

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

JUSTIN ANDERSON – is an Intellectual Property Associate for University of Wisconsin-Madison Alumni Association Research Foundation (WARF). Justin manages the intake of new inventions, application preparation, and patent prosecution of physical and life science technologies in the areas of chemistry, engineering, biotechnology and medical devices.

WARF was created in 1925 to patent and license the discoveries of UW-Madison researchers. WARF manages 800 pending and 1,200 issued U.S. patents. It offers more than 1,000 technologies for licensing and maintains more than 380 active commercial license agreements. It also holds equity in 40 UW-Madison spinoff companies.

Justin holds a B.S. in Chemical and Biological Engineering and a B.S. in Biochemistry, both from UW-Madison. He is a registered Patent Agent with engineering experience in process design, optimization, chemical analysis and project management.

RODNEY ANDREWS – is the Director of the University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research. His research interests include production of fuels and chemicals from coal and other fossil resources, thermochemical conversion processes for coal and biomass, and carbon fiber production and use. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering.

Dr. Andrews has directed major multi-university and industry-academic collaborative projects. He has published more than 65 peer-reviewed journal articles and four book chapters. He has been granted five patents, is on the Honorary Editorial Advisory board for the journal *Carbon* and currently serves on the Kentucky Statewide STEM Education Taskforce. Dr. Andrews served as Interim Director of the Kentucky-Argonne Battery Manufacturing Research and Development Center, a joint venture between the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Argonne National Laboratory focused on improving

US competitiveness in automotive battery manufacturing.

Dr. Andrews received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Michigan State University (1994) and his Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Kentucky (1999). He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Kentucky.

VICKIE YATES BROWN – is an attorney with extensive experience in health care law and finance, specializing in privacy, security, and technology transfer. She has worked closely with the University of Louisville Foundation and President James Ramsey planning development, building partnerships and securing Tax Increment Finance (TIF) funding for Nucleus. She was named president and CEO of Nucleus in the spring of 2008.

Vickie Yates Brown is an experienced leader in health and sciences law and business. Currently, Brown serves as the Chair of the Health and Life Sciences Practice group at Frost Brown Todd. She is the chairwoman of the Health Law Section of the American Bar Association. She is Vice Chair of the Health Enterprises Network. And, she sits on the editorial board of the BNA Health Law Reporter.

Vickie Yates Brown has served on the Advisory Council for the Human Genome Project and National Institute of Diabetes, Digestion and Kidney Disease as part of the National Institutes of Health. She has delivered numerous national and international presentations and co-authored three publications on health care law and government regulation.

JOHN W.D. CONNOLLY – is the Director of the Center for Computational Sciences, and Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Kentucky. He is also the recently retired Project Director for the Kentucky NSF EPSCoR Program. John has over 30 years of teaching and consulting experience. He has over 90 technical publications in mathematical physics, computational methods,

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

materials science, molecular physics, and theoretical chemistry.

NIGEL G.F. COOPER – is Professor and Vice Chair Research Anatomical Sciences and Neurobiology, with a joint appointment in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, at the University of Louisville School of Medicine. He is the Director of the NIH's INBRE Program in Kentucky. He is also Director of the Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core for the NIEHS-funded Center for Environmental Genomics and Integrative Biology. Nigel is currently funded by the NEI for research in eye diseases. He has 30 years of teaching in Neuroscience, and over 60 publications in peer-reviewed journals and book chapters related to neuroscience and eye research. He is a member of the recently organized National Association of IDeA Principal Investigator's Association (NAIPI).

NANCY COX – is the Director of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station and Associate Dean for Research in the College of Agriculture at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Cox's research area is reproductive physiology of farm animals and she has been involved in consulting with producers and animal health companies. In 1998-1999 she co-chaired, with Senator Robert Dearing, the Task Force on the Environment for the Mississippi Legislature; this task force conducted a year-long study on the scientific issues related to environmental regulations on large swine farms.

Dr. Cox joined UK in 2001, and her duties include oversight of Experiment Station state and federal research budgets. She is responsible for the college grants office that manages approximately \$30 million per year in external awards. She represents the College of Agriculture in a partnership with a newly established federal laboratory in Lexington, the USDA Agricultural Research Service Forage-Animal Production Research Unit. Dr. Cox represents the College on most Kentucky agricultural commodity boards and the Kentucky

Livestock Care and Standards Commission. Since 2007 she has served on the National Advisory Board for Research, Extension and Economics; this board advises the Secretary of the US Department of Agriculture on national research priorities.

AMAN SINGH DAS – is the Senior Corporate Responsibility Editor with Vault.com. An IEMA-certified CSR Practitioner, Aman is the author of [Vault's CSR blog: In Good Company](#), where she focuses on connecting career paths with CSR, sustainable business practices, employee engagement, diversity & women leadership in the workplace, and how increasing debate and engagement of these practices translates into recruitment and strategic development at companies. She also writes for *Forbes' CSR blog* and CNBC's blog on *Executive Careers*. Formerly with *The Wall Street Journal*, Aman is a New York University alumnus. She was named among 2010's Top 100 Thought Leaders in Trustworthy Business Behavior by Trust Across America, ranked No. 4 in *HRExaminer's* Top 25 HR Digital Influencers for 2011, and is widely read and syndicated on global websites such as 3BL Media, SustainabilityForum.com, CSRwire's *Talkback* blog, and Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship's (BCCCC) blog *In Good Company*. She is a board member of the National Association for Asian MBA's ERG Council and is a firm believer that only informed professionals can lead business and the global economy into the next century.

MARYBETH EDEEN – is the International Space Station National Lab Manager for NASA. The goal of the National Lab Office is to use the unique environment and capabilities of the International Space Station for research and technology development in ways that benefit the American people. She joined NASA in 1989 where she worked on Life Support System development for 12 years, both advanced technologies for Lunar and Martian base applications and systems compatible with microgravity for use on the International Space

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

Station. In 2001, she began managing hardware development work for the ISS, specifically the hardware required to support a crew of 6 on board. This included life support, habitability, and exercise hardware. Ms. Edeen has been the Manager of the International Space Station's National Laboratory Office for the past 2 years.

Ms. Edeen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas and a Masters degree in Chemical Engineering from Rice University.

BLAINE FERRELL – is Dean of Ogden College of Science and Engineering at Western Kentucky University, Director of the Applied Research and Technology Program of Distinction (ARTP), and a Board Member of the Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation in addition to other state boards. The ARTP program has faculty and students working in interdisciplinary teams to help constituents meet applied research and technical challenges. The ARTP has worked as a research development catalyst with high-level companies in the Central Regional Innovation and Commercialization Center at the WKU R&D Center to expand existing companies and create new ones. These partnerships have created many more applied research projects for our students.

DON FITZPATRICK – is the General Manager, for Global Cisco Alliance, and Senior State Executive, Kentucky, IBM Corporation. Don re-joined IBM in November 2001, as Vice President, Global Cisco Alliance, with responsibility for IBM's overall strategy, direction, and business relationship with Cisco. Under Fitzpatrick's leadership, IBM's business with Cisco has grown into a multi-billion, cross-divisional partnership; with IBM now being recognized as one of Cisco's largest global systems integrators and a top technology provider for their line of networking products. In recognition of this, he was promoted to General Manager in January 2008, and continues to work closely at CEO and senior executive levels across both companies to

effectively drive this complex, multi-faceted relationship on a global basis.

Fitzpatrick was a founding member of the Louisville chapter of The Executive Committee, a global network of CEOs, is a past Director of the Greater Louisville Economic Development Partnership, and served as Greater Louisville Inc.'s Executive-in-Residence during 2001. He currently serves as IBM's Senior State Executive for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, is on the Board of Directors of the Greater Louisville Logistics Network, and is a member of University of Louisville's Logistics and Distribution Institute (LoDI) Advisory Board. He graduated from Syracuse University in 1980, with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and has attended several advanced management programs at Harvard University and Babson College. He resides in Louisville, Kentucky with his wife and three children.

STEPHEN FLEMING – is Vice Provost, Enterprise Innovation Institute at Georgia Tech. A venture capitalist with a degree in theoretical physics, Stephen Fleming has more than 13 years of private equity experience at the general partner level. Prior to his venture capital career, he spent 15 years in operations roles at AT&T Bell Laboratories, Nortel Networks, and LICOM – a venture-funded startup.

An Atlanta native and summa cum laude graduate of Georgia Tech, he is active in the "alternative space" industry — an investor in three private aerospace companies and is a founding member of the Space Angels Network. He also serves on the boards of trustees for the Spiritual Living Center of Atlanta and for Tech High School, a charter high school emphasizing science, math and technology in urban Atlanta. Stephen Fleming is a member of the IEEE, the American Physical Society, the Optical Society of America and a number of regional technology organizations.

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

ERIC A. GRULKE – has been the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the College of Engineering at the University of Kentucky since 2003. In addition, he is the Director of the Electron Microscope Center. He joined the University of Kentucky as Chair of the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering in 1993.

Dr. Grulke started an academic career at Michigan State University (1978) including three years as the College of Engineering's Associate Dean for Research. He worked in new process R&D for BFGoodrich Chemical from 1975-78. Dr. Grulke received Chemical Engineering Degrees from The Ohio State University (BS 1971, MS 1972, Ph.D. 1975).

Dr. Grulke also served as a Congressional Engineering Fellow in the office of Senator Carl Levin, Michigan. He is the author of more than 130 articles in leading technology journals and has mentored students to 40 graduate degrees. He is a Senior U.S. Editor of Polymer Handbook, now in its fourth edition. Dr. Grulke has been awarded three U.S. patents and is a registered professional engineer in the states of Ohio and Michigan.

Dr. Grulke is a current member of the Board of Directors, Engineering Research Council, American Society of Engineering Educators, serving as Secretary-Treasurer. Since 2005, he has served as the Chair of the Kentucky DOE-EPSCoR Statewide Committee. Dr. Grulke is also a member of the U.S. Technical Advisory Group on Standards for Nanotechnologies. He has been an evaluator for ABET since 2000, a proposal reviewer for NSF, DOE, NASA, and the USDA, and a manuscript reviewer for more than 20 journals..

STEPHEN C. "STEVE" HALL – is a member with the law firm Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC. Prior to law school, he graduated with Honors in Chemistry from the University of Louisville, and worked as an R&D chemist with Reliance Universal (now Akzo Nobel). His legal practice involves helping clients to create, protect, and exploit their intellectual

property, and helping clients to manage their legal risks. His technical areas include chemical, pharmaceutical, life sciences, nanotechnology, genetics, medical devices, and electromechanical devices.

Steve speaks regularly to scientific and clinical audiences as well as various industry organizations. He has presented talks to the American Bar Association, the American Psychiatric Association, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, the Defense Research Institute, and the Diagnostic Conference, in addition to various other speaking engagements. Steve's speaking topics have included genetics and pharmacogenomics, nanotechnology, chemical patents, gene patents, commercialization of inventions, and clinical trials. Since 2007, Steve has been recognized each year in *Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of biotechnology law.

MAHENDRA K. JAIN – is the founding Executive Director of the Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation (KSEF) and Vice President of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) in Lexington, Kentucky. In his present position, Dr. Jain is fostering partnerships between academic, industrial and state institutions in building and expanding Kentucky's scientific and engineering capacity to attract external research funds from all sources, to help advance research ideas and to build a pipeline of technologies. In addition, Mahendra has proactively pursued the growth of the Federal SBIR and STTR Programs in the state through outreach and state-funded assistance programs, was the recipient of the Tibbetts Award in 2006, and currently also serves as the Science Director for Kentucky Space.

Before joining KSTC, Dr. Jain worked at several universities in the USA, Europe, and India. He also worked at MBI International, a biotechnology R&D company in Lansing, Michigan where he was involved in technology development and transfer.

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

After receiving his Ph.D. in microbiology in 1972, Dr. Jain received and managed research grants and contracts in several million dollars from federal, state and industrial sources. He is the author of 11 United States patents, one Canadian patent and over 120 research papers, articles and book chapters.

DIANA JERKINS – is a National Program Leader with the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). She has managed competitive programs in the areas of mitigation and adaptation to climate change, managed ecosystems, invasive species, small and mid-sized farm prosperity, rural development, and Native American outreach. She has leadership responsibilities for development and management of NIFA competitive Climate Change and Food Systems Integrated Programs. As co-leader of the Science for Sustainability working group, she leads agency-wide activities supporting sustainable and organic agriculture programs. Interagency activities are in the areas of Long Term Agricultural Research programs (LTAR), chairing the NIFA Ecosystem Services Working Group, and NIFA liaison to the NASULGC Board on Natural Resources, USA National Phenology Network, and OSTP Ecosystem Service Task Team. She has lead efforts in the development of new programs within CSREES such as the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP) and an interagency program with EPA on Enhancing Ecosystem Services from Agricultural Lands.

Prior to joining NIFA, Dr. Jerkins directed the Center for Regenerative Studies at Cal Poly Pomona in Pomona California. Her graduate work was at the University of Georgia with degrees in Agronomy and Entomology. She consults internationally on sustainable agriculture issues. Professional activities and professional associations include Agronomy, Crop, and Soil Science Societies; Ecological Society of America; Federal Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability working group; and USDA Sustainable Development Council.

GREGORY M. JONES – is an Associate with Booz Allen Hamilton, a worldwide strategy and technology consulting firm. Dr. Jones is a Senior Defense Research Analyst, consulting for the DoD/DoE in the area of advanced electronics. Prior to his time at Booz Allen, Dr. Jones spent three years as a NRC Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the US. Naval Research Laboratory, leading an investigation in the area of spin-transport in semiconductor heterojunctions.

Dr. Jones received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physics from the College of William and Mary (2001) and his Ph.D in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland (2006). At the University of Maryland, Dr. Jones investigated ballistic/mesoscopic semiconductor systems as well as single and few electron semiconductor devices for quantum computing applications.

KRIS KIMEL – is President and a founder of the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) a non-profit company with an international reputation for designing and implementing a range of innovative initiatives. Over the 21 year life of KSTC dozens of projects have been funded by diverse supporters involving corporations, private foundations, state and federal governments.

KSTC funds important R&D and technology commercialization projects at Kentucky universities. It also designed and manages the Kentucky Enterprise Fund (KEF), an early-stage venture fund which currently holds over 60 equity positions in innovation-driven Kentucky companies.

Kris Kimel is a leader behind the vision and implementation of Kentucky Space, a nonprofit enterprise focused on the design, development and application of entrepreneurial and educational space platforms. He is also the founder of the international IdeaFestival (IF), a world-class event that attracts leading and highly diverse thinkers from across the nation and around the globe to

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

explore and celebrate innovation, imagination and game-changing ideas.

ROBERT L. KING – became the third president of the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education January 16, 2009. He previously served as president and CEO of the Arizona Community Foundation, a statewide charitable foundation with a strong focus on education, economic development, and scientific research. Mr. King is the former chancellor of the State University of New York, one of the largest comprehensive systems of universities, colleges, and community colleges in the world. Mr. King is very active in community service and has volunteered and served on numerous boards and organizations. He also has served on the White House Commission on Presidential Scholars; the Education Committee of the U.S. National Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); an advisor to the Middle State Commission on Higher Education regarding reauthorization of the Higher Education Act in Congress; the board of directors of the National Soccer Hall of Fame; and the board of trustees of A.T. Still University, a specialized university dedicated to training people for the health care professions, in Kirksville, Missouri, and Mesa, Arizona.

Mr. King received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut (1968) and Juris Doctor from the Vanderbilt University School of Law (1971). He is married to Karen, his wife of 32 years, and they have four grown children.

LIZ KNAPP – serves as the Assistant Director of the Kentucky Statewide EPSCoR Program. Liz joined the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) in November 2002 as Program Manager for the Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation (KSEF) and for Kentucky EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research). Previously she worked as a Research Analyst at the University of Kentucky studying Neuroscience, and

for the United States Olympic Committee in the division of Sports Science and Technology.

Liz received Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Pennsylvania (1993) and her Master's degree in Kinesiology and Health Promotion, with a specialty in Biomechanics, from the University of Kentucky in (1996).

F. RICHARD KURZYNSKE – is the Director of the Kentucky Statewide EPSCoR Program. He shares this position part-time with his other responsibilities as a principal partner of the Cyrus Partnership, LLC, and Brigadier Development, LLC, business investment groups. Rick's background includes a decade in Chicago as a senior manager with a natural gas energy consortium that principally invested in the development and commercialization of energy-related technologies.

Rick moved to Lexington in 1992 when he became an officer of the Mason & Hanger Corporation, a Forbes 500 Company which, prior to its sale, principally provided technical and manufacturing services to the Federal government. Rick has been responsible for two high-tech startup companies and has been an officer/director of more than 12 companies. He has an MBA from the Keller Graduate School of Business and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (energy and environmental focus) from the University of Tennessee- Knoxville.

MARIA LABREVEUX – joined the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) in February 2007 and is the Senior Program Manager for the Kentucky Science and Engineering Foundation (KSEF). Dr. Labreuveux manages the KSEF Research and Development Excellence (RDE) and the Kentucky Commercialization Fund (KCF) programs, for which KSTC receives funding from the Commonwealth of Kentucky through a contract with the Council on Post-Secondary Education.

Maria brings research and grants management experiences from the Delaware State University

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

where she worked as an Assistant Professor before moving to Kentucky. Maria secured over \$2 million in two and half year period at DSU for her research and teaching from federal and state agencies such as the United States Department of Agriculture, National Recourses Conservation Services, the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Services, the National Science Foundation, and University of Delaware. Dr. Labreux is an active member of the Early Career Professional Division of the Agronomy and Crop Science Societies of America and a contributor to the society's monthly newsletter. Dr. Labreux received her M.S. and Ag. Engineering degrees in Argentina, and her Ph.D. in Agronomy-Plant Science from The Pennsylvania State University.

JASON LEVIN – is a District Manager with Vault.com, Inc. Vault.com gives millions of high-potential students and professionals the competitive edge -- to land a great job or make a critical career decision. Jason works with *AmLaw 100* law firms, *Fortune 100* corporations, consultancies, accountancies, and federal agency employers to raise engagement and interaction of their online employer brand to Vault.com's audience.

Prior to joining Vault.com, Jason worked in brand management for Unilever on the Dove Global team developing cross-regional innovations in the anti-aging category. Jason also was a business development manager for QS World Grad School promoting LLMS globally, a management consultant for RSM Salustro Reydel Management, and an analyst with Andersen Consulting (now Accenture).

Jason received his MBA from the Georgetown McDonough School of Business. While at Georgetown, Jason worked overseas on brand management consulting projects for Unilever Sri Lanka and Pepsi Vietnam. Additionally, Jason was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and studied for an international business degree (DEUF) from Université Jean Moulin Lyon 3. While living in

France, Jason was the President of the Rotary Foundation Alumni Association in France (the first non-French national to hold the position.) He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and a minor in French from Rowan University.

Jason strongly believes in giving back to the community. He sits on the Board of Directors of the United Way of the National Capital Area (United Way NCA) and is the Chair of the Young Leaders Society of United Way NCA. In addition, Jason gives *pro bono* lectures on university campuses as well as at outplacement centers on interviewing skills, career management, and job search strategies.

JANET K. LUMPP – has been a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Kentucky since 1993. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, and earned her BS and MS degrees in Metallurgical and Materials Engineering from Purdue University.

Dr. Lumpp's research and teaching abilities span a wide range of topics from lasers and microelectronics to K-12 education and carbon nanotubes. Dr. Lumpp conceived, developed, and leads the Kentucky Electronics Education Project (KEEP), a program that uses microelectronics as a theme to connect core concepts in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education. She also leads the Education and Public Outreach efforts for Kentucky Space, including high-altitude balloon-launch workshops for K-12 teachers.

Dr. Lumpp established the Laser Processing Laboratory in ECE at UK and oversees the electronic assembly facilities. She recently concluded a four-year research contract from the Army Research Lab on Advanced Carbon Nanotechnology with UK colleagues and collaborators at four other institutions. Dr. Lumpp has been the principal investigator on several KY NASA EPSCoR grants, KSGC awards and

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

fellowships. She also has a strong funding record with the National Science Foundation (NSF) through a Graduate Fellowship, Research Initiation Award, CAREER Award, and as a faculty participant in the two NSF IGERT graduate training grants awarded to the University of Kentucky.

NANCY C. MARTIN – is a professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Louisville. Throughout her career, she has applied state of the art molecular biological techniques to make distinguished contributions in the areas of mitochondrial biogenesis, RNA enzymology, and protein targeting. She holds an honorary degree from the University of Umea and has been elected a Fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

She served as Senior Vice President for Research at the University of Louisville from 1996 to 2006 and oversaw a tremendous expansion of research infrastructure and a more than fourfold expansion of extramural funding. She implemented a number of new policies and procedures supportive of research and technology transfer, including creation of a Technology Transfer Office. In addition to her current faculty responsibilities, she serves on the ORAU Board, the Board of the Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation, Pradama (a biotech startup), the leadership team of the Kentucky Girls Collaborative in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), on the Kentucky Statewide STEM Taskforce, and chairs the Kentucky Statewide EPSCoR Committee.

SRINI MIRMIRA – is focused on commercializing and accelerating the deployment of technology developed by ARPA-E funded entities. Before joining ARPA-E, Mirmira was a Partner at RedShift Ventures, an early-stage venture capital firm specializing in spin-offs from universities, research centers, and corporations. Mirmira served on the Board of Directors of several RedShift Ventures portfolio companies including Imaginova,

Novariant, SiOnyx and TerraGo Technologies. Previously Mirmira was Principle at SpaceVest and prior to that, served as a Manager of Technology Evaluation and Acquisitions at Boeing. Mirmira was also a Senior Technologist at Applied Materials, where his efforts led to over \$100M in revenue and the company capturing significant market-share in the chemical-mechanical and planarization business.

Mirmira graduated with distinction from Bombay University in Mechanical Engineering, and subsequently obtained a M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Texas A&M University. Mirmira's research on thermal properties of dielectric thin-films and organic composite materials led to two patents and over fifteen publications in leading scientific journals and professional conferences. He also holds an MBA, specializing in finance and economics, from the University of Chicago. Mirmira is on the Advisory Board of the Mechanical Engineering Department at Texas A&M University.

JEFF MOSEY – serves as the Associate Director and Program Administrator for the Kentucky National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR where he has worked for the past ten years. The Kentucky NSF EPSCoR is a multi-million dollar state/federal partnership to develop programs of research excellence in Kentucky.

Jeff graduated with his Bachelor's degree in Business Management and minor in Economics from the University of Kentucky in 1997. From 1999-2001 Jeff worked in the UK Office of Sponsored Projects Accounting, where he oversaw the financial administration of several of the institution's research grants and contracts.

Jeff received his MGA from the UK Gatton College (2003) with a concentration in Management Information Systems. He has spent time working in private industry in Indiana and Kentucky, and completed two years of his Ph.D. coursework in the UK Martin School for Public Policy and

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

Administration. He is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society and completed continuing professional education training for strategic planning from the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy.

ANNA PALMISANO – recently retired from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) where she served as Associate Director of Science for Biological Environmental Research. At the DOE, she was responsible for an annual budget of \$600 million, supporting basic research in bioenergy, systems biology and genomics, and climate and environment science. She also served as the Deputy Administrator for Competitive Programs in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) where she led the National Research Initiative. Previously she was a Program Manager in the Office of Biological and Environmental Research where she developed and managed research programs in bioremediation, carbon cycling, and genomics. Dr. Palmisano has also served as a Program Manager and acting Division Director for Biomolecular and Biosystems Sciences and Technology in the Office of Naval Research. She co-chaired the US-European Commission Working Group for Environmental Biotechnology from 1995 to 2010, and led the Interagency Microbe Project from 2004-2006.

Dr. Palmisano received a B.S. degree in Microbiology from the University of Maryland, and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Biology from the University of Southern California. She was an Allan Hancock Fellow at the University of Southern California and a National Research Council Fellow in planetary biology at NASA-Ames Research Center. She currently works as a science and technology consultant in biotechnology and bioenergy, agriculture and environment, and competitive grantsmanship.

LEN PETERS – is an internationally renowned chemical engineer with demonstrated leadership in research, academia and management. Appointed

by Gov. Steve Beshear in 2008 to oversee Kentucky's energy, environmental protection and natural resources programs, Dr. Len Peters has developed and implemented Kentucky's first comprehensive strategic energy plan to address the state's growing demands for energy in an environmentally sustainable and economically effective manner. He also has been instrumental in creating a unique partnership opportunity among the Argonne National Laboratory, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and two of the state's leading research institutions, the University of Kentucky and the University of Louisville to advance lithium battery manufacturing research and development.

Dr. Peters served at the Battelle Memorial Institute, a leading nonprofit applied science and technology development company, where he was senior vice president and director of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Dr. Peters has held senior academic and administrative positions at leading universities, including the University of Kentucky and Virginia Tech.

Dr. Peters holds a doctorate in chemical engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and has been recognized as a distinguished alumnus by that university. He has been recognized for his achievements with honors ranging from the National Science Foundation Award to the Oak Ridge Associated Universities' Outstanding Leadership Award.

JENNY C. SERVO – is the founder and president of Dawnbreaker, a professional services firm specializing in commercialization assistance to advanced technology firms. Since 1990, Dawnbreaker has conducted both Phase I and Phase II commercialization assistance programs for the Department of the Navy, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Energy, the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and NASA. Dawnbreaker has worked with more than 3,500 SBIR and STTR companies that have cumulatively

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

received in excess of \$2 billion. Dawnbreaker also implements the Commercialization Pilot Program for NAVAIR. Dr. Servo specializes in the design of programs for Federal and State Agencies and in assisting small, advanced technology firms with business planning, market research, strategic planning, and commercialization plans. She has worked with more than 400 small businesses commercializing technology in fields as diverse as bioterrorism, genomics, software, sensors and photonics, telecommunication, medical instrumentation, resource recovery, imaging, and many others. Dr. Servo is the author on a series of three books on commercialization, including *Business Planning for Scientists and Engineers* (4th edition, 2005); *Knock Their Socks Off: Making Winning Presentations to Investors*; and *ATP's Commercialization and Business Planning Guide* (1999).

RICK SHINDELL – is President of Zyn Systems and is a long-time SBIR advocate supporting small businesses, federal agencies, state outreach organizations, intermediaries, and advocacy groups. Shindell is perhaps best known for his hard hitting “SBIR Insider” newsletter which provides the SBIR community with news and critical information about the SBIR program, proposed legislation, successes, failures, and controversies. The SBIR Insider is read by thousands including small businesses, state intermediaries and providers, federal program managers, and many congressional staffers. Shindell also created and manages Zyn’s SBIR Gateway (www.zyn.com/sbir), a cross-agency SBIR/STTR information website serving more than 5,000 users daily, who perform more than 45,000 SBIR topic searches per month across all agencies’ open SBIR/STTR topics. He has been a consultant and proposal reviewer to many agencies and organizations such as the SBA for their Federal and State Technology Partnership (FAST) and rural Outreach (ROP) programs, EPA’s environmental reach, National Technology Transfer Center (NTTC), Navy, NIST, NSF, West Virginia High Tech Consortium Foundation, and the DoD TechMatch program. In the federal technology

transfer field, Shindell manages the support contract for the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) Far West and Mid-Continent regional networks, working with more than 100 of the nation’s premier federal laboratories. He was honored in 2006 with an SBIR Tibbetts Award for outstanding contributions to the SBIR program.

SUZANNE WEAVER SMITH – (Donald and Gertrude Lester Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Kentucky; Director, NASA Kentucky Space Grant Consortium and EPSCoR Programs) joined the UK faculty in 1990. Her 20 years working in the aerospace industry started with modeling and testing the Fine Guidance Electronics of the Hubble Space Telescope at Harris Corporation in 1980. She has numerous NASA Center affiliations, including four summers at NASA Langley.

Suzanne received her Ph.D. at Virginia Tech for research on vibration-based damage detection for structures such as the International Space Station, and her MS and BS degrees from Clemson University. She has collaborated on research projects and SBIRs with Boeing, Lockheed, ILC Dover, L-3 Communications, NextGen Aeronautics, and others in the aerospace industry.

She was the lead advisor (with seven other UK faculty) on the BIG BLUE Mars Airplane, which involved over 300 university students and over 400 low-altitude flight tests that demonstrated the feasibility of inflatable wings for extraterrestrial exploration. Technical developments of BIG BLUE have since been applied to DOD programs.

Dr. Smith is currently developing three modules for the NASA Space Systems Engineering Course (distributed nationwide). She is an award-winning researcher and educator, with recognition as an NSF Young Investigator and two-time winner of the UK CoE Henry Mason Lutes Award for Engineering Education.

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

ELISSA "LISA" SOBOLEWSKI – is the DHS SBIR Program Director. Ms. Sobolewski has over 25 years of experience managing high risk, high payoff R&D initiatives funded by the Departments of Homeland Security, Commerce and Defense. She joined the DHS Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate in January 2006, and became the DHS SBIR Program Manager in June 2006 and the DHS SBIR Program Director in January 2009.

Prior to joining DHS, Lisa held numerous management and technical positions at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD. She was a Program Manager at DARPA for nine years, responsible for managing the RF and microwave/millimeter wave programs. Lisa also held positions at the David Taylor Naval Ship Research and Development Center, and at the Department of Defense Technology Analysis Office. She worked for McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company (Engineering Services) on various government contracts supporting the USMC. Lisa is an IEEE member and a member of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society. She holds a B.S. degree in Mathematics from Duquesne University, and an MBA from George Mason University.

RUTH VOOR – Upon graduating from the United States Naval Academy in 1983, Ruth received her commission as an officer in the US Naval Supply Corps and served for 6 years. During her tenure as an officer, Ruth received numerous leadership awards including Naval Achievement, Naval Commendation medals and Service Warfare Officer Qualification. She joined Johnson and Johnson in 1989 and was recognized for her success by being promoted from night shift production supervisor to plant manager within three years. Ruth then moved into research and development roles of increasing responsibility and culminated this phase of her career by successfully bringing the first drug eluting stent to market: CYPHER™. Following this blockbuster global launch, Ruth transferred to strategic portfolio and product marketing. Here she was responsible for sustaining the success of

CYPHER™ and orchestrated the global launch of 2nd and 3rd generation drug eluting stents. She also expanded the strategic focus of her company by identifying and championing other percutaneous interventional opportunities: mitral and aortic valve repair and replacement, vein graft stenting, and vulnerable plaque diagnosis with local drug delivery platform design. Ruth now is the President and CEO of Vivorte, Inc., an orthopedic device commercialization company, focused on bringing innovative orthopedic technologies to market.

DAN WERMELING – has more than 25 years of experience in clinical drug development and is responsible for directing ITI's science and technology activities. He serves as a tenured Associate Professor at the University of Kentucky's College of Pharmacy and was director of its Drug Product Evaluation Unit, a clinical pharmacology program, between 1990 and July 2001, when he chose to devote more time to ITI's development. He served as ITI's Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer from July 2001 until August 2004, when he returned to his full-time position at the University. Dr. Wermeling is the primary inventor of patented technologies to which ITI holds exclusive licensing rights. Dr. Wermeling has published nearly 60 research articles and also has served as a consultant to companies, government and academic institutions. He recently became a member of the National Institutes of Health's Gene and Drug Delivery Systems grant review committee. He has started another company, Alcomed, which is focused on nasal drug delivery for treatment of suspected opioid overdose.

JENNIFER WHITE – is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of Kentucky. Jen received her PhD in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior from the University of Minnesota (2005) and was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Arizona.

Dr. White became an Assistant Professor in the Department of Entomology at the University of

SPEAKER AND MODERATOR BIOS

Kentucky in 2008. Her current research focuses on the ecological and behavioral ramifications of bacterial endosymbiont infection in insects. She also has two children, ages seven and five, and will share her perspective on balancing a family with an academic career.

TRENT WILLIAMS – is Principal and CEO, Regional Technology Strategies, Inc., Chapel Hill, NC. Since 1976 has led numerous public policy and private development efforts in a wide range of economic development, business formation, developmental finance, industrial competitiveness, technology management, and strategic planning endeavors. Current efforts at RTS include leading a project team to update Kentucky's science and technology strategy for the Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation (KSTC) as well as leading an initiative to create a regional growth plan for eastern South Dakota that ties private sectors to existing and emerging research enterprise and talent assets with the regional universities. Most recently he led a five-year project to assist the Governor's Office of Montana implementing strategies to advance the state's information technology and biotechnology sectors. He also recently led an RTS project to develop a strategic plan to foster university technology development and commercialization throughout Louisiana for the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Recovery Authority. He has also served as a Founding Director of eight technology-based companies, as well as a faculty member of a team formed from other technology company CEOs and venture capitalists from the Research Triangle area to deliver a business launch course for faculty and graduate students at the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology Venturing.

Trent's professional experience includes service in positions as Undersecretary of the Louisiana Department of Commerce, Executive Vice President of the Louisiana Partnership for Technology and Innovation, and Vice President and Research Director at Louisiana's Gulf South Research Institute. He has authored numerous

articles and papers published by organizations such as the New York Academy of Sciences, the Corporation for Enterprise Development, the Aspen Institute, the Southern Growth Policies Board, the Southern Technology Council, and FORMEDIA (Lisbon, Portugal). Trent has served as chair, co-chair, or member of over 20 state, regional, and national committees, task forces, and councils.

MEHDI M. YAZDANPANA – is the CEO of NaugaNeedles LLC and an Entrepreneur Fellow of Kauffman Foundation. He holds a Ph.D. from University of Louisville (2006), where he co-invented *room temperature self-assembly of metal alloy nanostructures*, which is the basis for the NaugaNeedles, which he founded in 2007. He also holds the B.S. degree in Physics from Sharif University of Technology and M.S. degree in Physics from the Beheshti University (2001), where he designed and fabricated a scanning tunneling microscope (STM).

Dr. Yazdanpanah's current research involves constructing an Ultra Soft Atomic Force Microscope (USAFM) using Nano-Cantilevers to image biological system under liquids, developing a nonmanufacturing tool to controllably grow arrays of metallic nanoneedles on selected location and orientation, and devising and demonstrating new applications of the NeedleProbes.

Mehdi is the recipient of the 2009 Vogt Innovation Award, including an unrestricted cash award, and the Kauffman Entrepreneur Fellow in 2010. Under his leadership, NaugaNeedles has achieved tremendous milestones including raising more than \$2M in federal, state, and private funding; establishing the NaugaNeedles' manufacturing facility capable of producing more than 10,000 devices per year; selling NaugaNeedles products to more than 100 customers worldwide; and expecting to expand its customer base significantly in near future. He has published more than 15 papers in refereed journals and holds four US pending patent.