Nadia Abunasser
Federal and Development Projects Director
MEDC
Nadia Abunasser is the Federal Development and Projects Director for the MEDC, where she works in the Entrepreneurship and Innovation division on developing and managing programs to support high tech entrepreneurs in Michigan. She serves as the primary contact for several of the State funded business incubators, entrepreneurial service providers and the State’s investment in the NNMIAs as well as other federal opportunities in advanced manufacturing. Prior to this role she served as the Technology Development Manager for the MEDC in the areas of biofuels/bio-based chemicals and advanced materials where she helped develop the MEDC’s strategy to attract advanced manufacturing/materials to the state, a strategy that eventually led to both LIFT and IACMI locating in Michigan. Nadia received her undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering from the Jordan University of Science and Technology and her PhD in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University in 2005.

Joy Adams
Program Manager
University of Michigan
Joy Adams is a Program Manager who partners with Industry, Non-Profit and Government organizations to provide engaged learning opportunities at the University of Michigan. After spending nearly a decade working in HR and campus recruitment for Fortune 500 firms, including Target Corp., Bridgestone and Navistar, Inc., she draws on her experience to connect organizations to student talent via meaningful, novel on-campus experiential opportunities.

Lynda Applegate
Sarofim-Rock Professor
Harvard Business School
Lynda M. Applegate is the Sarofim-Rock Professor of Business Administration at HBS and Chair of the HBS Executive Education Programs for Business Owners & Entrepreneurs. Since joining the HBS faculty in the 1980s, Lynda has held a variety of leadership positions, including serving as the head of the Entrepreneurial Management Unit, Co-Chair of the MBA program, Chair of Field Based Learning and as a member of the HBS Technology Board. Prior to joining the HBS faculty, Lynda was on the faculty of the University of Michigan, University of Washington and University of Arizona. In addition to her academic positions, Lynda also held a variety of leadership positions in the health care industry. Lynda’s research and publications focus on the challenges of building new ventures and leading radical business innovation in the face of significant industry, technological, capital market, and regulatory turbulence. She is currently embarking on a study of the evolution of entrepreneurial ecosystems in emerging markets and technology clusters and a global study of high impact women entrepreneurs.

Dennis Atkinson
Director of Corporate Engagement
Wayne State University
As Director of Corporate Engagement, Dennis Atkinson directs Wayne State University’s Front Door for Business Engagement. In this role, he serves as the main point of industry contact for the university, develops university-industry partnerships and coordinates corporate outreach efforts for research activities. Prior to joining Wayne State, Dennis served in research and managerial roles in both industry and academia. At the University of Southern California, he served in the Office of the Vice President for Research as Director of Corporate Research Advancement, a role with responsibilities to build and coordinate industry research relationships with USC faculty.
Michelle Bell
Facebook
Michelle Bell just recently joined Facebook managing research business operations including contract administration, investment portfolio management and oversight of events and conferences. She previously held business management roles at Microsoft Research as well as finance, marketing and events management roles during her Microsoft tenure across product groups including Xbox. Prior to joining Microsoft she was Manager of Financial Operations and Planning for Sega GameWorks L.LC. in the interactive entertainment industry.

Kristen Bloschock
Advanced Materials Lead, Corporate Engineering
Lockheed Martin
Kristen Bloschock, Ph.D. is the Advanced Materials Lead for Advanced Manufacturing within Corporate Engineering, Technology, and Operations at Lockheed Martin Corporation. In this role, she manages the corporation’s membership to the materials-focused institutes within Manufacturing USA, as well as collaborations across the enterprise to accelerate manufacturing innovation. Dr. Bloschock serves on the Board of Directors of the Institute for Advanced Composites Manufacturing Innovation (IACMI) and the Board of Directors of the North American Manufacturing Research Institution (NAMRI). She received a Bachelor of Science degree in physics from the University of Notre Dame, and a master’s/Ph.D. in physics from Georgetown University.

Tony Boccanfuso
President
UIDP
Since July 2007, Tony has provided strategic leadership to the UIDP including its successful graduation from the National Academies in 2015. His insights on strategic university-industry matters are regularly sought by academic, government and private sector organizations. Tony and his family currently reside in Connecticut, where his wife, Dr. Laura Boccanfuso, is a social robotics researcher at Yale.

Ray Boehman
IACMI & Oakridge National Lab

Elaine Brock
President and Senior Partner Contracts, Compliance, and Conflict of Interest Authority LLC
Elaine is a Project Manager for the UIDP, managing the Contract Accords and Master Agreements projects, both of which develop practical guidance and materials to help parties negotiating collaborative research agreements. She is President & Senior Partner at Contracts, Compliance, and Conflict of Interest Authority, LLC, where she provides advice and counsel to universities and small business on research administration issues.

Carolyn Brougham
Northwestern University

Larry Brown
Lightweight Innovations for Tomorrow (LIFT)

Debbie Buchwald
Executive Director, Corporate Relations
Drexel University
Debbie is responsible for expanding Drexel’s relationships with its current corporate partners and establishing new strategic partnerships that add value to programs across the University, including technology commercialization and Schuylkill Yards, a new innovation community in Philadelphia. Before coming to Drexel, Debbie served as the executive director of a bi-national Chamber of Commerce where she crafted bi-national strategic corporate partnerships to promote trade and investment in the Greater Philadelphia Region. Debbie holds a BA from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from the University of Maryland.
Dorn Carranza  
**Senior Program Officer**  
**VentureWell**

Dorn Carranza’s passion is to create and implement ways that facilitate scientists and engineers to successfully move their new tech ideas out of the lab and classroom and into the marketplace. Dorn is a Senior Program Officer at VentureWell overseeing the E-Team grant program. The E-Team program cultivates opportunities for collegiate technology entrepreneurs by providing early-stage support and funding. Prior to VentureWell, Dorn founded Curium LLC, an organization in Palo Alto that coordinates multidisciplinary and collaborative projects where young scientists can get immediate hands-on entrepreneurial and business experience. Dorn’s professional background combines eight years of consulting experience in the San Francisco Bay Area leading projects and programs focused on new technology/science ventures. Dorn holds a PhD in Organic Chemistry, BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences and MBA with focus on Strategy and Leadership.

Collin Castle  
**Intelligent Transportation Systems Program Manager**  
**Michigan Department of Transportation**

Collin Castle has worked in the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program for the past 10 years. He has extensive experience overseeing and managing ITS and Connected Vehicle projects, and is currently serving as the MDOT ITS Program Manager responsible for the administration, support and oversight of the statewide ITS, connected and autonomous vehicle programs at MDOT. He is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor’s of Science (BS) in Civil Engineering with a focus on Transportation, and is registered Professional Engineer in the State of Michigan.

Mary Sue Coleman  
**President**  
**Association of American Universities**

Mary Sue Coleman began her tenure as president of the Association of American Universities on May 31, 2016. Prior to joining the AAU, Coleman was president of the University of Michigan from 2002 to July 2014 (where she is now president and professor emerita) and president of the University of Iowa from 1995 to 2002. Long involved with the AAU, Coleman served as chair in 2011-2012. Dr. Coleman has during her career as a faculty member and administrator been a national leader in higher education. Time magazine named her one of the nation’s “10 best college presidents,” and the American Council on Education honored her with its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. At the University of Michigan, Dr. Coleman oversaw the groundbreaking partnership with Google to digitize the University’s 7 million volume library, launched enduring institutional partnerships with universities in China, Ghana, South Africa, Brazil, and India, revitalized student living and learning experiences through a residential life initiative, and worked tirelessly to promote economic revitalization and innovation within the state of Michigan. In recognition of these efforts, Dr. Coleman was named by President Obama in 2010 to help launch the Advanced Manufacturing Partnership, and U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke named her as co-chair of the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Maurice Collins  
**Chief Operating Officer**  
**InfoReady Corporation**

Maurice is responsible for leading InfoReady operations, as well as the technology and product delivery teams. With a background that includes executive leadership positions for various business areas, Maurice offers a unique understanding of the business requirements as well as the technology needed to support business goals. Maurice brings a decade of hands-on software development experience complemented by strong product development and team leadership experience to InfoReady. He has been a leader in technology planning and developing software products at companies such as Wellness & Prevention Inc. / HealthMedia. Maurice holds a master’s of business administration degree.
from Eastern Michigan University and a bachelor’s degree in computer science from Kettering University.

**Matthew Cullen**
**CEO**
**JACK Entertainment**

Cullen also is a principal of Rock Ventures LLC, the Detroit-based organization that serves and connects entrepreneur and Quicken Loans Founder and Chairman and majority owner of the 2016 NBA Champion Cleveland Cavaliers Dan Gilbert’s Family of more than 100 companies, as well as his investments, real estate purchases, and community activities. Cullen helps lead Rock Ventures’ efforts to spark development and revitalization in the City of Detroit, which includes Quicken Loans’ national headquarters move to the city in 2010. Since then, the Family of Companies has invested more than $2.2 billion in real estate in Detroit’s Central Business District, which has been a catalyst for attracting new businesses, workers and residents to the city. Cullen is a 29-year veteran of General Motors (GM), where he was general manager of economic development and enterprise services. In addition to coordinating economic development initiatives in the communities in which GM operates, he created a shared services organization and had responsibility for the corporation’s vast 450-million-square-foot global real estate portfolio.

**Johnnie Deloach**
**Head of NSWCCD’s Materials and Manufacturing Technology Division**
**US Department of Defense**

He is currently the Head of NSWCCD’s Materials and Manufacturing Technology Division. Technologies under his cognizance include advanced manufacturing (including additive manufacturing), welding, nondestructive evaluation, materials processing, corrosion and coatings, alloy development, fatigue and fracture, integrated computational materials engineering, polymers, and ceramics. His division engages in a full-spectrum of technical and programmatic activities, including basic research, applied research and engineering, test and evaluation, in-service engineering, contract oversight, and direct acquisition program support. He chairs the NAVSEA Warfare Center Naval Materials Community of Interest (NMCoI).

**Bruce Gingles**
**Vice President, Global Technology Assessment and Healthcare Policy**
**Cook Medical**

1977 Indiana University BA graduate, biology, no honors, awards or distinctions. Bruce was hired by Cook Incorporated in 1979 as the company’s first sales representative for its newly formed Critical Care division. In 1991, he moved from California to Cook’s Bloomington, Indiana, headquarters as Director, Sales and Product Development and in 1999 was named Vice-President, Cook Critical Care and Global Strategic Business Unit (SBU) Leader. In 2011, he moved into a newly-created position, Vice-President, Global Technology Assessment and Healthcare Policy. In this job, Bruce works across Cook’s 10 SBUs to strengthen Cook Medical’s technology pipeline, develop economic analyses for Cook products, and to foster pragmatic relationships between industry, academia and health systems.

**Denise Graves**
**University Relations Director**
**Michigan Economic Development Corporation**

In her role, Denise interacts with Michigan’s public universities, key entrepreneurial stakeholders and investors, managing programs that support statewide collaboration and commercialization of early stage technology. Her previous experiences include sales, business development, channel partner relations, strategic planning, public speaking and contract negotiation and management. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Ferris State University.

**Robin Greubel**
**Academic Outreach Manager**
**DuPont Pioneer**

Robin Greubel is the Academic Outreach Manager for DuPont Pioneer. She manages the comprehensive relationships Pioneer has with universities and leads the business’ K12 STEM outreach. Prior to working at DuPont Pioneer she managed the comprehensive relationships Iowa State University had with industry partners as a corporate development officer at the
Iowa State University Foundation. Her degrees include a Masters in Community and Regional Planning and a MBA with an emphasis in management information systems.

Robert Gruetzmacher
TechIAConnect & Associates
Dr. Gruetzmacher is the founder and principal of TechIAConnect & Associates, a business development and technology transfer consulting firm and an associate of IntellectualAssets, Inc, a consulting firm in Saratoga, California. He has over 30 years of industrial experience working at DuPont in multiple functions across a broad range of responsibilities, life and physical sciences, both hands-on and in senior leadership positions. During the last 15 years of his tenure he provided corporate leadership on extracting value from intellectual capital focusing on intellectual asset management, licensing, technology transfer, IP valuation, negotiation, university collaborations, and open innovation implementation strategies. Following retirement from DuPont he served as an independent consultant for Rutgers University’s Office of Technology Commercialization, managing their physical science, engineering, and IT patent portfolios, seeking licensing and collaborative opportunities with industry.

Randy Hall
University of Southern California
Randy is Vice President for Research at the University of Southern California, and is responsible for leading research initiatives across the university, overseeing research advancement, administration and ethics. The Stevens Center for Innovation, USC’s center for technology transfer and corporate research relations, is one of the units that reports to him. In additional to serving as Vice President, Hall is Professor in the Epstein Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering. He is also a board member for the USC Health System.

Charles Hasemann
Assistant VP for Innovation & Economic Development
Michigan State University
Charles A. Hasemann, PhD, Assistant VP for Innovation and Economic Development, Michigan State University. Dr. Hasemann earned his doctorate in Immunology and performed post-doctoral training in X-ray Crystallography. He was recruited to Parke-Davis Pharmaceuticals (later Pfizer, Inc), eventually joining the Executive Management team with direction over all aspects of drug discovery at the Ann Arbor site. In his time at MSU, Dr. Hasemann has launched the Clinical & Translational Sciences Institute, Business-CONNECT, and Spartan Innovations. Dr. Hasemann now leads the MSU Innovation Center in its mission to create commercial R&D relationships, and launch new ventures based on the intellectual capacity of MSU.

Karl Heimer
Sr. Technical Adviser for Cybersecurity
Heimer & Associates, Inc.
Karl Heimer is the Sr. Technical Adviser for Cybersecurity to the Michigan Auto Office and Michigan Defense Center; a member of the Walsh College IT/Cybersecurity Advisory Board; the cybersecurity member of SEMA’s Vehicle Electronics Task Force; sits on the Government Fleet Manager’s Cybersecurity Steering Committee; and is on the editorial board for SAE’s new Cybersecurity Quarterly (First issue due January 2018). He is also the founder of the SAE-Battelle CyberAuto Challenge and a co-founder of the CyberTruck Challenge.

Chris Hewitt
Science Relations Manager
BASF
Hewitt has more than 28 years of experience working as the interface between chemical technology and business initiatives. He was appointed Science Relations Manager, North America for BASF in mid-2014 and has responsibility for BASF’s relationships with universities in North America. Prior to this he was BASF’s Global Business Manager for the Inorganic Intermediates business. Prior to joining BASF, Hewitt held a number of leadership roles at Sigma-Aldrich, including Director of Business Development for Chemistry and Vice President, Marketing and R&D. At Sigma-Aldrich, he led a successful team to improve external collaborations and the impact on their R&D initiatives. He earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Durham University in United
Kingdom and is a Chartered Chemist and Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Brett Hinds
Chief Engineer - Electrified Powertrain Systems
Ford Motor Company
Brett Hinds has been with Ford since 1990 upon graduation from Lawrence Technological University with a BSME degree. He later earned a MS in Engineering Management from Oakland University. Brett is currently pursuing a PhD in Leadership from Benedictine University. Brett has spent his 27 year career with Ford in the area of engine and powertrain product development. Brett led the design and implementation of Ford’s first EcoBoost V6 engine, Brett is now the Chief Engineer for Ford’s electric powertrain systems. In this role, Brett is leading the electrified powertrain system engineering for Ford’s electrified vehicles.

Farnam Jahanian
Interim President
Carnegie Mellon University
Dr. Jahanian began serving as interim president of Carnegie Mellon University in July 2017 by appointment of its Board of Trustees. He was previously the university’s provost and chief academic officer, and was instrumental in institutional and academic planning. Prior to CMU, Jahanian led the NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering and was the Edward S. Davidson Collegiate Professor at the University of Michigan, where he served as chair of Computer Science and Engineering. An accomplished computer scientist and entrepreneur, he is an active advocate for how basic research can drive global competitiveness and address national priorities.

Wayne Johnson
Senior Consultant
Maguire Associates
Mr. Johnson is a Senior consultant at Maguire Associates in Concord Massachusetts. Prior to this position he was Director of the Mass Insight Innovation Partnerships Network. Previously he held the position of Executive Director of the Innovation Institute at the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he managed the Office of Technology Transfer and Corporate Business Development for the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. From 2011 to 2013 he was Assistant Vice President for the California Institute of Technology Office of Corporate Relations, responsible for exploring, establishing, and extending strategic corporate partnerships for the Institute. Mr. Johnson is recognized as an expert in domestic and international innovation ecosystems and experienced at creating complex partnerships between government, academia, industry and foundations.

Scott Jorgensen
Technical Fellow (Retired)
General Motors R&D
In his 31 years at GM R&D, Scott has worked on all facets of alternate energy for transportation from Advanced low pollution gasoline to alcohol to hydrogen to batteries and supercaps. He has been both a manager and a PI and has served on a number of consortia with leadership positions in Coordinating Research Council, USABC, and USCAR.

Deidre Kosier
Assistant Vice President, Operations
Jackson National Life Insurance Company
Deidre currently leads Jackson’s Strategic Support Program providing on-demand support to various Jackson business units. With a location directly across from Michigan State University’s campus, the program employs...
about 400 college students in part time roles and serves as a talent pipeline for Jackson post-graduation, converting over 75 into full time positions a year. Deidre began her career at Jackson in HR focusing on employee engagement, performance, analytics and leadership development. She earned her M.A. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from MSU and her undergraduate degree at Penn State.

Ellen Kosik-Williams
University Collaborations Manager and Research Associate
Corning Science & Technology

Ellen Kosik Williams was appointed University Collaborations Manager and Research Associate in January 2015. In this role, Dr. Kosik Williams works to build relationships across Corning businesses and academic institutions to facilitate research programs, create technology synergies, and encourage vibrant research communities in disciplines relevant to Corning’s technology. Ellen joined Corning in 2004 and held various technical roles in the Optical Physics research group, Corning Science & Technology Division. Dr. Kosik Williams’ research interests include optical coatings for displays and the characterization and minimization of display artifacts. She received her Ph.D. from the Institute of Optics, University of Rochester where she studied ultrashort laser pulse measurements and was a visiting researcher at the University of Oxford. Ellen has published more than 40 peer-reviewed internal reports, 13 journal and conference papers of which two were invited. She has four patents granted, 10 patents filed, and 11 invention disclosures. She is a member of the Optical Society of America.

Daniel Kramer
The Ohio State University

Daniel Kramer has 27 years of experience in multiple facets of business development, project management, and operations management for R&D and academic focused organizations. Dan is presently Associate Vice President of the Industrial Liaison Office (ILO) for The Ohio State University’s Office of Research. The ILO fosters private sector relationships by promoting OSU students, faculty, capabilities, and assets; champions adoption of university culture, policies, and processes that facilitate B2B engagement; and increases the visibility and effectiveness of university touch-points through which the breadth of OSU offerings may be explored. Prior to his role with OSU, Dan was an accomplished Operations/Project Manager, Business Developer, and PMO Director for Battelle’s Medical Device Solutions business. A native of Ohio, Dan lives with his wife and three sons in Dublin. He received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering, and M.S. and Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering, from The Ohio State University.

Edward Krause
Global Manager, External Alliances, Research & Advanced Engineering
Ford Motor Co.

Mr. Krause is currently Global Manager, External Alliances, Research & Advanced Engineering at Ford Motor Co. In this capacity he is responsible for developing and executing Ford’s global university collaboration strategy to create competitive advantage for Ford. Mr. Krause has responsibility for Ford’s collaborative university research programs including strategic alliances with University of Michigan, Stanford, MIT, RWTH Aachen and alliances with other first tier universities around the world. He is also responsible for the University Research Program (URP) that has funded work at over 120 universities worldwide. He oversees a rapidly growing collaborative university research portfolio with university partnerships in the North America, Continental Europe, UK, China and Australia. Mr. Krause is also responsible for the government contracts team within Ford’s Research and Advanced Engineering operation and Ford’s privately and publicly funded work with National Laboratories. Additionally he oversees the Ford-Boeing Strategic Alliance and other corporate R&D based interactions. Mr. Krause joined Ford Motor Company in 1999.

David Lawson
Associate Director Connect + Develop
The Procter & Gamble Company

David Lawson received his BSc. in Zoology from the University of Glasgow in Scotland and a MSc, in
Tropical Medicine from Salford University, England. He then went on to complete a PhD in Molecular Biology from the Max-Planck Institute in Tuebingen, Germany. He started with Procter & Gamble in Schwabach, Germany in 1992 with responsibility for regulatory affairs for food and beverage products in Europe before managing the product development activities for the Pringles snack food business within Europe. In 2001 he transferred to Procter & Gamble’s headquarters in Cincinnati, USA and was responsible for developing research partnership collaborations between P&G and other companies in the food and beverage area. From 2004, David was the Associate Director for Global Health Care Connect + Develop identifying new technologies and collaboration opportunities for P&G’s Health Care businesses with particular focus on research programs including prevention and intervention therapies for respiratory care, water purification, in-home diagnostics and new over-the-counter treatments for gastrointestinal ailments. In June 2011, David worked as Open Innovation Manager for all P&G’s R&D activities in Silicon Valley based out of San Francisco seeking collaborations and innovations is as diverse areas as renewable materials, life sciences, smart products and advanced materials among others. As of November 2013, he now manages Connect + Develop programs in Corporate R&D for all of North America.

Pamela Lewis
Director
New Economy Initiative
Pamela Lewis is the Director of the New Economy Initiative (NEI), one of the nation’s largest philanthropic partnerships, funded by 12 national and regional foundations and managed by the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. It is in its eighth year of innovative funding and the development of public/private partnerships that have helped create more than 17,000 jobs and 1,600 companies throughout the region. As a highly talented economic development expert, Lewis brings vision and process to guide the NEI team in strategic grantmaking and program development. Lewis, who has an engineering degree from Michigan State University and a Masters of Business Administration from Spring Arbor University, served as deputy team leader of NEI before being named director. She joined the initiative in 2011 as senior program officer, after serving as a member of the Kauffman Foundation’s Detroit team, overseeing national entrepreneurial programs.

She was recently named as one of the top 25 women in technology in Michigan and one of the 100 most influential women in Michigan by Crain’s Detroit. Lewis began her career at DTE Energy, spending 15 years in roles ranging from analyst to manager of process management and continuous improvement initiatives. At NextEnergy, she managed entrepreneurial programs focused on accelerating clean energy startups. Lewis has been a resident of Metro Detroit all of her life.

Jeff Mason
CEO
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
Jeff Mason is the CEO of the MEDC, charged with implementing and executing the core mission of business development and attraction, community development, providing access to capital, and improving Michigan’s image and brand. Prior to the MEDC, Jeff was the Executive Director of Michigan’s University Research Coordinator which is an alliance between MSU, UM, and WSU. Jeff received a bachelor of arts in business administration from Michigan State University.

Jeff Massimilla
Chief Product Cybersecurity Officer
GM
Jeffrey Massimilla was named chief product cybersecurity officer, Product Cybersecurity for General Motors Company in 2014. This was the first role of its kind within the automotive industry and was expanded from Massimilla’s most recent position as director, Vehicle Cybersecurity. Massimilla leads the global organization that is developing and implementing protocols and strategies to reduce the risks associated with cybersecurity threats related to the vehicle and vehicle connected services. Jeff holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Michigan and Master’s degrees in Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering and Business Administration from the University of Michigan. He serves as Vice Chair of the Auto Information Sharing and Analysis Center (ISAC), which is focused on further advancing cybersecurity protections within the auto industry. He also sits on the Wayne State University Department of Computer Science Advisory Board.
Goran Matijasevic  
UC Irvine  
Dr. Goran Matijasevic is Executive Director of the UCI Chief Executive Roundtable and Senior Assistant Vice Chancellor, Alumni and Constituent Relations. In these roles, he oversees and advances research collaborations and strategic initiatives associated with Roundtable and Alumni Association programs. Prior to his position at the Roundtable, he was director of research development at The Henry Samueli School of Engineering. Prior to UCI, he worked in research development manager positions at two electronic start-ups. Goran served as the 2013 elected President of the University Industry Demonstration Partnership (UIDP). Goran is currently on the boards of OCTANe (Orange County Technology Action Network) and Southern California Biomedical Council, as well as the advisory boards of TriTech SBDC and 2-1-1 Orange County. He was recognized by UCI Alumni Association as Distinguished Engineering Alum in 2008. Goran received his MBA from Pepperdine University and his Ph.D. degree from UC Irvine in Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Katie Morris  
Indiana University  
Katie Morris has been in the world of research administration for five years. She started as a Contract Officer at Indiana University in 2011 after transitioning out of a practice in criminal law. In 2012, she began managing a team of Proposal Consultants and Contract Officers responsible for all federal & federal pass-thru proposals, grants and contracts. In 2014, Katie was named Assistant Director for Awards & Contracts at IU and currently leads a team of 15 administrators responsible for all unilateral award processing, contract negotiation, and account setup. She has been IU’s primary representative to UIDP since January 2015.

Carrie Morton  
Deputy Director  
University of Michigan  
Morton oversees day-to-day operations of Mcity, the University of Michigan’s public-private partnership devoted to advancing the development of connected and automated vehicles. She is actively involved in supporting strategy development and execution, and fosters collaboration among Mcity’s industry, government and academic partners. Prior to joining Mcity, Morton served a dual role at the University of Michigan Energy Institute. As director of business development, she helped broaden industrial relationships with energy faculty. Morton also served as assistant director for collaboration and industry outreach for the US-China Clean Energy Research Center – CleanVehicle Consortium. Morton joined the university in 2011 after more than a decade in the automotive industry, primarily with the Robert Bosch Corporation. In her last role at Bosch, she was manager of government projects and responsible for leading all publicly funded research projects, with a focus on engine combustion. Morton holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Engineering degree in Automotive Engineering, both from the University of Michigan.
Mathias Müller
Director of Business Development-Open Innovation Lead
DuPont Pioneer

Mat Müller is Director of Business Development and Open Innovation Lead at DuPont Pioneer. His focus is on technology acquisition and integration and the development of Pioneer’s Open Innovation platform. Prior to his current role, Mat has occupied functions in science, operations and business strategy. He led the technology transfer and licensing group for several years. Prior to Pioneer, Mat served in various capacities for Verdia, Maxygen, the University of California, and the University of Lausanne. Mat’s education includes a Ph.D. in Biology from the University of Lausanne, and an MBA from California State University at Hayward.

Jeff Myers
Associate Director for Corporate Relations
Michigan State University

Jeff Myers is an Associate Director for Corporate Relations at MSU Business-CONNECT, part of the Michigan State University Innovation Center. MSU Business-CONNECT facilitates research partnerships, supports entrepreneurs, and promotes research-based economic development in Michigan communities. Jeff joined MSU in June of 2014 and is responsible for managing MSU’s industry research relationships primarily in the plant, agriculture, and animal and human health fields. Previously, Jeff was the Senior Technology Transfer Specialist at Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIU) responsible for managing SIU’s technology transfer and industry relations. Jeff is also a partner in a university spin-out company involving the development and commercialization of a number of plant biotechnology inventions, and serves as a board member on two other university spin-out companies.

Heath Naquin
Vice President for Strategic Development
Venturewell

Heath Naquin serves Vice President for Strategic Development at VentureWell. In his role at VentureWell, he leads a variety of national and international programs in supporting and growing early stage science based startups and building the ecosystems that support them. As a part of his portfolio, he manages the I-Corps program implementation by Venturewell at a national level as well as the convening of the National Innovation Network. He is also heavily involved in investment and global programming for the organization.

Laura Nielsen
General Motors

Laura Nielsen leads the Global Academic Contracts function at General Motors. She is responsible for the implementation and operation of processes surrounding Global Academic Contracts and also serves as the lead negotiator to develop terms and conditions for academic research projects. Laura has a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Humanities from Michigan State University and a Master of Science in Library and Information Sciences from Wayne State University. Laura has been with General Motors for over 10 years, joining the Global Academic Contracts team in 2015. In addition to leading the Global Academic Contracts function, Laura manages the GM’s library and information services.
Nick Nikolaides
Executive Director
The University of Cincinnati Skin Science & Technology Collaborative

Nick Nikolaides received his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Cornell University, followed by a Postdoctoral Fellowship at The Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Nikolaides then joined 3M Pharmaceuticals, where he participated in the design, synthesis, and development of antiviral agents, leading to the commercialization of Aldara. In 1994, Nikolaides joined Procter & Gamble Pharmaceuticals where he contributed to the drug discovery pipeline in the cardiovascular, upper respiratory, musculoskeletal, and metabolic therapeutic categories, launched a Pre-Clinical Chemical Development group, and established a Competitive & Technical Intelligence function. Most recently, he headed P&G's open innovation model, "Connect + Develop", across the university and research institute landscape until his retirement in 2015. Dr. Nikolaides served on the Board of Directors for the UIDP as an Industry Director and currently serves as an Entrepreneur-in-Residence with the University of Cincinnati Technology Commercialization Accelerator, as well as Executive Director of the University of Cincinnati Skin Science & Technology Collaborative.

Michael Pcolinski
Vice President, Advanced Materials & Systems Research
BASF

Dr. Michael Pcolinski is Vice President of Advanced Materials & Systems Research at BASF in North America. His responsibilities include leading multiple research groups in polymer & materials science, modelling & formulation and analytical chemistry as well as supporting BASF through expanding innovation capabilities & innovation management. He also serves as a primary liaison with universities, government laboratories and other external partners at all levels. Dr. Pcolinski joined BASF in 1992 and has served the company in a variety of capacities and disciplines including research, strategic planning, sales & business management. Most recently, he led the Office of Innovation & Technology for BASF NA focusing on assisting business units in further developing and leveraging their innovation capabilities for growth. He is an executive sponsor for BASF’s Journey to Innovation Excellence and serves on the NA Research Executive Team. Dr. Pcolinski holds a bachelor’s degree from Purdue University (1986) and a doctorate in Medicinal Chemistry & Pharmacognosy from The Ohio State University (1992).

James Sayer
Director
University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute

Dr. Jim Sayer is Director of the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute where he has conducted basic and translational research in the areas of connected vehicle technology, advanced vehicle safety systems, driving behavior, and driver distraction since 1993. Dr. Sayer recently served as the Principle Investigator for the U.S. DOT’s Connected Vehicle Safety Pilot Model Deployment program and was the primary designer, and oversaw the development, of the Mcity test facility at the University of Michigan. Currently he is the Principle Investigator for the Ann Arbor Connected Vehicle Test Environment and serves as an Adjunct Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Jeff Schmidt
Global Communications Lead
Lam Research

Jeff Schmidt is the Global Communications Lead for the Office of the CTO at Lam Research. He’s responsible for building the communications function and creating new opportunities for university / industry engagement. Previously, he worked in Europe and the US for more than 20 years and led large-scale change and engagement initiatives for Global Operations, Communications, Marketing and Human Resources in companies like eBay, Hewlett-Packard, Quantum and Texas Instruments.

Mark Schmidt
Manager of Science and Technology Policy
John Deere

Dr. Mark Schmidt is the Manager of Science and Technology Policy for John Deere. This role includes
responsibility for global university relations. He joined Deere in 1999 and holds thirteen patents. He has held roles in R&D and innovation management as well as strategy and public policy. Mark holds leadership roles with the Conservation Technology Information Center, North Carolina Arboretum, and North Carolina Plant Sciences Initiative. He also is an Eagle Scout. Schmidt holds Bachelor of Science degrees in landscape architecture and agronomy from Purdue University, a Master of Science in agronomy from Purdue University, and a Ph.D. in crop science from the University of Illinois. He lives in Raleigh, NC, with his wife and four-year-old son.

Ned Staebler
Vice President for Economic Development
Wayne State University

Ned Staebler serves as Vice President for Economic Development at Wayne State University and as President and CEO of TechTown, Detroit’s most established business incubator and accelerator. He leads both organizations’ efforts to strengthen the Detroit region’s neighborhoods, businesses and leaders, overseeing a range of activities around innovation and entrepreneurship, business development and attraction, talent retention, transit and mobility, and placemaking. Mr. Staebler previously served as the Vice President for Entrepreneurial and Capital Services at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. In this role, he was responsible for the oversight of the Michigan Strategic Fund Board and the 21st Century Jobs Fund, a $2 billion, 10-year initiative to transform Michigan’s economy. As part of these efforts, Ned led the investment and management of $600 million of state funds into entrepreneurial companies, venture capital and private equity funds, and strategic service providers. Ned also spent nearly a decade in the private sector, working in both startup and Fortune 150 environments. He served on the management team of the Helios Group, a technology-based, startup financial services firm that he helped grow from 30 to 130 employees. After Helios was acquired in 2000 by Bear Stearns, Ned spent the next three years in the company’s London, England office as an Associate Director. A Detroit native, Ned is a graduate of the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Harvard, and he received a master’s degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He serves on various boards, including NextEnergy, Midtown Detroit, Inc., the Detroit Historical Society, MichBio and the Ann Arbor Local Development Finance Authority.

David Stone
Chief Research Officer
Oakland University

David A. Stone, Ph.D. is Chief Research Officer, Professor of Interdisciplinary Health, and Professor of Philosophy at Oakland University. In his role as CRO, Dr. Stone also oversees Oakland University’s two business incubators. Dr. Stone holds two interdisciplinary degrees (a combined BA/MA degree and PhD) from the University Professors Program at Boston University. The former explored the intersection of law and psychiatry. The latter combined the philosophy of science, the philosophy of technology, economics, sociology of work, organizational behavior, cognitive science, and expert systems to examine the nature, meaning, and limits of knowledge-intensive technology. Over the past 25 years, he has taught and conducted research at Harvard’s Schools of Medicine and Public Health, Tufts University School of Medicine, Sheffield University (UK) and Northern Illinois University. He also serves as President and Chairman of the Board of the Institute for Transformational Education and Responsive Action in a Technoscientific Age (ITERATA).

Lisa Tan
Chief Marketing Officer
Reverie

Lisa Tan is the Chief Marketing Officer at sleep technology company Reverie, where she furthers the company’s mission to help people live fuller lives through the power of sleep. Through her team’s promotion of advancements in sleep technology and sleep education, Reverie has significantly grown its brand presence with consumers in the past few years. Prior to Reverie, Lisa drove client brand and profitability growth as a strategy consultant at A.T. Kearney in New York City where she managed global strategic projects. Lisa’s career began in publishing and public relations. Lisa holds an MBA from Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management and a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Princeton University.
Stewart Tansley
Facebook
Stewart Tansley joined Facebook in 2015, managing research collaborations in data science, human-computer interaction and future experiences. Prior to roles at Microsoft Research and Yahoo Labs, he was a technical manager in software R&D applied to telecoms, focusing on Artificial Intelligence technology. He holds a PhD in AI for Engineering from Loughborough University, UK. He has published papers on robotics for education, artificial intelligence, and network management, and several patents. He co-authored a book on software engineering for AI applications, and co-edited The Fourth Paradigm, a popular book that collates visionary essays on the emerging field of data-intensive science.

Meera Vijan
Mentor in Residence
University of Michigan
Meera Vijan is a Mentor in Residence at University of Michigan, Office of Technology Transfer with special focus on physical and material sciences. Meera was President of Ovonic Battery Company, a subsidiary of Energy Conversion Devices and has worked in the Advanced Battery and LCD Industry for over 30 years. As Plant Manager for A123 Systems she set up the largest Lithium –ion Battery Plant in USA. Her responsibilities included management of finance, operations, engineering and business development. She has worked with global high technology companies including setting up manufacturing plants, joint ventures etc. She has a BS in Physics from India and an MS in Chemical Engineering from the University of Detroit.

David Washburn
Executive Director
Michigan State University Foundation
David Washburn is Executive Director of the Michigan State University Foundation as well as Spartan Innovations, Red Cedar Ventures, MBI, and University Corporate Research Park, Inc. Previously, he was CEO of the University of Tennessee Research Foundation and led the software commercialization practice at the University of Illinois. He also spent a dozen years in venture backed software companies in the scientific software and programming tools sector. He holds a BA and MBA from the University of Illinois serves on the Executive Committee of MEDC.

Andre Weimerskirch
VP Cybersecurity
Lear Corporation
André Weimerskirch is VP Cyber Security at Lear Corporation. Before that, André established the transportation cyber security group at the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI), and co-founded the embedded systems security company ESCRIPT which was sold to Bosch in 2012.

Daryl Weinert
Associate Vice President for Research
University of Michigan
As associate vice president for research, Daryl oversees the administrative and business functions of the University of Michigan’s $1.4 billion research enterprise including: budget, finance, human resources, shared services, and communications. Additionally, he provides leadership for research administration across the campus, co-chairing the Research Administration Advisory Council and providing strategic oversight of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP). ORSP assists faculty and staff in all aspects of externally funded research projects and scholarly activities; from the identification of potential sponsors and the preparation of a proposal, through administrative issues related to budgets, personnel, space, sub-contracts, reporting, patents, and contract negotiations with the sponsor. Since 2012 Daryl has served as chair of the board of trustees for Youth For Understanding USA. YFU is one of the world’s oldest, largest, and most respected student exchange organizations. It is a non-profit international educational organization, headquartered in Washington, D.C., with programs in over 60 countries around the globe. Daryl was a YFU student on program in Spain in 1980.
Tom Wells  
**Strategic Research Manager**  
**Harris Corporation**

Tom Wells is the Strategic Research Manager for Harris Space and Intelligence Systems (SIS). His responsibilities include coordinating Intellectual Property Development (he is the chairman of the Harris SIS patent committee) and strategic research including university research.

Cynthia Wilbanks  
**Vice President for Government Relations**  
**University of Michigan**

Cynthia H. Wilbanks is the Vice President for Government Relations at the University of Michigan and directs the University’s Government Relations programs at the local, state and federal levels, and state outreach activities. Her responsibilities include planning and developing the institutions response to proposed legislation; developing and maintaining effective relationships with governmental agencies and officials; and analyzing and assessing legislative, administrative and regulatory activities as they pertain to University programs, activities and operations. Cynthia is a member of a number of community and civic organizations, including serving on the boards of directors of the American Center for Mobility, Bank of Ann Arbor, Center for Michigan, Ann Arbor SPARK where she is currently serving as Chair, and Riverside Arts Center Foundation. She has previously served in leadership roles of the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum Board of Directors and Glacier Hills Retirement Center Board. Prior to her work at the University of Michigan, Cynthia served as President of Michigan’s Children, a statewide child advocacy organization, and on the District Staff of two members of Congress representing Ann Arbor and surrounding communities. Cynthia is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she received a B.A. in Political Science and a Secondary Teaching Certificate.

M. Roy Wilson  
**President**  
**Wayne State University**

Dr. M. Roy Wilson became the 12th president of Wayne State University on August 1, 2013. Prior to joining Wayne State, President Wilson served as deputy director for strategic scientific planning and program coordination at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health. Previously, he was dean of the School of Medicine and vice president for health sciences at Creighton University, president of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, and concurrently, chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver and chair of the Board of Directors of University of Colorado Hospital. President Wilson also chaired the Board of Directors of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and was acting president during part of that time. President Wilson’s research has focused on glaucoma and blindness in populations from the Caribbean to West Africa. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine (Institute of Medicine). President Wilson received his undergraduate degree from Allegheny College, an M.S. in epidemiology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an M.D. from Harvard Medical School.
James Woodell
Vice President for Economic Development and Community Engagement
APLU

James K. Woodell (Jim) is Vice President for Economic Development and Community Engagement at APLU. He works closely with member institutions to develop tools and resources to enhance their regional engagement and economic development efforts. He serves as the lead staff member for APLU’s Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness and Economic Prosperity (CICEP), and also the Association’s Council on Engagement and Outreach (CEO), advancing APLU’s economic and community engagement agenda. Woodell recently earned a Ph.D. in higher education at Penn State University. His scholarly interests are in the ways in which public research universities organize for their “fourth mission” of economic engagement. He examines how institutions respond to regional, state, and federal economic and research policy with initiatives in innovation, technology transfer, and economic, community, and workforce development. Prior to joining APLU, Woodell served as Assistant Director for Transformative Regional Engagement (TRE) Networks, focused on bringing together business, government, universities, and non-profits for innovation-driven regional development. Previously, he worked in distance education, instructional media, and e-learning for nearly 20 years. Woodell was a college teacher and administrator for ten years, including managing a large-scale distance learning program for Southern New Hampshire University. He also served as Dean of Academic Technology and Distance Learning at North Shore Community College in Massachusetts. Woodell holds a master of education degree from Harvard University, and a BS in Public Communications (TV, Radio, and Film) from Syracuse University.