



**Carlos Alcazar (Chair)**  
**Managing Partner**  
***Culture ONE World***

Mr. Alcazar is the managing partner of Culture ONE World, a cross cultural creative agency focused on the burgeoning urban, millennial, and multicultural markets. He also serves as a managing director of the Tombras Group, a full-service advertising agency. His focus on content and digital platforms includes award-winning work with leading social media influencers and platforms. Prior to founding Culture ONE World, Mr. Alcazar was president and CEO of Hispanic Communications Network, blending a background in education, media, and marketing to provide leadership for companies, government agencies, and major non-profit organizations. There he focused on building and managing the largest social and cause communications firm targeting underserved communities in the United States, leading and driving a socially responsible business venture that included work for multiple federal agencies. Previously, Mr. Alcazar launched communications companies in worldwide markets, having resided in and managed business in Asia, Latin America, Europe, and the United States for Viacom and Pearson PLC. His board and advisory commitments include the Boy Scouts of America, the US Vote Foundation, and serving as a trustee of Maryland's public honors college St. Mary's College of Maryland. He holds a BA from the University of California, San Diego and completed executive education programs on Corporate Governance from the Harvard Business School.



**Megan Reilly Cayten (Vice-Chair)**  
**Principal**  
***Solas Global***

Megan Reilly Cayten is a social entrepreneur with a focus on designing, financing, implementing and managing low-carbon, high-impact projects and businesses, particularly in emerging markets. Currently she is actively developing projects in the renewable energy and blue carbon sectors. Megan has 20 years of experience developing (\$1 billion of assets), financing (\$10 billion), implementing and managing (\$8 billion) environmentally and socially responsible energy and infrastructure projects on four continents, for companies including AES Corporation, Citibank and Alinda Capital Partners, and Global Water Challenge. Her consulting clients have included institutional investors and project developers in Beijing, Yangon, Mexico City and Kenya. Ms. Reilly Cayten also founded, grew and sold Catrinka Inc., a social enterprise with a focus on women's financial empowerment. Ms. Reilly Cayten holds an MBA from Harvard and a BA from Yale, and speaks fluent Spanish and conversational French and Mandarin Chinese. In addition to her service to NEEF, she is a member of the board of the Environmental Voter Project, Educate 2 Envision, and the Fondo Mexicano para la Conservacion de la Naturaleza, and a National Council member of World Wildlife Fund. She lives in Brooklyn, NY with her husband and three children.



**George Basile, PhD**  
**Professor | School of Sustainability**  
**Senior Sustainability Scientist | Global Institute of Sustainability**  
**Affiliate Professor | School of Public Affairs**  
**Honors Faculty | Barrett Honors College**  
**Arizona State University**

Dr. Basile is currently a professor in the School of Sustainability at Arizona State University (ASU), a senior sustainability scientist in ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability and affiliate professor in the School of Public Affairs. He is also the Swedish Knowledge Foundation's Distinguished International Guest Professor of Sustainability-Driven Innovation. Dr. Basile's work has reframed sustainability as a "decision space" and focuses on how to plan, lead, and act strategically for emerging sustainability opportunities and challenges. Dr. Basile has been the executive director of the ASU Decision Theater, a unique systems exploration and application center. He has also served as a faculty affiliate and advisor to the Sustainability Consortium, a group of over 80 global businesses, universities, and NGOs developing science-based standards for sustainable products. At ASU, Dr. Basile's activities include developing novel insights, strategic methods, and tools that create solutions for sustainability including novel educational programs in sustainability and leadership in both the United States and the European Union and at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Dr. Basile holds a BS in physics from University of California, Irvine and a PhD in biophysics from University of California, Berkeley. His publications include a three-volume edited set *the Business of Sustainability* (Praeger Press, 2011).



**Kevin M. Butt**  
**Regional Environmental Director**  
**Toyota Motor North America, Inc.**

Mr. Kevin Butt is the Regional Environmental Director of Toyota's North American Environmental Sustainability Programs. He is responsible for the development of Environmental Sustainability Programs and Regulatory/Legislative development for all of Toyota's North American operations. Prior to Mr. Butt's current assignment he was the General Manager/Chief Environmental and Safety Officer for Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing for all of Toyota's Manufacturing operations. Prior to that assignment Mr. Butt was the Assistant General Manager of Body Production Engineering for Toyota Motor Manufacturing North America, Inc., (TMMNA). He was responsible for Body Engineering for all Toyota's North American manufacturing operations. Body Engineering consists of Welding, Stamping, and Painting Operations. Mr. Butt serves on several boards including the National Wildlife Habitat Council, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation, World Wildlife Fund National Council, North American Great Plains Advisory Board and the Yellowstone Park Foundation Board. Mr. Butt is a member of the US EPA Common Sense Initiative (CSI) Automobile Sector. He served on the Blue Ribbon Panel on Sustaining America's Diverse Fish and Wildlife Resources. He was also given the Toyota Community Star Award for volunteering and giving back to the community in a very high standard. Mr. Butt has a Bachelors of Science degree in Environmental Science from Georgetown College. He has also completed the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14000 Environmental Management Auditor course, and the American National Standards Institute-Registrar Accreditation Board (ANSI-RAB) accredited Environmental Management Systems Auditor course.



**Jeniffer Harper-Taylor**  
**Head of STEM Education**  
***Siemens Foundation***

Ms. Harper-Taylor serves with some of the nation's preeminent nonprofit organizations dedicated to STEM education. During more than a decade of service she has impacted students, teachers, and schools on a national scale, introducing tens of thousands of young people to opportunities in STEM. Today she oversees an annual investment of more than \$7 million in innovative education programs that support, recognize, and encourage the scientists and engineers of tomorrow. Ms. Harper-Taylor joined Siemens in 1999 as a university recruitment manager. She then joined the Siemens Foundation as program manager in March 2000, subsequently serving as program director and vice president before being named president in March 2010. Throughout her tenure she has spearheaded partnerships with such education leaders as the College Board, Discovery Education, the National Science Teachers Association, and Oak Ridge Associated Universities to broaden the reach and impact of the Foundation's programs. Ms. Harper-Taylor is active on a number of fronts to close the minority gap in STEM. She is a charter member of the advisory board for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Office for Access and the Advancement of Public Black Universities. She also serves on the Conference Board's Contributions Council, a group dedicated to advancing the practice of corporate philanthropy. Previously, she served as the diversity council chairperson for Siemens Corporation, USA. Born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia, Ms. Harper-Taylor has played an active role in various community organizations in her hometown, including the Atlanta chapter of Big Brothers and Big Sisters and membership in the NAACP and Urban League. She is a graduate of Southern University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she earned her bachelor's degree.



**Wonya Lucas**  
**President and CEO**  
***Public Broadcasting Atlanta***

Ms. Lucas was named president and CEO of Public Broadcasting Atlanta in April of 2015. Most recently, Ms. Lucas was president of Lucas Strategic Consultants where she consulted for major media companies and start-up enterprises. Previously, Ms. Lucas was president and CEO for TV One, where she was responsible for the strategic vision, brand strategy, and operations for TV One. Ms. Lucas held several positions at Discovery Communications including executive vice president and chief operating officer for Discovery Channel and Science Channel and global chief marketing officer where she led brand strategy, marketing operations, and coordination across Discovery's global businesses encompassing 210 countries and over 130 networks. Prior to joining Discovery Communications in 2008, Ms. Lucas served as general manager and executive vice president of the Weather Channel Networks, where she was responsible for corporate strategy and development, strategic marketing for the Weather Channel and weather.com, and operations and programming for the Weather Channel networks. Before joining the Weather Channel in 2002 as executive vice president of marketing, Ms. Lucas held several positions at Turner Broadcasting System, including senior vice president of strategic marketing for CNN Networks Worldwide and vice president of business operations and network development for TBS, TNT, Turner Classic Movies, and Turner South. Her other experience includes brand management roles for the Coca-Cola Company and the Clorox Company. Ms. Lucas began her career with Westinghouse Electric as a product engineer. Ms. Lucas currently serves on several boards including NEEF (National Environmental Education Foundation), Girl Scouts USA, and the Georgia Tech Advisory Board. Ms. Lucas is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology with a BS in industrial and systems engineering and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania with an MBA in finance and marketing. Ms. Lucas has two daughters, Alexis and Sydney.



**Shannon Schuyler**  
**Principal – Chief Purpose Officer, Corporate Responsibility Leader**  
***PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC US)***  
**and *PwC Charitable Foundation* President**

Ms. Schuyler is a principal and PwC Americas’ chief purpose officer and corporate responsibility (CR) leader. She also serves a member of PwC’s Global CR Board and is the president of the PwC Charitable Foundation, Inc. In her role as chief purpose officer, Shannon is working to infuse purpose into PwC’s core business strategy by elevating the global conversation on building trust, collaboration, and acting with intention and meaning in every practice, service offering, and engagement. She serves as a managing editor for Huffington Post's What's Working initiative and is helping to redefine the role of purpose as a critical avenue for achieving business growth. As the firm’s CR Leader, she designs and implements social and environmental programs that are scalable and aligned with PwC’s purpose and strategic business priorities—helping to activate employee engagement, drive operational efficiencies, elevate stakeholder engagement and connectivity, and differentiate PwC’s brand in the marketplace. Ms. Schuyler has a deep understanding of social innovation, supply chain and pro bono programs, sustainability, youth education, financial literacy, employee engagement, and effective cross-sector collaborations. She also spends a portion of her time with PwC’s Sustainable Business Solutions practice, working with clients on their approach to internal sustainability. Ms. Schuyler has spoken at the UN General Assembly, participated in G20 meetings and keynoted at the Social Innovation Summit. Shannon is widely recognized in her field as a game changer. Leadership Greater Chicago named her its 2015 “Distinguished Fellow”; Chicago Business Journal named her a 2015 “Women of Influence”; Womenetics named her a POW! “Women of the Year” recipient; PR News named her “2013 CSR Professional of the Year”; and the Stevie Awards for Women in Business honored her as a “Female Executive of the Year – Business Services (2,500 or more employees).” Ms. Schuyler is a board member of numerous charitable organizations including the National Environmental Education Foundation and Leadership Greater Chicago.

**Elizabeth “Tate” Bennett**  
**Associate Administrator**  
**Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education**  
***US Environmental Protection Agency***

Elizabeth “Tate” Bennett is the associate administrator for the Office of Public Engagement and Environmental Education. Mrs. Bennett has extensive legislative experience having worked in both the US House and Senate for various Members of Congress, including most recently for Majority leader Mitch McConnell where she served as senior legislative assistant for energy and environment issues. While working for Leader McConnell, she negotiated research provisions on his behalf in the 2014 Farm Bill. Prior to working at EPA, Mrs. Bennett worked as the senior principal of legislative affairs at the National Rural Electric Cooperatives. Mrs. Bennett holds a master’s degree in public relations and corporate communications from Georgetown University and a bachelor’s degree in government from Centre College. Mrs. Bennett grew up on a full-time horse farm in Shelbyville, KY. She is a third generation horsewoman and holds 20 world, national and international titles in the American Saddlebred horse industry.



**Tinelle Bustam**  
**Acting Director, Conservation Education**  
***US Forest Service***

Tinelle Bustam is the Acting National Director of Conservation Education for the USDA Forest Service. She has served various capacities in the Forest Service including National Assistant Director of Recreation at the Washington DC office, District Ranger on the Colville (WA) and Los Padres (CA) National Forests, Public Services Staff Officer at El Yunque National Forest (PR), as well as duty stations on the Six Rivers and Lassen National Forests (CA). Tinelle holds a PhD in natural resource recreation (University of FL), MS in outdoor education (State University of NY), and BS in wildlife biology (University of MT). Tinelle is published in peer-reviewed journals and most recently for the United Nations Development Programme. Currently adjunct faculty at Frostburg State University, Tinelle teaches a graduate course and was named the 2017 FSU Wellner Scholar for her contributions to the field of recreation and student education.



**Louisa Koch**  
**Director of Education**  
***National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)***

Ms. Koch has served as NOAA’s director of education from October 2005 to the present. NOAA’s education programs are developing the next generation of professionals educated in the NOAA sciences and educating the public about role of the ocean, coast, and atmosphere in the global environment. Ms. Koch served as NOAA’s deputy assistant administrator for research from 1998 through 2005. Before joining NOAA, Ms. Koch served at the Office of Management and Budget as the commerce branch chief. She was a presidential management intern at the Department of Defense and an economist at the Joint Economic Committee, US Congress. Ms. Koch earned a master’s in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1987), and a bachelor’s in physics from Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont. (1982). She lives in Silver Spring, Maryland with her husband Robert and two daughters.



**Matthew Lyttle**

**Acting Deputy Director, Individual and Community Preparedness Division**

***Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) – Department of Homeland Security***

In this role at FEMA, he works to engage local stakeholders, regional agencies, and national partners in various preparedness initiatives. He acts as the lead implementor of FEMA’s Strategic Plan objective to Help People Prepare for Disasters. Programs under his purview include the National CERT Program, Youth Preparedness, and You Are the Help Until Help Arrives. Mr. Lyttle specializes in bringing non-traditional emergency management partners into community resilience and preparedness efforts. Matt’s current projects include researching preparedness in America, encouraging financial preparedness among the American public, and teaching people lifesaving skills. In 2017, Mr. Lyttle served as an Intergovernmental Affairs Manager in Puerto Rico, coordinating the Federal Government’s communication with 78 jurisdictions during the response and recovery from Hurricane Maria. He was elected President of the Northern Virginia Regional VOAD from 2010 until 2013, and has filled various positions on the board of his local Citizen Corps Council. Mr. Lyttle is a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, having served from 2008 to 2010 in the northern mountains of Nicaragua. His interest in community development and disaster resiliency began while working with rural villages that had yet to recover from Hurricane Mitch a decade earlier. Mr. Lyttle lives in Alexandria, VA with his family, where he is active in the local CERT program, as well as local planning and zoning initiatives.



**Sara B. Newman, DrPH, MCP**

**CAPTAIN, United States Public Health Service**

**Director, Office of Public Health, National Park Service**

Sara B. Newman DrPH, MCP, is a Captain in the United States Public Health Service and has dedicated more than 25 years to working in public health positions both with the public and private sectors. Since March 2015, Dr. Newman has served as the director of the Office of Public Health (OPH) with the National Park Service (NPS) where she is principal advisor to the NPS director and executive leadership for public health decisions affecting 300 million visitors in 413 parks nationwide. As OPH director, Dr. Newman is the NPS lead public health policy and management expert providing technical expertise to the NPS on food safety, drinking water safety, waste water and communicable diseases, infectious disease surveillance, outbreak response, and health promotion. In this position, CAPT Newman also serves as commanding officer to 50 United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps officers assigned to the Department of the Interior (DOI), providing support, guidance and management. More recently, Dr. Newman was selected by the NPS Director to serve as the science integrity officer for the NPS, handling all scientific integrity issues and allegations assigned to the NPS by the Department of the Interior. Dr. Newman earned her doctoral degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) focusing on epidemiology and social and behavioral sciences. She earned her master in city planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She lives in Arlington, VA with her husband, three children and their dog, Jethro.



**Ericka L. Reid, PhD**  
**Director, Office of Science Education & Diversity**  
***National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health***

Dr. Reid directs the Office of Science Education & Diversity (OSD) at NIEHS. As the educational and career exploration/preparation outreach arm of the Institute, OSD coordinates national, regional, state-wide, and local outreach efforts designed to raise the awareness of students, teachers, parents, scientists, and the general public regarding the mission, research, and goals of NIEHS. Prior to coming to NIEHS, Dr. Reid worked with a Science & Technology Center funded by the National Science Foundation, where she served as the deputy director of education for the Center for Behavioral Neuroscience (CBN), a consortium of eight local colleges and universities and based at Emory University. Additionally, she completed a science and technology policy fellowship at the National Academies in Washington, DC. She assisted the Committee on Engineering Education in the National Academy of Engineering with reports on the Engineer of 2020 and educational technology. Dr. Reid was born and raised in High Point, North Carolina where she established an early desire and determination to make great strides in education, both for herself and for those around her. She attained an undergraduate degree in psychology and a master's degree in education (counseling and development) from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She also has a doctorate in educational psychology from Georgia State University. While Dr. Reid's career path has taken her to major research universities, historically Black colleges and universities, community colleges, non-profit organizations, and federal service; what remains steadfast is her drive and determination to make a difference for those who seek educational achievement and career advancement. She believes in and is a strong advocate for sharing information and knowledge, as well as providing access and opportunity.



**Nora Savage, PhD,**  
**Nano Program Director**  
**Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Systems (CBET)**  
**Engineering Directorate**  
**National Science Foundation**

Dr. Savage has worked for the U.S. federal government for almost twenty years. In this capacity she has served the environmental nanotechnology research community through her contributions to strategic research direction. Dr. Savage served as a Team Lead for nanotechnology within the Office of Research and Development within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. She currently serves as Program Director for the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Savage has authored and co-authored numerous articles on nanotechnology and emerging technologies in leading journals, including the *Journal of Nanoparticle Research and Toxicological Sciences*. She served as lead editor for the books "Emerging Technologies: Socio-Behavioral Life Cycle Approaches" and for "Nanotechnology for Water Applications" (now in its second edition) and has contributed chapters to several other books, including the *Oxford Handbook of Nanoscience and Technology*, vol. III. Dr. Savage obtained her bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering in 1992 from Prairie View A&M University located in Prairie View, Texas. She received two masters degrees (in Environmental Engineering and Environmental Science) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, located in Madison, Wisconsin in 1995, and a doctoral degree in Environmental Science from the same institution in 2000.



**Christopher S. Strager**  
**Director**

***National Weather Service Central Region***

Mr. Strager is the director of the NWS Central Region in Kansas City, Missouri. The Central Region contains 45 NWS offices with nearly 1,000 employees spread across 14 states. Mr. Strager received his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from the Pennsylvania State University in May 1983 and his master's degree in meteorology from Texas A&M University in August 1989. Mr. Strager started his meteorological career as an enlisted weather observer with the Air Force in 1978. He left Air Force active duty in May 1992 to begin his career with the NWS. Chris maintained his ties with the Air Force by serving as the commander of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard's 146th Weather Flight until his retirement in June 2012. Mr. Strager started his career with the NWS at the Portland, Maine Weather Forecast Office. In November 1993, he transferred to the Federal Aviation Administration's Air Route Traffic Control Center/Center Weather Service Unit in Oberlin, Ohio. He returned to the NWS at the Grand Forks, North Dakota Weather Forecast Office in October 1995, where he received a Department of Commerce Silver Medal for his work during the Red River flood of 1997. He joined the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Weather Forecast Office in the position of senior meteorologist in 1998 and was promoted in October 2003 as the regional aviation meteorologist at the Alaska Region Headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska. While in this position he also served as the national program manager for the NWS's Volcanic Ash Program. He became the Alaska Region's deputy regional director in December 2004 before returning in 2008 to the Pittsburgh Weather Forecast Office as the meteorologist-in-charge (MIC). He served as the Pittsburgh MIC until his selection as the director for NWS Eastern Region in February 2010. In March 2011 Mr. Strager came to NWS headquarters as the NWS advisor for science and service integration. His tasks were to develop the "NWS Roadmap" and to lead the agency's Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) initiative. This document and the WRN initiative will shape and guide NWS operations through the year 2020 and beyond. In March 2013 he was asked to concurrently lead the Office of Climate, Water, and Weather as the acting director. Mr. Strager started his current position as the Central Region director in October 2014. He and his wife Crystal are the proud parents of two grown children, Elizabeth and Andrew.

**Liaisons**



**William Cibulas Jr., PhD, MS**  
**Deputy Associate Director for Science**

***CDC National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry***

Dr. Cibulas serves as NCEH/ATSDR deputy associate director. For six months during 2013, Dr. Cibulas was temporarily assigned to DHHS/OASH where he 1) provided expert advice on environmental issues related to chemicals in the environment, public health, and environmental justice, and 2) promoted and advanced the agency's strategic priorities with other federal agencies and non-government partners located in Washington, DC. Since his return to Atlanta, Dr. Cibulas has provided senior technical support to the NCEH/ATSDR Office of the Director through his appointment as deputy associate director within the Office of Science, and participation on various high-level interagency committees. Previously CDC/ATSDR positions held by Dr. Cibulas include branch chief in the former Division of Toxicology and director, Division of Health Assessment and Consultation. Dr. Cibulas received a BS in pre-medicine from the Pennsylvania State University, an MS in pharmacology and toxicology from Duquesne University, and a PhD in environmental health/occupational toxicology from the University of Cincinnati.



**Maureen Sullivan,  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Environment, Safety & Occupational Health)  
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Energy, Installations and Environment  
*US Department of Defense (DoD)***

Ms. Sullivan is responsible for DoD's policies and programs related to compliance with environmental laws; management of natural and cultural resources; cleanup of contaminated sites; safety & occupational health; fire and emergency services; green/sustainable buildings; installation emergency management; international environmental compliance and cleanup efforts; climate change adaptation planning; strategic sustainability planning; planning to address emerging contaminants; and international defense environmental cooperation. Additionally, Ms. Sullivan is responsible for the DoD Native American program, oversees the Armed Forces Pest Management Board, the DoD Explosives Safety Board, and the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program/Environmental Security Technology Certification Program. Ms. Sullivan holds a bachelor of science degree in natural resource economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.



**Meri-Margaret Deoudes**  
**President and CEO**

Meri-Margaret Deoudes joined the National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF) as its president and CEO in April of 2018. NEEF is a national organization connecting people to environmental knowledge they can use to improve the quality of their lives and the health of the planet. Prior to NEEF, Meri-Margaret was the president and CEO of EarthShare, a strategic advisor and programmatic partner to the business sector that develops dynamic engagement and philanthropy programs focused on creating tangible sustainability progress. Along with an extensive background in developing holistic corporate alliances, special events and employee engagement programs for prominent national nonprofits including the National Wildlife Federation, March of Dimes and Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Meri-Margaret has worked in the environmental community to create, market and fund programs that promote the benefits of outdoor activity and nurture the next generation of environmental stewards.

A graduate of George Washington University in Washington, D.C., Meri-Margaret recently earned her CFRE and served as a Guru Lunch host at Green Biz. She has been a panelist and speaker at the Sustainable Brands Conference, appeared on Lifetime's morning show, *The Balancing Act*, and was a "spokesmom" for National Wildlife Federation's *Be Out There* movement to connect kids to nature.

Meri-Margaret is the proud mother of an 11 year-old boy. She is life-long learner and avid reader known for developing her best ideas during daily outdoor runs. She enjoys cooking and entertaining with friends and spending time with family.

## Staff in Alphabetical Order

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**Rahul Bhagnari**  
**Digital Marketing & Technology Manager**

Rahul Bhagnari joined NEEF in July of 2015 and he manages all aspects of NEEF's digital presence and coordinates with consultants and contractors on various projects including the branding, marketing, strategic digital technologies, and website redesign. He is overseeing and conducting a full website redesign including merging various microsites and landing pages into a ONE NEEF brand. Additionally, he performs all technology manager tasks. Previously, he worked as the digital content producer for the ACLU. Rahul has a BS in industrial and systems engineering from Georgia Tech. He spends most of his time with his dog, Louie, or at the movies.



**Sarah Blount**  
**Program Director, Research & Evaluation**

Sarah heads the evaluation efforts across the organization, helping to measure the progress of the programmatic work at NEEF and always on the lookout for new ways to improve. In collaboration with her colleagues, Sarah designs, builds, and manages evaluation and data collection tools to assist in reporting; troubleshoots the organization CRM database; and provides content expertise in the field of environmental science. Sarah has been with the organization since she started as an intern in 2013, and received her BS in environmental science from the University of Virginia. In her off hours, Sarah can be found trying her hand at a new recipe, deep diving into Netflix's archives, or hanging out with friends at her local pie shop.



**Nick Bradford**  
**Program Director, Research & Innovation**

Nick Bradford joined NEEF in June 2015 after graduating from Indiana University with a dual degree of master of public affairs and master of science in environmental science (MPA/MSES). In his current role at NEEF, Nick works with trusted partners to inform the general public of environmental issues and engage them in pro-environmental behaviors through engagement campaigns and employee engagement. Projects that he's worked on include engagement campaigns with the NBA, NHL, and 18 US aquariums, employee engagement surveys and reports for salary and hourly employees, and creating materials for newscasters, health professionals, and real estate professionals focused on communicating increased home energy performance. When not saving the world with his NEEF coworkers, Nick enjoys participating in his karaoke and kickball leagues and volunteering for LGBTQ organizations in DC.



**Patrick Deavy**  
**Vice President, Organizational Development**

Patrick Deavy works across the organization to implement projects, tools, and strategies that impact every department. Patrick oversees annual goal setting, work planning, legal issues and facilitates strategic discussions. He has worked at NEEF for nearly 16 years, first in development, then as senior director for special projects and now as vice president, organizational development. He has been responsible for overseeing the creation of national benchmark surveys and designed NEEF's philanthropic grantmaking systems. Before working at NEEF, Patrick worked in the theatre arts and fundraising at the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati. Patrick has his BFA from Northern Kentucky University and his MBA from the University of Cincinnati along with a graduate certificate in Leadership and Management. He lives in the Cincinnati area, working remotely for NEEF, serves on the board of the Young Professionals Choral Collective, and is a graduate of the Cincinnati Chamber's Leadership Action program.



**Sara Espinoza**  
**Vice President, Programs**

Sara Espinoza works closely with NEEF program directors to design, integrate, execute, and evaluate NEEF programs and pilot initiatives, as well as explore new themes and concepts in environmental education. She works to ensure the credibility, effectiveness, and relevance of NEEF through coordination of evaluation activities, tracking research and emerging trends in environmental education, and identifying and disseminating promising strategies and best practices in lifelong environmental learning. Previously, Sara served as senior director of NEEF's weather and environment program, where she worked with broadcast meteorologists across the US to incorporate environmental information into the television weathercast. Sara is a senior fellow of the Environmental Leadership Program and a member of the Bucknell University Alumni Association Board of Directors. Before joining NEEF, Sara worked with the education programs at World Wildlife Fund and the Jane Goodall Institute. She holds a BA from Bucknell University and a master of environmental management (MEM) from Duke University.



**Alexandra Funk Olmstead**  
**Development Manager**

Alexandra Funk Olmstead has more than a decade of experience working with diverse funding sources. Ali has been involved in all aspects of NEEF fundraising since joining the development team in 2010, including: prospect research; report, proposal, and budget development; gift processing and stewardship; as well as the Salesforce database conversion and ongoing management. Prior to NEEF, Ali spent three years as philanthropic partnerships associate for the Salzburg Global Seminar, a nonprofit organization that challenges mid-career professionals to address issues of global concern. She received a BA in mathematics and certification in secondary education from Connecticut College, and was a selected scholar of the Holleran Center for Community Action & Public Policy. Ali gained experience in the field of education through student teaching and volunteering in New England K-12 schools, and interning for the Vermont Department of Education. Ali was raised in Vermont which she credits with her love for nature.



**Dalia Johnson**  
**Executive Assistant and Board Liaison**

Dalia Johnson joined NEEF in January 2013. She provides direct administrative support to the president. She also coordinates board activities for NEEF. Dalia's previous work experience includes 10 years as an operations manager for a boutique executive search firm specializing in recruitment for environmental nonprofits, and two years as an independent consultant to environmental and homeless advocacy nonprofits on various administrative, recruitment, and fundraising projects. She earned her BA from Trinity Washington University and is a 3rd generation Washingtonian.



**LaTavia McQueen**  
**Communications Associate**

LaTavia McQueen joined NEEF in August of 2016 as an intern. She currently manages NEEF's social media accounts and editorial calendar, develops online web content and videos for NEEF's Communications and Marketing team. A proud graduate from Hampton University, LaTavia obtained a BA in Strategic Communications in May of 2016. She has vast interest in film and depicting the stories of underrepresented communities. Prior to joining NEEF, LaTavia worked as a camp counselor at the Harrison Family YMCA for four years in her hometown of Rocky Mount, NC. Previously, LaTavia interned with Carolinas HealthCare System, one of the nation's leading healthcare facilities, in Strategic Communications. There, LaTavia assisted in creating a strategic plan to recruit millennial and minority clinical talent.



**Vernessa Perry**  
**Program Director, Heath & Wellness**

Vernessa leads environmental health programs and develops innovative learning experiences for practitioners to apply NEEF's guidelines-based models in practice. Her areas of expertise include designing, executing, managing, and evaluating projects. Prior to joining NEEF, Vernessa worked as a program manager at Howard University focusing on maternal and child health issues. She earned her Master of Science in Public Health from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte and is PMP certified.



**Tony Richardson**  
**Program Director, Public Lands Engagement**

Tony Richardson is the Program Director for Public Lands Engagement at the National Environmental Education Foundation. In this role, he is responsible for building and managing NEEF's portfolio of public lands engagement programs, including National Public Lands Day. He has been working in the environmental conservation field for over ten years through his involvement with organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America and the Student Conservation Association. Tony is passionate about connecting people to nature, particularly communities that are often underrepresented in outdoor spaces. He has served in volunteer leadership positions with various national non-profits, including Outdoor Afro, a national network that celebrates and inspires African American connections and leadership in nature. His accomplishments in this field led to him receiving the prestigious '30 Under 30' award from the North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE).



**Robert Sendrey**  
**Program Director, Environmental Education**

Robert Sendrey joined NEEF in July 2017. His career as an educator began as a non-traditional student at Antioch College earning a BA in Education, followed by an internship at the Caltech Precollege Science Initiative. He taught middle school science and math in Los Angeles for nearly a decade before trading the four walls of the classroom for the four points of a compass, working as an itinerant naturalist throughout California for several seasons. Those outdoor education trips led to four years as the program director for Outward Bound Adventures, an environmental education and youth development nonprofit serving the communities of metro Los Angeles. In 2012 he moved to the Puget Sound region of Washington State, where for four years he led an environmental nonprofit working to restore ESA-listed stocks of salmon through habitat restoration projects and environmental education programs. Robert is excited to bring his skills and experiences as an educator and nonprofit administrator to help NEEF achieve its mission.



**Amy Skalmusky**  
**Vice President of Marketing and Communications**

Amy Skalmusky is a marketing & communications professional with two decades of experience. She holds a BA in Journalism and Art from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA in Marketing from IBMEC in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Amy began her career as a journalist and freelance writer, moving to graphic design and then marketing. Much of her career was spent in Brazil, where she worked as a marketing director for local and multinational companies, developing integrated marketing, public relations and sales strategies for high technology products in international markets. As marketing manager for naval technology company, Symmetry, Ltda., she was instrumental in the company's year-over-year growth and eventual acquisition by Oceaneering International in 2008. Prior to joining NEEF, she served as marketing director for PM Environmental, a top environmental engineering firm with headquarters in Lansing, Michigan. She built a diverse marketing department from the ground up - establishing processes and metrics, hiring staff, overhauling the company website/social media presence and creating consistent branding in offices across 18 states. This contributed to the company growing 12% year over year and winning the Inc. 5000 "fastest growing companies" award. Amy is fluent in Portuguese and spends her free time cooking, playing tennis (poorly) and volunteering in hospice and adult literacy programs.



**Nancy Smith**  
**Vice President, Finance and Administration**

Nancy Smith, vice president of finance and administration, started with NEEF in November of 2007. Nancy earned her BA from the American University. She has many years of non-profit experience, including Director of Operations for The Center for a New American Dream in Takoma Park, MD. Prior to that, she was business manager with the National United Methodist Church in Washington, DC.



**Isabel Spake**  
**Director, Grants Administration**

Isabel Spake joined NEEF in November 2016 where she oversees the grantmaking process. Isabel brings eight years of project and grants management experience. Prior to joining NEEF, Isabel was a Team Leader at the National Council on Teacher Quality where she evaluated the quality of teacher education programs. Prior to that, she served as the AmeriCorps Program Officer for the DC Mayor's Office on Volunteerism. Isabel has a BA in History from St. Mary's College of Maryland and a MPA from George Washington University.



**Janay' Turner**  
**Senior Director, Human Resources & Diversity**

Janay' Turner joined NEEF in May 2016 and currently serves as the Senior Director, HR & Diversity. She previously worked as the business manager for the Arts Council of Fairfax County where she was responsible for accounting and budgeting, fundraising, human resources, and general office management. A native Californian, Janay' pursued her undergraduate education at Howard University and graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music in 2009. She holds a Master of Arts in Arts Management from George Mason University, and earned her Society of Human Resource Management Certified Professional credential (SHRM-CP) in 2018. Having a passion for the arts and giving back to her community, Janay' started her own business in 2015, Turn2Music LLC, providing private piano lessons for people ages 5 and up.