



## 2023 SBEAP Annual Training Speaker Bios

**Lisa Ashenbrenner Hunt** has been providing environmental regulatory assistance to the small business community since 2012 through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and also works on other business support programs within the department. She is the chair of the Environmental Justice Subcommittee and past chair of the National Steering Committee.

**Lauren Boitel** is the Executive Director of ImpactNV, a statewide sustainability nonprofit that works to convene critical stakeholders and build regional coalitions to drive economic, environment, and social sustainability across Nevada. Lauren has over 13 years of experience as a Sustainability Professional in Southern Nevada and created the curriculum for and taught the *Sustainability and Entrepreneurship* course for the Lee Business School at UNLV for 5 years.

**Belinda Breidenbach** is the Environmental Assistance Coordinator at the Idaho Small Business Development Center. Belinda has expertise in various areas of environmental compliance and chairs the Education subcommittee.

**Lee Ann Briggs** is an Environmental Consultant within the Pennsylvania Environmental Management Assistance Program (EMAP). She is located at the University of Pittsburgh's Small Business Development Center (SBDC). Lee Ann has over 30 years of environmental regulatory compliance experience in both consulting and industrial capacities.

**Allison Crowther** is a specialist with the Kansas State University Pollution Prevention Institute, which houses the Kansas SBEAP and facilitates National SBEAP as the 507 program grantee. Allison has been with PPI for four years, during which she has been involved in maintaining and expanding the National SBEAP website, including the redesign in 2021. Allison has also served as chair of the Promotion subcommittee since late 2020.

**Eleanor Divver** has been with Utah's SBEAP program for three years now. Utah's SBEAP position is a .5 position that oversees the Ombudsman program and answers questions from the five Divisions within DEQ. Eleanor loves that every day is different and she learns something new.

**Dr. Danilo Dragoni** joined the Bureau of Air Quality Planning with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection as environmental scientist first and later as supervisor of the modeling branch. In 2015, he became Chief of the Air Quality Planning Bureau, which oversees regulation development and adoption, ambient air quality monitoring, and greenhouse gas inventory reporting for the NDEP's Air Program.

**Emilie Eskridge** is the supervisor of the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention's Environmental Assistance Unit (EAU) which provides technical compliance assistance, including on site evaluations, to small businesses located in Ohio. Prior to this role, Emilie worked in the Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters as the supervisor of the Emerging Contaminants Section and as a drinking water compliance specialist. Emilie received a Bachelor of Science from Texas A&M University and completed graduate-level coursework and research at the University of Arkansas.

**Jennifer Feyerherm** has had a variety of roles at the Department of Natural Resources. For the last five years, she has been serving as an Environmental Assistance Coordinator at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Working with the Sustainability and Business Support team, she helps small businesses and local governments navigate environmental regulations through the Small Business Assistance Program.

**Maxwell Graham** is an environmental specialist working with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Sustainability. He is a member of New Jersey's Small Business Environmental Assistance Program and is actively involved with the Environmental Justice Subcommittee.

**Donovan Grimwood** has worked with the TN Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP) since 1999. In 2014, he was named the TN Small Business Environmental Ombudsman, though he still mostly does technical work in the SBEAP. He is currently the Chair of the National Steering Committee and is active with several subcommittees including, Planning, Website, Environmental Justice, Technical and leads the Metrics and Awards workgroup.

**Martha Guzman** was sworn in as EPA Regional Administrator for the nation's Pacific Southwest Region (Region 9) on December 20, 2021. In this role she is leading EPA efforts to protect public health and the environment for the region spanning Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, the U.S. Pacific Islands territories, and 148 Tribal Nations. Ms. Guzman came to this EPA position after having served as a Commissioner at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for the previous five years. Prior to joining the CPUC, Guzman served as Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary in the Office of the Governor of California and prior to that a Sustainable Communities program director for the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation.

**Jeremy Hancher** is the EMAP Program Manager located at the Widener University Small Business Development Center (SBDC). In this role, he leads the EMAP team in providing small business technical assistance as Pennsylvania's designated SBEAP.

**Paula Hoag** serves as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO), located within EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). Paula has worked in OSDBU since 2006 and formally accepted the permanent role as the Ombudsman in 2020. As a staff member within OSDBU, Paula assists the public and small business community with informal regulatory guidance, serving as EPA's informational liaison and small business advocate for fair engagement within the Agency's rulemaking and compliance assistance process.



**Angela Hughes**'s shared passion for environmental stewardship and seeing businesses thrive in Oklahoma led to her career in public service. Hughes has more than 25 years of state and federal environmental experience, which includes oversight of multi-million-dollar projects at both Superfund and hazardous waste sites across Oklahoma. Hughes started the Site Cleanup Assistance Program that remediated 64 National Guard armories so they could be safely used by the local communities for community events or business opportunities.

**Derek Kauneckis**, PhD, is an Associate Research Professor with the Desert Research Institute and Senior Resilience Services Lead for ISeeChange, an AI enabled community data science engagement platform for utilizing resident's knowledge on environmental change and impacts for adaptation and resilience planning. Derek has over two decades of experience constructing collaborative interdisciplinary teams, process development for transdisciplinary research and innovation, and creating coproduction across public, private, and nonprofit partners.

**Jeffrey Kinder**, P.E., Deputy Administrator with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection working with the Air, Land, and Sustainability Programs. Jeff has a BS in Mechanical Engineering and an MS in Groundwater Hydrogeology from the University of Nevada, Reno. Jeff has spent the past 28 years working in the environmental field, both in private industry and with the State of Nevada.

**Nancy Larson** is the Director of the Pollution Prevention Institute (PPI) at Kansas State University. Nancy and the PPI team operated the KS SBEAP and the Pollution Prevention program serving hundreds of businesses and industry partners annually. PPI also hosts the NSBEAP website and provide communication support for the NSBEAP.

**Chris Lynch** is a nationally recognized expert on small business environmental and energy issues. Prior to joining UNR's BEP in January 2011, he launched and managed a similar program for 13 years at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He has served as an adviser to organizations including the Center for the Small Business and the Environment, Environmental Defense Fund, and the Pew Center on Global Climate Change.

**CJ Mishima** is an Environmental Justice Coordinator serving the San Francisco Bay Area region. Prior to his work at EPA, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Malawi, Africa, working for the National Park Service.

**Dean Greg Mosier** leads the College of Business at the University of Nevada, Reno where he has served as Dean since 2007. His responsibilities as Dean include executive and administrative support for approximately 75 faculty, thirty-five professionals and staff and 3,500 students. Greg serves as a member of the PBS Reno Public Broadcasting Board of Trustees and the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce Board. Greg is a former corporate attorney, having worked for the Parker Drilling Company in Texas.

**Julie Regan** currently serves as the Executive Director of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and has been with the agency in an executive role since 2003. TRPA is the first environmental interstate compact agency of its kind and is charged with the environmental protection of Lake Tahoe, the second deepest lake in the United States. She is past Chair of the national coordinating committee of the Network for Landscape Conservation and has contributed writings on destination stewardship to the global conversation on overtourism.



**David Rostker** is an Assistant Chief Counsel in the US Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy. In this position since 2010, David represents the interests of small businesses before Federal agencies in policy development, with a particular emphasis on rulemakings under the Clean Air Act and the Regulatory Flexibility Act. He also serves as Advocacy's Liaison to the Administrative Conference of the United States.

**Rede Shifferaw** is the Contracts Team Lead & Small Business Liaison in the Contract Management Branch at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9. Rede has been with EPA for the past 8 years. Rede brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position, having been in the contracting field since 2010. He's worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and at NASA Ames Research Center.

**Brian Shrager** is an Environmental Engineer in the Policy and Strategies Group (PSG) at the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS) in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. He has over 30 years experience in environmental engineering and currently serves as the coordinator of EPA's Section 112 Program.

**Dan Sowry** currently serves as the Assistant Environmental Administrator of Ohio EPA's Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention. Dan oversees Ohio EPA's sustainability program, Recycling and Litter Prevention grant program, pollution prevention program, environmental and compliance assistance program, Ohio Materials Marketplace program and Encouraging Environmental Excellence program.

**Marie Steele** is the Vice President of Integrated Energy Services at NV Energy where she leads a diverse team responsible for the company's clean energy customer programs and services including energy efficiency, demand response, electric vehicles, battery storage and renewable energy. A persistent advocate for equitable sustainable solutions, Marie has been a prominent voice in the transportation electrification space in Nevada, co-authoring the Nevada Governor's Office of Energy report, *Electrifying Nevada's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Transportation System* as Principal and Co-Founder at e-Centricity, LLP, a woman-owned Nevada based business.

**Rhonda Wright** is an Environmental Protection Specialist for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards (OAQPS), Community and Tribal Program Group. She serves as the Small Business Liaison for OAQPS, and provide support to environmental justice communities and tribal nations. Prior to that, Rhonda served as a National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) designations rule writer in the OAQPS Air Quality Policy Division.

