzynski built the magazine to employ 25 professionals and reach an audience of 200,000 readers.

**Willie C. Taylor, Regional Director, EDA Phila Regional Office
215.597.4603 • taylor@eda.doc.gov**

Willie C. Taylor provides managerial oversight for the EDA Philadelphia Regional Office. Taylor rejoined EDA in April 2008. In his first stint with EDA, he served as the Economic Development Representative for Florida and South Carolina for nearly a decade. Prior to his return, Taylor worked for the Escambia County (FL) Board of County Commissioners as the Assistant County Administrator for Community Services and Public Services agencies. Taylor holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Florida A & M University and a master's degree in city and regional planning from Clemson University.

**Lew Villotti, Planning and Development Director
Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission
425 Sixth Avenue, Suite 2500, Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412.391.5590, ext. 302 • lewvillotti@spcregion.org**

Lew Villotti is currently the Planning and Development Director for the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Local Development District and the Economic Development District for the 10 county region of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Previously, he served as a Project Manager for Michael Baker Jr., Inc. He holds

a bachelor's and master's degree from California University of Pennsylvania.

**Scott Warner, Executive Director
Mid-Shore Regional Council
8737 Brooks Drive, Suite 101, Easton, MD 21601
410.770.4798 • swarner@midshore.org**

Scott Warner has been the Executive Director of the Mid-Shore Regional Council since October 2005. Warner brought a wide range of vocational experience to the MSRC, from the start up and management of several rural based businesses to being the Executive Administrator of a large Catholic Parish. Warner holds a bachelor's degree in business and management from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Jeremiah White, Jr., Co-founder and Chair, Osiris Group, Inc.,
Co-founder and Chair, iPRAXIS 7
3624 Market Street, Suite 1SB, Philadelphia, PA 19103
215.384.1944**

Jeremiah J. White's current venture is Jeremiah J. White & Associates, a business strategy consulting firm. He also co-founded Osiris Group, Inc. Under his leadership, Osiris has developed marketing campaigns and Internet strategies for Philadelphia's major tourism organizations and attractions. The firm has also produced brands and logos, market research studies, marketing collateral, complex Web sites and social media applications for numerous life sciences companies, industry associations and regional economic development organizations. White earned his master's degree in health services planning and administration from Antioch University.

**Tonia R. Williams, CEcD, Area Director, South Atlantic
Investment Services, Economic Development Administration
Philadelphia Regional Office
215.597.7882 • trwilliams@eda.doc.gov**

Tonia Reed Williams is a certified economic developer (CEcD) possessing 18 years of community and economic development experience. She joined EDA in 1997. For the last 12 years, she has served as EDA's EDR for the states of Georgia, Tennessee, and Mississippi. She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute and holds a master's degree in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a bachelor's degree from Wilberforce University.

**David F. Witschi, Associate Director,
DoD's Office of Economic Adjustment
400 Army Navy Drive, Suite 200, Arlington, VA 22202-4704
703.604.5820 • David.witschi@wso.who.mil**

David Witschi is an Associate Director of the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), a Field Activity within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Prior to joining OEA, Witschi served 27 years in various positions with EDA. Witschi holds a bachelor's degree in forestry from the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse University, a civil engineering degree from SUNY at Buffalo, and is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute's Leadership for a Democratic Society.