



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

(As of May 9, 2008)

Ziona Austrian, Director, Center for Economic Development, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University, Phone: 216.687.2000, z.austrian@csuohio.edu

Dr. Austrian's primary research interests are urban and regional economics, economic development, industrial clusters, regional indicators, and economic impact. She also manages a statewide network of urban and rural universities that are collaborating to develop, maintain and use for research and analysis of the Ohio Economic Development Information (ES202) Database. In addition, Austrian teaches a graduate-level course on economic development plans and strategies, which includes economic impact modeling. She received her Ph.D. and master's degree in economics from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio and her bachelor's degree in economics from Tel-Aviv University, Israel.

The Honorable Sandy K. Baruah, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230

Sandy K. Baruah (Bah-roo-ah) was nominated by President Bush on September 6, 2005 to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, and confirmed by the U.S. Senate on December 17, 2005. As a senior member of the Bush Administration's economic team, Assistant Secretary Baruah leads the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Commerce on domestic economic development matters. Assistant Secretary Baruah joined the Bush Administration in 2001, serving in various roles in the Commerce Department prior to his current post. Assistant Secretary Baruah holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Oregon and earned an MBA from Willamette University.

H. Lee Beach, Jr., Ph.D., Executive Director, Hampton Roads Research Partnership, Applied Research Center, 12050 Jefferson Avenue, Room 617, Newport News, Virginia 23606, lbeach@hamptonroadsrp.org

Dr. Lee Beach is executive director of the Hampton Roads Research Partnership (HRRP) and director of the Economic Development Administration's HRRP-University Center. HRRP is a consortium of seven universities, two National Laboratories, and a Research Institute focused on technology-based economic development. Beach is an internationally recognized authority in the field of hypersonic propulsion and has played a lead role in developing the technology for hypersonic aircraft; he has more than 40 publications documenting this work. He has bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. degrees from N.C. State University.

Margaret Brennan, Director for Economic Development, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, 88 Lipman Drive Room 113, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901, Phone: 732.932.1000 ext. 569, brennan@aesop.rutgers.edu

Margaret Brennan is responsible for the creation and implementation of new economic development initiatives such as the Rutgers Food Innovation Center. As co-founder, she played a key role in the center's development, organization and strategic direction. Brennan continues to provide administrative oversight of this center, as well as other programs, such as the Rutgers EcoComplex, Rutgers Food Policy Institute and the NJAES Technology Transfer program. She has bachelor's and master's degrees in economics and is currently completing a Ph.D. in energy policy. She has expertise in economic development strategies, bioenergy and land preservation strategies.

Timothy Brennan, Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 26 Central Street, Suite 34, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089, Phone: 413.781.6045, brennan@pvpc.org

Tim Brennan joined the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) in 1973 and since 1980 has served as the agency's executive director. Brennan has previously served as the chair of the Nationwide Institute for the Regional Community but is also active in many other organizations. Brennan is an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts and also serves on the faculty of the Graduate Public Administration Program at Westfield State College. He 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.

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



Patricia Brennen, Loan Program Director, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, 651 Montmorenci Road, Ridgway, Pennsylvania 15853, Phone: 814.773.3162, pbrennen@ncentral.com

Patricia Brennen is responsible for the administration of the Pennsylvania Small Business First Fund and First Industries Fund, the ARC and EDA Revolving Loan Fund Programs, the USDA Intermediary Relending Programs and the SBA Micro loan program. Brennen has served as Vice Chairperson of the Potter County Project Self-Sufficiency Task Force, Chairperson of the Elk County Housing Rehab, Inc. Board of Directors, member/partner of the Team Pennsylvania Export Network, and the Elk County Redevelopment Authority Board of Directors. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science and psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the NDC Economic Development Finance Professional certification and the Pennsylvania Professional Economic Development Certification.

Andrew Chafin, CEO, Cumberland Plateau PDC, P.O. Box 548, Clydesway Road, Russell County Industrial Park, Lebanon, Virginia 24266, Phone: 276.889.1778, accppdc@naxs.net

Andrew Chafin became the first executive director of the newly created Cumberland Plateau Planning District Commission in 1968. He now serves as CEO of the PDC and the Cumberland Plateau Company. He has also worked with the West Virginia State Road Commission's Advanced Planning Division as a planning technician, a writer-planner for the Community Advisory Service of the West Virginia Department of Commerce, and managing director for the Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce. Chafin holds a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Northern Colorado.

Gary F. Christie, Executive Director, Virginia's Region 2000 Local Government Council, 828 Main Street, 12th Floor, Lynchburg, Virginia 24504, Phone: 434.845.2000, gchristie@region2000.org

Gary F. Christie builds regional coalitions as the executive director of the Region 2000 Local Government Council in Lynchburg, Virginia and surrounding counties. Christie's prior public service experience has included serving as executive director of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission in Culpeper, Virginia, city manager in South Boston, Virginia and Princeton, West Virginia, and county administrator in New Kent, Virginia.

Chris Coburn, Executive Director, Cleveland Clinic Foundation Innovations (CCFI), 9500 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44195, Phone: 216.445.4008, coburnc@ccf.org

Chris Coburn has been executive director of CCFI since its establishment in 2000. He is a recognized authority of technology commercialization and has consulted and spoken on the subject throughout North America and in 18 countries. He leads a team of a dozen industry veterans. Coburn holds a master's degree from George Washington University.

Maureen Connolly, Development Director, EDC of Northern Vermont, Inc., 2 North Main Street, Suite 301, St. Albans, Vermont 05478, Phone: 802.524.4546, Maureen@edcnv.org

Maureen Connolly is the project manager for North-Link, a 400-mile fiber optic network connecting two countries, three states and eight of the most rural counties in the United States. In her role as development director, Connolly developed the first cross-border international partnership in the history of the United States and Canada for Quebec and the six northern counties of Vermont. She also provides financial and construction project management services in compliance with federal, state and local regulations for multi-jurisdictional projects that encompass multiple counties, countries and states. Connolly provides project management for a project portfolio in excess of \$20 million, to enhance economic development in Vermont's most economically distressed areas.

Tom Crouch, Ph.D., Senior Curator, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, Room 3232, MRC312, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012, Phone: 202.633.2635, CrouchT@si.edu

Dr. Tom Crouch has served both the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) and the National Museum of American History (NMAH) in a variety of curatorial and administrative posts. Throughout his career, he has played a major role in planning exhibitions and managing museum collections. President Clinton appointed Crouch to the Chairmanship of the First Flight Centennial Federal Advisory Board, an organization created to advise the Centennial of Flight Commission on activities planned to commemorate the 100th anniversary of powered flight.

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



Carolyn A. Dekle, Executive Director, South Florida Regional Planning Commission, 3440 Hollywood Boulevard, Suite 140, Hollywood, Florida 33021, 954.985.4416

Carolyn A. Dekle is the executive director of the South Florida Regional Planning Council. Previously, she served as the Council's assistant director and was responsible for program management. Dekle's specific responsibilities include development and administration of the local plan review process and development and implementation of the Strategic Regional Policy Plan for South Florida. Building consensus around the identification and resolution of critical issues and policies for the South Florida area is an area of primary responsibility.

Caroline Engel, Business Finance Manager, Racine County Economic Development Corporation, 2320 Renaissance Boulevard, Sturtevant, WI 53177, Phone: 262.898.7420

Caroline Engel has served as business finance manager for the Racine County Economic Development Corporation (RCEDC), for 14 years managing its loan portfolio and handling underwriting of its loans. The RCEDC currently administers eight different loan funds, including a Racine County EDA-Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) and a City of Racine EDA-RLF. Prior to working at RCEDC, Engel worked at Fleet Mortgage Corporation servicing residential mortgages. Engel has a bachelor's degree in economics and french from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire.

Benjamin Erulkar, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development and Chief Operating Officer, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230

Benjamin Erulkar has served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development since December 2005. In this capacity, Erulkar directs and coordinates all operations of the Economic Development Administration (EDA), including strategic planning efforts. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Assistant Secretary, Erulkar served as EDA's Chief Counsel where he led and managed all aspects of EDA's legal practice and policy. Erulkar holds a J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, an M.A. with Distinction in international relations from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, and an A.B. magna cum laude in government from Harvard University.

Edward Feser, Ph.D., Professor and Interim Head, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 111 Temple Buell Hall, 611 Taft Drive (MC 619), Champaign, Illinois 61820, Phone: 217.244.6767, feser@uiuc.edu
Dr. Edward Feser teaches courses in state and local economic development policy and strategy, regional development theory, and methods of urban and regional analysis. He is a specialist in state and local technology policy, industry clusters and industry cluster policy, regional modeling and analytical methods for economic development planning. Feser has served in government as Assistant Secretary for Policy, Research and Strategic Planning in the North Carolina Department of Commerce, and he continues to work regularly with state and local agencies, corporations, non-profit development organizations, and planning firms on economic development policy issues, strategy design and economic analysis.

David P. Forsberg, President, Worcester Business Development Commission (WBDC), 89 Shrewsbury Street, Suite 300, Worcester, Massachusetts 01604, Phone: 508.755.5734, Forsberg@worcesterbdc.com

David P. Forsberg is responsible for directing strategic development initiatives to meet the business goals of the corporation, as well as developing alliances with the regional business community. Forsberg has led the effort to revitalize the Prescott/Grove Street's area of the city by establishing a strategic partnership between the WBDC and WPI. This partnership is now developing Gateway Research Park which is a major brownfields reclamation project that will change the face of downtown Worcester for years to come. Forsberg is a graduate of Bowdoin College and received his master's in urban affairs from Boston University. He also studied at Harvard Divinity School.

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



William H. Graham, Mayor, City of Scottsburg, 2 East McClain Avenue, Scottsburg, Indiana 47170, Phone: 812.752.3169, mygr@c3bb.com

William H. Graham is currently serving his fifth term as the Mayor of the City of Scottsburg. Graham owned and operated a number of businesses prior to becoming mayor. Graham began his service to the city in 1977 as a member of the City's Common Council. Mayor Graham has helped to form a number of organizations and committees to empower the citizens of Scottsburg to take pride in their community and help to improve their overall quality of life. At the national level, Graham has served as the Chair of the National Rural Development Partnership and held executive office with the American Public Power Association.

Marc Hatton, Redevelopment Project Manager, City of Kalamazoo, 445 W. Michigan Avenue, Suite 101, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007, Phone: 269.337.8044, hattonm@kalamazoo.org

Marc Hatton is the redevelopment project manager for the City of Kalamazoo. He has lived in the Kalamazoo/Battle Creek, Michigan area for over 35 years. Hatton has over 15 years experience in the environmental profession both as a private consultant and in management of the City of Kalamazoo's Brownfield Redevelopment Initiative. He earned a bachelor's degree in field hydrogeology from Western Michigan University in 1992.

Edward (Ned) Hill, Ph.D., Vice President for Economic Development, Professor, Cleveland State University, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, 2121 Euclid Avenue, UR 308, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, Phone: 216.687.2135, ned@urban.csuohio.edu

Dr. Edward W. (Ned) Hill is Professor and Distinguished Scholar of Economic Development at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs of Cleveland State University. He is also a Nonresident Senior Fellow of the Metropolitan Policy Program at The Brookings Institution, an independent public policy research organization in Washington, D.C. Hill edited Economic Development Quarterly from 1994 to 2005. Economic Development Quarterly is dedicated to publishing research on the development of the American economy. He earned his Ph.D. in both economics and urban and regional planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1981.

Mark D. Hunt, Senior Planner, Bi-State Regional Commission, 1504 Third Avenue, P.O. Box 3368, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-3368, Phone: 309.793.6302 ext. 131, mhunt@bistateonline.org

Mark D. Hunt has served as a planner at Bi-State Regional Commission since October 2003. Hunt's core work areas at Bi-State include transportation planning, economic development, public safety and data analysis. He holds a bachelor's degree in geography from Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, and is currently enrolled in the Public Administration Program at Iowa State University. Prior to joining the Bi-State staff, Hunt spent seven years in the U.S. Coast Guard, with stations in Maine and Alaska.

Seema D. Iyer, Ph.D., Chief of Research & Strategic Planning, Baltimore City Department of Planning, 417 East Fayette Street, 8th Floor, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, Phone: 410.396.7272, seema.iyer@baltimorecity.gov

Seema D. Iyer, Ph.D. has been Chief of Research & Strategic Planning for Baltimore City's Planning Department since 2005. The Division is responsible for maintaining and updating the City's comprehensive master plan and comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS) and producing the City's cooperative forecast in collaboration with the member jurisdictions of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council. Prior to joining the Department, Dr. Iyer was a Visiting Lecturer in City & Regional Planning at the University of Pennsylvania. She received her Ph.D. in Planning from the University of Michigan in 2003 and has published several articles on comprehensive planning and processes in post-communist countries.

Maureen Klovers, Program Analyst, Economic Development Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230

Maureen Klovers is a Program Analyst in the Office of Management Services at the Economic Development Administration in Washington, D.C. She coordinated EDA's response to the Office of the Inspector General's (OIG) Revolving Loan Fund program audit, and she is currently tasked with implementing the OIG's audit recommendations. A 2006 Presidential Management Fellow, Klovers received a master's of business administration and a master's of public policy from Georgetown University.

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



Ray Leach, Executive Director, JumpStart, 737 Bolivar Road, Suite 3000, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, Phone: 216.363.3400, ray.leach@jumpstartinc.org

Ray Leach brings his energy and leadership experiences from founding five high-growth entrepreneurial and intrapreneurial endeavors in the last 20 years. Since 2003, Leach's time has been focused on creating and leading JumpStart, one of the most active and innovative venture development organizations in the United States. His career began at IBM and has been principally focused on information technology companies. Leach is a Sloan Fellow and earned an MBA from the MIT Sloan School of Management. He also earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Akron.

Valerie McCall, Chief of Government Affairs, City of Cleveland, Office of the Mayor, Phone: 216.664.3990

Valerie J. McCall was named Chief of Government Affairs by Mayor Frank G. Jackson at the onset of his administration. McCall serves as the administration's primary liaison to all federal entities and the state government, where she is the registered lobbyist for the city. She is also responsible for monitoring the Jackson administration's appointments to internal and external boards and commissions and managing all of the City of Cleveland's International Programs. She has a bachelor's degree in social work from Cleveland State University and a master's degree in public administration from CSU's Levin College of Urban Affairs.

Patrick Mitchell, Executive Director, Maryland Broadband Cooperative, Inc., 1502 Pemberton Drive, Suite D, Salisbury, Maryland 21801, Phone: 410.341.6322, pmitchell@mdbc.us

Lawrence Molnar, Director, University of Michigan, Office of the Vice President for Research EDA University Center for Economic Diversification Associate Director, Institute for Research on Labor, Employment and the Economy Carver-Gunn Building, 506 E. Liberty St., 3rd Floor, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, Phone: 734.998.6239

Lawrence A. Molnar has over 25 years of experience in the academic and private sectors in research and projects relative to economic development, business incubation, technology transfer, and information science. He is a research faculty member at the University of Michigan, within the Office of the Vice President for Research. He is Director of the EDA University Center for Economic Diversification at the University of Michigan and is the Associate Director of the Business and Industrial Assistance Division. Molnar earned his bachelor's degree in journalism and master's degree in telecommunication/management from Michigan State University, College of Communication Arts and Sciences. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Russ Montgomery, President, REDDI, 1604 North Second Street, 1st Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102, Phone: 717.920.8450, rmontgomery@reddionline.com

Russ Montgomery is responsible for the facilitation of the regional economic development initiatives for South-central Pennsylvania, which contributes to revitalization of distressed places in the urban and rural communities. He has created an agriculture economic development initiative for REDDI and is one of the founders of the Agriculture Economic Development Alliance (AEDA) that includes farmers, agriculture-related and economic development organizations. AEDA's charge is to link agriculture and economic development to create value-added opportunities for farmers. Previously, Montgomery was a Workforce Development Consultant with York County Economic Development Corporation.

John Mullin, Ph.D., Dean of the Graduate School, Director, Center for Economic Development, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 514 Goodell Building, 140 Hicks Way, Office 1, Amherst, Massachusetts 01003-9333, Phone: 413.545.5271, 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. Mullin has a bachelor's degree in government from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst; a master's in city planning from the University of Rhode Island; a master's in business administration from Boston University, and a Ph. D. in regional planning and resource development from the University of Waterloo in Canada. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners and a Senior Fulbright Scholar.

H. Philip Paradise, Jr., Regional Director, Atlanta Regional Office, Economic Development Administration, 401 West Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1820, Atlanta, Georgia 30308, 404.730.3019, pparadice@eda.doc.gov

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Phil Paradise is responsible for implementation of EDA's mission in the eight-state Atlanta Region. His office actively fosters entrepreneurship, innovation, and productivity through investments in infrastructure development, capacity building and business



development in order to attract private capital investments and higher skill, higher wage jobs to regions experiencing substantial and persistent economic distress. Paradise's professional experiences include the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, where he served during the banking and real estate crisis; vice president of a non-profit trade association representing the financial services industry; and vice president of a Wall Street investment banking firm. He is a graduate of Georgia Tech and received his MBA from Georgia State University.

David Rundgren, Executive Director, New River Valley PDC, 6580 Valley Center Drive, Suite 124, Radford, Virginia 24141, Phone: 540.639.9313, dave.nrvpdc@nrpdc.org

David Rundgren is the executive director of the New River Valley Planning District Commission and serves as director of Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority. He has provided assistance in the implementation of regional projects including the New River Valley Regional Competitiveness Partnership and the New River Valley Competitiveness Center, and he served as president of the Development District Association of Appalachia. He has worked to secure federal investments to improve job opportunities and incomes, often utilizing the programs of the Economic Development Administration, Rural Development, and the Appalachian Regional Commission. Rundgren holds a bachelor's degree in forestry from Colorado State University and a master's degree in urban and regional planning from Virginia Tech.

John Ryan, State Director, Senator Sherrod Brown's Office, 1301 East Ninth St., Suite 1710, Cleveland, Ohio 44114, Phone: 216.222.7272, John_ryan@brown.senate.gov

John W. Ryan served as the campaign manager for Senator Sherrod Brown's successful 2006 Senate race in Ohio. Ryan took a leave of absence as the executive secretary of the Cleveland AFL-CIO to run Brown's campaign. Under Ryan's leadership, the AFL-CIO vastly improved its grassroots political operation, electing many elected officials and passing pro-labor legislation. Prior to being elected to the Cleveland AFL-CIO's top spot, Ryan was president of the Communications Workers of America Local 4309 and the CWA Greater Cleveland Council for 15 years.

C. Robert Sawyer, Regional Director, Chicago Regional Office, Economic Development Administration, 111 North Canal Street, Suite 855, Chicago, Illinois 60606-7208, Phone: 312.353.7706, rsawyer@eda.doc.gov

Regional Director for EDA in Chicago since 1995, Robert Sawyer held a number of other positions in that office, including economic development representative for Indiana and the Chicago metro area. Before joining EDA in 1984, he held private-sector management positions and worked as a consultant with international firms. He served as a naval officer and earned an A.B. from Brown University, and an MS and an MBA from Stanford University.

Ted Settle, Director of Continuing and Professional Education, Virginia Tech, 702 University City Boulevard (0364), Blacksburg, Virginia 24061, Phone: 540.231.7887, settle@vt.edu

Prior to his current position, Ted Settle was Director of Continuing Education at Virginia Tech from 1992-2002 and Director of the NCR Management College at NCR Corporation from 1980-1990. He earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from Iowa State University, an MBA degree from Harvard University, and his Ph.D. degree in higher education administration from the University of Michigan.

Patty Sheetz, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, Economic Development Administration, 1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230

Patty Sheetz has been EDA's Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs since 2007. Prior to joining EDA, she served as Chief of Staff to two Members of Congress for five years and a Management Consultant to congressional offices for 15 years. She is a graduate of Smith College.

08 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



**Phillip Singerman, Ph.D., B & D Consulting, 805 15th Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20005,
phillip.singerman@bakerd.com**

Phillip Singerman is a recognized national innovator in public/private partnerships to promote local economic development. His 30-year career includes positions in the public — local, state and federal levels — and private sectors. Singerman was appointed U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development by President Bill Clinton and served from 1995-1999. In this position, he directed EDA the federal government's lead economic development agency, whose \$400 million annual budget provided grants to distressed communities. He received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin College and a Ph.D. from Yale University and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Colombia, South America.

Richard Stuebi, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cleveland Foundation, 1422 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1300, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, Phone: 216.861.3810, rstuebi@clevelandfn.org

Richard Stuebi joined the foundation in March 2006 as the BP Fellow for Energy and Environmental Advancement. He works with a broad spectrum of public sector and private interests to promote commercial activity in advanced energy in the Cleveland area. He has nearly 20 years of experience as an executive, entrepreneur and consultant in the energy industry, with most of the past decade focused on advanced energy technologies and business opportunities. Prior to joining the foundation, Stuebi founded NextWave Energy, a professional firm helping client companies capitalize on new business opportunities involving innovative energy technologies. Previously, Stuebi was a senior vice president at Louis Dreyfus, the global commodity-trading firm, and was a management consultant in the energy practice of McKinsey & Co. He earned degrees in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University.

John Swanson, Executive Director, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, 6100 Southport Road, Portage, Indiana 46368, Phone: 219.763.6060, jswanson@nirpc.org

John Swanson has responsibility for directing the overall planning and operating activities of the agency's 32 member staff and administering its \$3 million annual budget and work program. Swanson previously worked in numerous positions for the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission from 1973-2003. He received his bachelor's degree, summa cum laude in political science from DePaul University and holds masters' degrees in political science and public policy and administration from the University of Wisconsin — Madison. He was awarded the Arthur J. Schmitt Scholarship and a Ford Foundation Fellowship for his graduate work.

Willie C. Taylor, Regional Director, Philadelphia Regional Office, Economic Development Administration, The Curtis Center, 601 Walnut Street, Suite 140 — South, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106, Phone: 215.597.4603, wtaylor@eda.gov

Willie C. Taylor is the Director for the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Philadelphia Regional Office where he provides managerial oversight for the agency's financial resources and staff. Taylor rejoined the EDA family in April 2008. In his first stint with EDA, Taylor served as the Economic Development Representative for Florida and South Carolina for nearly a decade. Prior to his return to EDA, Taylor served as Assistant County Administrator for Community Services and Public Services Agencies with the Escambia County (FL) Board of County Commissioners. He managed an annual budget in excess of \$140 million and provided oversight for 1,100 employees covering eighteen departments, including Public Safety, Purchasing, and Community Corrections. Taylor holds a master's degree in city and regional planning from Clemson University and a bachelor's degree in economics from Florida A & M University.

Patricia Thorne, Senior Project Finance Manager, Virginia Small Business Finance Authority

Patricia Thorne is senior project finance manager for the Financial Services Division of the Department of Business Assistance. The staff of Financial Services administers the financing programs of the Virginia Small Business Financing Authority (VSBFA). Patricia has been in her present position since September 1997. Previously she worked at Signet Bank for 26 years. Prior to leaving Signet, she worked in the Government Loan Center within the credit center of the bank. While there, she underwrote conventional small business loans and specialized in the government assisted loans such as SBA or VSBFA guaranteed loans. She attended Virginia Commonwealth University and majored in psychology.

08

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14, 2008 | CLEVELAND, OH | CROWNE PLAZA



Jayne (Jay) Trusty, Executive Director, Southwest Minnesota RDC, 2401 Broadway Avenue, Suite 1, Slayton, Minnesota 56172, Phone: 507.836.8547, execdir@swrdc.org

Jay Trusty previously served as the community health services administrator for Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone Public Health Services, a four-county joint powers agency in southwest Minnesota. Trusty holds a bachelor's degree in government from St. John's University and a master's degree in special studies: public administration from St. Cloud State University.

Mark White, Ph.D., Training and Technical Assistance Programs Director, Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness (CREC), 3330 N. Washington Boulevard, Suite 250, Arlington, Virginia 22201, Phone: 703.522.4980, mwhite@c2er.org

Dr. Mark White joined CREC in September 2004 to manage a number of research and technical assistance projects. The most recent projects include a workforce supply and demand study for the North Carolina Workforce Commission and helping facilitate discussions to lead to policy recommendations addressing the issues raised in that report. He also worked with Arizona's Data Estimates and Projections Taskforce (ADEPT) to support their efforts to improve the states employment and population data. Prior to joining the Center, White served as a post-doctoral research fellow at the National University of Ireland's Centre for Innovation and Structural Change (CISC) in Galway. He earned his Ph.D. in international studies with a focus on economic development from the University of Miami, his master's degree in geography from the Maxwell School Of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University, and his bachelor's degree in geography at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

Bradley Whitehead, President, The Fund for Our Economic Future, 1422 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1510, Cleveland, Ohio 44115, Phone: 216.925.4900, bwhitehead@futurefundneo.org

Brad Whitehead is President of the Fund for Our Economic Future, a collaboration of philanthropy in Northeast Ohio working on regional economic development. Whitehead works with partners in the private and public sectors to make sure the economic development initiatives of Advance Northeast Ohio, the region's economic action plan, are implemented and result in economic growth.