



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017

Speaker Biographies

Keynote Speakers

TREVOR STUTHRIDGE, PH.D.

Executive Vice President

FPInnovations

FPInnovations is a not-for-profit world leader that specializes in the creation of scientific solutions in support of the Canadian forest sector's global competitiveness and responds to the priority needs of its industry members and government partners. FPInnovations' 525 person staff and R&D laboratories are located in Québec City, Montréal, and Vancouver, and it has technology transfer offices across Canada. In addition, Trevor currently holds the following positions: Board Member, Institute of Forest Biosciences; Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia; Director, NSERC Strategic Research Network on Value Chain Optimization; Director, Innoventures Canada (I-CAN); Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto. Before arriving in Canada, Trevor was a senior research leader and executive manager of Scion, a New Zealand Crown Research Institute (www.scionresearch.com) specializing in research, science, and technology development for the forestry, wood product and wood-derived materials, and biomaterial sectors. He founded and managed Scion's Sustainable Design group, a core provider of innovation in the areas of forest management, wood processing, pulp and paper and sustainability, and specializing in clean technologies, forest industry informatics, and value chain optimization.

JIM BOWYER, PH.D.

Director of Responsible Materials

Dovetail Partners Inc.

Dr. Bowyer is Professor Emeritus, University of Minnesota Department of Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering, and an Elected Fellow of the International Academy of Wood Science. Bowyer has served as President of the Forest Products Society (1993-94) and of the Society of Wood Science and Technology (1987-88), Vice President of the Consortium for Research on Renewable Industrial Materials (1992-2003), Chairman of the Tropical Forest Foundation (2006-2008), and Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Temperate Forest Foundation (1992-2010). He was Head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Wood & Paper Science from 1984 to 1994, and Founder and Director of the Forest Products Management Development Institute at the University of Minnesota from 1994-2003. Jim's new book – *The Irresponsible Pursuit of Paradise*, delves into the ethically bankrupt position that underlies much of environmental policy of the U.S. and other wealthy countries. He notes that aggressive resistance to local extraction of raw materials in the face of high per capita consumption, and heavy reliance on imported raw materials adds up to what has been aptly described as environmental imperialism. Observing "... contrary to common practice today, high consuming nations need to be asking, 'Why not in my back yard?'"



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

Conference Speakers

A.J. (Sandy) Marshall

Executive Director

Bioindustrial Innovation Canada

Sandy was raised on a farm near Blyth Ontario before graduating with Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (BASc) and Masters of Applied Science Degree (MASc) in Chemical Engineering from the University of Waterloo. Over his 30 year career in the chemical and polymers industry, he worked in research and process, product development and market development before moving into Operations and General Management. Sandy finished his corporate career as President and Managing Director responsible for Canadian Operations of Lanxess Canada. He is an innovative thinker, recognized for strong leadership, negotiation and relationship building skills. Experience includes P&L responsibility, R&D scale-up, Board of Directors membership and interaction with government at the federal, provincial and local level. Sandy has been recognized as a leader committed to Corporate Social Responsibility and environmental sustainability in Canada. Sandy is Executive Director of Bioindustrial Innovation Canada (BIC), President and CEO of Sustainable Chemistry Alliance, Chairman of the Board of Governors at Lambton College, Chairman of the External Advisory Board for the Biorefinery Research Institute at Lakehead University and is also member of the Boards of BIOTECCanada and Soy20/20.

Adam Pringle

Department of Material Science and Engineering

Michigan Technological University

Adam Pringle is a graduate student in Materials Science and Engineering at the Michigan Technological University (MTU). He obtained his bachelors degree in the same field at MTU as well. He is a senior member of the Michigan Tech's Open Sustainability Technology (MOST) Research Group and his research focuses on sustainability and additive manufacturing broadly and wood composite filament process manufacturing specifically. His scientific interests lie primarily with understanding and optimizing 3D printing for innovative materials, product designs, manufacturing processes and material property capability.

Alper Kiziltas, Ph.D.

Research Scientist, Sustainable Biomaterials and Plastics

Ford Motor Company

Alper Kiziltas is a Research Scientist with the Sustainable Biomaterials and Plastic Research group at Ford Motor Co. where his particular interests lie in sustainable materials such as bio-based and recycled resins, natural fiber composites, and nanofillers-reinforced foams. He is a graduate of the University of Maine where he received his Master's and Ph.D. degrees from the School of Forest Resources. He has published over 40 papers and presentations in peer-reviewed journals and conferences, and holds 5 patent disclosures.



Archie Landreman

Regional Director North Central

WoodWorks - Wood Products Council

Archie lives in Racine, Wisconsin and is the North Central Regional Director for WoodWorks, an initiative of the Wood Products Council. He has been active in the wood and structural building component industry since 1970, and has extensive experience with structural lumber, engineered wood products and mass timber. He is an active and participating member of the American Institute of Architects, Association of Licensed Architects, Construction Specification Institute, Forest Products Society, National Frame Building Association, Structural Building Component Association, Structural Engineers Association, Structural Insulated Panel Association and works closely with the Forest Products Lab in Madison, Wisconsin.

Ben Brungraber, Ph.D., P.E.

Owner

Fire Tower Engineered Timber

Ben was raised by a structural engineer and finds he has raised one, as well. He worked as a Field Engineer on some big jobs before going back to grad school in Timber Structures. His MSCE from Colorado State and PhD from Stanford led him into academia for a few years, but the love of designing and building proved even stronger. Ben was the first full-time engineer working in timber framing, when he left for Benson Woodworking more than thirty years ago. He left there to cofound Fire Tower Engineered Timber, just as the economy hit the ditch. The firm has recovered and grown to about ten, with engineers specializing in exposed heavy timber. They work on designing new structures, often with CLT components, and in repairing existing timber structures.

Bill O'Neill

Forest Resources Division Chief and State Forester

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Bill O'Neill is the chief of the Forest Resources Division. He also serves as state forester for Michigan. In his role as chief, O'Neill is focusing on what's best for the state forest land, and for the industries and people who rely on Michigan's robust natural resources. He believes that sustainably managing Michigan's state forest system has always been a collaborative effort and that by continuing to communicate and work together, Michigan's forests can remain the best of the best for current and future generations. O'Neill has held various positions during his nearly 30-year career with the DNR. He earned a bachelor's degree in forestry and a master's degree in forestry with an emphasis on business management from Michigan State University. In his free time, he is an avid outdoorsman and serves on many community and professional boards.



Bob Ross, Ph.D.

Supervisory Research Gen. Engineer, Research Professor

USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Michigan Technological University

Bob Ross has worked at the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL), testing unit, since 1988. He currently serves as a Project Leader at FPL and Research Professor at Michigan Tech. His research focuses on the development and use of nondestructive evaluation technologies for various wood products and structures, from standing trees to historic buildings and ships. He has written or co-authored over 270 technical reports/articles about nondestructive evaluation and jointly holds two dozen U.S. and foreign patents. He served as team leader and editor of the Centennial Edition of "Wood Handbook-Wood as an Engineering Material", FPL's flagship publication. Bob holds BS (Wood and Fiber Utilization) and MS (Engineering Mechanics) degrees from Michigan Technological University and a PhD in Engineering Science from Washington State University. In addition to his technical contributions, Bob has made a significant effort to integrate individuals who have intellectual disabilities into the workplace. His efforts have been formally recognized by the Arc Dane County, Madison Area Rehabilitation Center, and Greater Madison Federal Agency Association. Currently he is a volunteer for the Arc Dane County.

Brian Craig, AIA, LEED AP

Director, Graduate Program in Architecture, Kendall College of Art and Design

Ferris State University

Architect and educator Brian Craig, AIA, utilizes his architectural abilities to serve humanity and create a sustainable future. Since graduating from the University of Michigan in 1975 and starting his career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Afghanistan, he has designed major architectural projects, grown a successful practice, led numerous public and private boards, and most recently founded the Master of Architecture program at Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University.

Brian Brashaw, Ph.D.

Program Manager, Forest Products Marketing Unit

USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory

Brian Brashaw is the Program Manager for the Forest Products Marketing Unit (FPMU), at the Forest Products Laboratory (FPL) in Madison, Wisconsin. FPMU's mission is to work collaboratively and strategically with Forest Service and external partners to advance high-value, high-volume markets for woody biomass. The unit focuses on utilization and marketing opportunities for products and residues from forest timber harvest, land restoration activities, hazardous fuels reduction, natural disaster recovery, and urban forestry. Utilization and marketing emphasis areas include lumber, engineered wood materials, mass timber, biochemicals and biofuels, and cellulosic nanomaterials. One priority is to strengthen partnerships between existing and emerging industries and Forest Service researchers to develop markets for wood products made from hazardous fuels and underutilized species. Brian earned a B.S. degree in Forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, a Master of Science Degree in Wood Products from Washington State University and a PhD. in Forest Resources with an emphasis in sustainable biomaterials from Mississippi State University.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017

Speaker Biographies

Christopher Saffron, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering

Michigan State University

I joined MSU in 2007 to establish a research program involving the thermal conversion of plant biomass to fuels, chemicals and materials. My research group is investigating the mechanisms present in the thermal technologies along the temperature spectrum spanning 200°C to 1,000°C. We are actively studying biomass pyrolysis and torrefaction as means of producing energy-dense intermediates for use in petroleum refineries and power plants. Specifically, new approaches for pyrolysis oil stabilization and upgrading are being developed to reduce its reactivity and to produce hydrocarbon fuels. The results of our economic, energy and environmental impact analyses will be used to determine the optimum location of regional biomass processing centers that support thermochemical conversion. My program is currently working with numerous industrial partners as well as state and federal agencies to better understand the mechanisms controlling the productivity of these technologies and to foster strategies that alleviate the risks associated with their eventual commercialization.

Darwin Baas

Director, Department of Public Works

Kent County, Michigan

As Director of Public Works in Kent County, Dar's focus is the emerging circular economy - providing leadership and visioning to deliver waste diversion, energy recovery, and sustainable materials management strategies through an integrated solid waste management system for business and residents. Through collaboration and innovation, he is challenging West Michigan to think broadly how waste can be a resource rather than a burden. Dar brings 25 years of environmental management experience in the public and private sectors with experience in hazardous waste transportation, environmental contracting, landfill, transfer station, material recovery and waste-to-energy operations. His work is centered in West Michigan and he is involved in energy and waste policy at a state and national level; currently serving on the board for the Energy Recovery Council.

David DeYoe, Ph.D.

Board Chair

Michigan Forest Biomaterials Institute

David DeYoe is currently an adjunct Professor at Michigan State University. He is working to diversify and expand the use of plant-based materials for value added products, including engineered wood products, plastics, chemicals, lubricants, food and health products, and fabrics, in addition to traditional wood and paper products, and renewable energy options. Dr. DeYoe was president of Bio-Trend Systems Inc., an environmental and energy consulting company. He assisted communities and companies in developing and implementing strategies to capture the benefits provided by innovative use of renewable resources. Dr. DeYoe received his PhD in Biochemistry/Stress Physiology at the University of Missouri. He served as professor of Forest Biology at Oregon State University, and accepted an offer as General Manager of Ontario Forest Research Institute (OFRI) in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario in 1992. Since retiring in 2005 Dr. DeYoe has worked with economic development organizations, industry, and non-profit organizations to facilitate use of renewable resources in mitigating environmental impacts while fostering economic opportunities for local business and communities. Dr. DeYoe is past President of the Ontario Sustainable Energy Association in Toronto, a key driver in the development of Ontario's Green Energy and Environment Act and Feed-in Tariff.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

David Neumann

Statewide Forest Marketing & Utilization Specialist

Michigan Department of Natural Resources

David Neumann has been a Forest Utilization & Marketing Specialist with the Michigan DNR since 2015, and worked for the DNR as a statewide silviculturist and as a private land service forester for the prior 15 years. He is the Division's liaison to the Michigan Statewide Wood Energy Team, a member of the Michigan Wood Innovation Team, and is the current chair of Forest Utilization Committee for the Northern Association of State Foresters. He earned an M.S. and B.S. in Forestry and a B.A. in Journalism at Michigan State University, Department of Forestry and School of Journalism. He is married, and has three kids – ages 4, 6 and 9.

David Shonnard, Ph.D.

Professor, Chemical Engineering, College of Engineering

Michigan Technological University

David Shonnard is Professor and Richard and Bonnie Robbins Chair in Sustainable Use of Materials in the Department of Chemical Engineering and director of the Sustainable Futures Institute (SFI) at Michigan Technological University. He has over 120 peer-reviewed publications, reports, edited books, and textbooks related to the environmental effects of chemical production. His current research is on eco-efficient conversion of woody biomass to drop-in transportation fuels and high value chemicals, and on environmental life cycle assessment (LCA) of sustainable technologies. He leads Michigan Tech's multi-disciplinary education efforts in sustainability through the SFI, which offers a Graduate Certificate in Sustainability to MS and PhD students. He consults regularly with industry on sustainability- and LCA-related issues and has served as an invited participant in a workshop convened by the National Academy of Sciences and Engineering on commercial viability of advanced transportation biofuels.

Donna LaCourt, Ph.D., CGBP, ENFP

Economic/Community Development Specialist

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Donna is currently an Economic/Community Development Specialist with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. In this role, Donna works with agriculture, food processing and forest product businesses to support their development needs related to supply chain, funding and financing, policy and regulatory and international trade. Prior to this position, she was an International Trade Development Manager with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation where she worked in both international trade and bioenergy business development for over 6 years. From January 2007 to May 2008, Donna was Michigan's State Forester and the Assistant Chief of the Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Prior to joining the DNR, Donna worked for International Paper for 13 years in a variety of forest resources management and staff positions in the United States, and international assignments in Brazil and Russia. She holds a BS in Resource Management and Forest Biology from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Forestry from North Carolina State University. Donna is both a Certified Global Business Professional and an Economic Development Finance Professional.



Faye Johnson R.P.F.

Director - Forest Tenure and Economics

**Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
and Forestry**

Faye Johnson is the current Director of Forest Tenure and Economics for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada. In the mid-90s, as Woodlands Manager, was overseeing the woodlands department of an oriented strandboard company (OSB). Then as Director of Forestry, she was involved in strategic initiatives at the company's operations in Alberta and South Carolinas as well as Ontario. In 2008, Faye rejoined the Ontario government and advocating for economic development for the North through initiatives in trade, investment and transportation. She helped develop the Growth plan for northern Ontario which included the Bioeconomy as a key strategic sector. She led the start-up of Ontario's first Local Forest Management Corporation, in northeastern Ontario. This community managed forest landbase is part of the Ontario government's commitment to tenure modernization and is currently in its fifth year of operation.

Fred Antczak, Ph.D.

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Grand Valley State University

Dean Antczak grew up on the west side of Grand Rapids, and graduated from West Catholic high school in the class of 1970. He took his B.A. from the University of Notre Dame in 1974, and his M.A. (1976) and Ph.D. (1979) from the Committee on the Analysis of Ideas and the Study of Methods at the University of Chicago, working with Wayne Booth and Robert Streeter. He taught in the Rhetoric Department at the University of California-Berkeley, the Department of Rhetoric and Communication Studies at the University of Virginia, and for seventeen years in the Rhetoric Department at the University of Iowa. In his first year at Grand Valley in 2004, he began his second quarter-century as a teacher-scholar. During his time at the University of Virginia, Dean Antczak won the University's Thomas Jefferson teaching award "for best embodying the educational ideals of Thomas Jefferson." At the University of Iowa he won the Outstanding Teaching Award in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in 1997, and the Conference on College Composition and Communication's Citation for Outstanding Classroom Practice in 1998. He was the 2002 recipient of the Iowa Communication Association Citation for Lifetime Contributions to the secondary and postsecondary teaching of communication in Iowa. Dean Antczak has served as an expert commentator on political rhetoric for MS-NBC, the Washington Post, FOX News, the Atlanta Constitution, Reuters International, Newsday, PBS News Hour with Jim Lehrer, the Boston Herald, and NPR's All Things Considered.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

Geoffrey Thün, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Architecture, Associate Dean for Research and Creative Practice, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning **University of Michigan**

Geoffrey Thün is Associate Professor of Architecture and Associate Dean for Research and Creative Practice at the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan and a founding partner of RVTR (www.rvtr.com). His work ranges in scale from that of the regional territory and the city, to high performance buildings, to full-scale installation-based prototypes that explore responsive and kinetic envelopes that mediate energy, environment and human interaction. Thün's research has received support from a diverse range of sources including the USDOE / NREL, USDOT, EPA, NSERC, SSHRC, The Canada Council for the Arts and Ford Motor Company. Thün's work has been highly awarded and published widely. Awards include a Journal of Architectural Education Best Design as Research Article (2013), the Architizer A+ Award (2013), an ACSA Faculty Design Award (2012), a Royal Architectural Institute of Canada Award of Excellence for Innovation in The Practice of Architecture (2011), a Special Jury Prize from EcoStructure Magazine (2011), an R&D Award from Architecture Magazine (2010, 2016), the Professional Prix de Rome in Architecture from the Canada Council for the Arts (2009-2010), a Young Architects Forum Award from the Architecture League of New York (2008) and a Canadian Architect Award of Excellence (2005).

George Berghorn, Ph.D., LEED AP, BD+C, CGP

Assistant Professor of Construction Management, School of Planning, Design & Construction **Michigan State University**

Dr. George H. Berghorn is an Assistant Professor of Construction Management in the School of Planning, Design and Construction at Michigan State University. He earned a PhD in Construction Management from MSU and a Master of Environmental Studies degree from Yale University. Dr. Berghorn is a LEED Accredited Professional in Building Design and Construction, and a Certified Green Professional from the National Association of Home Builders. He has worked on funded projects related to the feasibility of building deconstruction and material reuse, building science education, and electric utility training. Prior to his career in higher education, Dr. Berghorn was a construction project manager in the US and a policy director for a statewide trade association.

Jake Elston

Vice President of Operations **Arauco - North America**

As Vice President of Operations for ARAUCO North America, Mr. Elston's group supports the 10 domestic manufacturing locations. This group as a whole also actively participates in strategic planning and execution activities. Mr. Elston has held various manufacturing and corporate support roles. He previously worked as a Production Supervisor, Technical Manager, Operations Manager, Plant Manager, US Manufacturing Director and Corporate Support Vice President within the organization. Mr. Elston is a former Naval Aviator who attended the United States Naval Academy. He received his MBA from University of Oregon.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

James B. Smith, P.E.

Midwest Regional Manager

American Wood Council

Jim Smith joined the American Wood Council (AWC) staff in 2014 as the Midwest Regional Manager who is a resource for code officials in the States of ND, SD, MN, IA, WI, IL, MI, IN, OH and KY. He is also a member of the ICC Building Code Action Committee (BCAC). Prior to joining AWC, Smith was the Chief Building Inspector and Zoning Administrator for the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin. Before Waukesha he spent over 30 years with the State of Wisconsin's Safety and Buildings Division, the last 16 of which were as the Program Manager responsible for their Commercial Building Code program.

Jeremy Haines

Director of Sales and Marketing

Reclaim Detroit

Jeremy Haines is Director of Sales and Marketing for Reclaim Detroit. Overseeing material acquisition and distribution, Jeremy's passion for triple bottom line business and lifelong commitment to recycling and reuse helped establish Reclaim Detroit as a nationally recognized industry leader. Before joining Reclaim Detroit, Jeremy promoted deconstruction and reuse for the largest deconstruction nonprofit on the East Coast, Second Chance in Baltimore, MD. He refined organizational processes and leveraged funding streams resulting in the deconstruction of hundreds of houses and steady employment for over fifty workers annually. Jeremy graduated from Michigan State University with a BA in Social Relations and Theory, and Secondary Education.

Jessica Simons

Owner

Verdant Stewardship

Jessica Simons is the owner of Verdant Stewardship, a consulting service that provides project development, management, and grant writing services to conservation and environmental organizations. She coordinates Michigan's Urbanwood Project on behalf of Recycle Ann Arbor and manages forest products utilization and marketing programs for the Sustainable Resources Alliance. Simons serves as a trustee for the Great Lakes Forest Products Society and is a founding organizer of the Urban Forest Products Alliance. She holds an M.S. in natural resources from the University of Michigan and a B.A. in biology from West Virginia University.

Jim Preston

Vice President, Business Development

Rhetech

James "Jim" Preston is vice president, Business Development, RheTech, LLC., is a leading thermoplastics compounder supplying the transportation, construction, electronics and consumer markets. In this position, which he has held for the past nine years, he is responsible for the strategic growth of the company, with a primary focus on natural fiber market development. Preston has held a series of increasingly responsible sales and marketing positions during his 29 years at RheTech. He is a graduate of Ferris State University with a Bachelor of Science in Plastics Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Marketing/Sales.



Keith Lambert, PS

Director, Bureau of Construction Codes

**Michigan Department of Licensing and
Regulatory Affairs**

Prior to accepting the director position for the Bureau of Construction Codes in April 2016, Keith served as deputy director of the bureau from 2011 until 2016. Before that he carried out the responsibilities as director of the Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation from 2008 until 2011. In 2003, he obtained his professional surveyor license and began his career with Bureau's Office of Land Survey and Remonumentation. Before joining the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs' Bureau of Construction Codes, Keith worked in the surveying and engineering industry with private sector firms and the Michigan Department of Transportation starting in 1995. He earned a B.S. in Surveying Engineering from Ferris State University in 1998, and graduated with an A.A.S. degree in Business Administration from Delta College in 1994.

Kerrin O'Brien

Executive Director

Michigan Recycling Coalition

Kerrin has worked with the Michigan Recycling Coalition in a variety of capacities since 1993. In addition to managing the organization, her interest lies in building consensus and movement around pro-recycling policies that work for both the public and private sector. As a nonprofit development specialist and facilitator, Kerrin has led many nonprofit organizations through strategic planning and development efforts. She holds a Social Science bachelor from MSU and has completed ICL's Executive Director Development Program.

Mark Rudnicki, Ph.D.

**Executive Director & Professor of Practice, Forest
Biomaterials, School of Forest Resources and
Environmental Science**

**MIFBI & Michigan Technological
University**

Dr. Mark Rudnicki is currently a Professor of Practice in Forest Biomaterials in the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science at Michigan Technological University. Before joining MTU in January of 2015, Mark was at the University of Connecticut for 10 years where he earned tenure and led a large research program that integrated silviculture, boundary layer meteorology and engineering that investigated tree biomechanics and tree responses to the wind. While at UCONN he was instrumental in developing the applied STORMWISE (tree & forest management, wood utilization and public outreach) program now integral to the Eversource Energy Center. He earned his Ph.D. at the University of Alberta, Master of Science in Forestry at Michigan Tech and BS in Natural Resource Management at Colorado State University. Since returning to MTU, Mark has been developing forest biomaterials programs at MTU and working to coordinate statewide efforts such as the REFORGE program proposal to bolster Michigan's innovation and competitiveness in forest biomaterials. Mark leads Michigan Tech's partnership in the recently funded Michigan Wood Innovation Team and is an advising member of the Michigan Wood Energy Team. Mark has also served as the Executive Director of MIFBI since its inception.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

Norman Christopher

Executive Director, Office of Sustainability Practices Grand Valley State University

Norman Christopher is a seasoned executive in various management capacities including President, CEO, and COO responsibilities. He has helped improve business performance at Dow Chemical, Olin Corporation, Lubrizol Corporation and Haviland Enterprises in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Currently, he is the Executive Director for the Office of Sustainability Practices at Grand Valley State University. Mr. Christopher has a BA from the University of North Carolina and an MBA from the University of Connecticut. He also completed the Program for Management Development at Harvard University. Mr. Christopher is active in the Grand Rapids community. He is past chairman of the Family Owned Business Council, a 2000 graduate of the Leadership Grand Rapids Class, and assisted in the formation of the Community Sustainability Partnership in Grand Rapids. He was also appointed to serve on Governor Granholm's Michigan Climate Action Council and the United States Department of Commerce's Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee. He currently serves on several boards and advisory groups in various capacities including the: City of Grand Rapids Sustainability Advisory Team, Seeds of Promise, the Michigan Chemistry Council, the Grand Rapids Community Sustainability Partnership, the BIFMA and NSF e3 Furniture Sustainability Standard Joint Committee, and Valley City Sign. He is the author of the book Sustainability Demystified! - A Practical Guide for Business Leaders and Managers.

Ray Miller, Ph.D.

**Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Forestry & Michigan State University
Director of the Forest Biomass Innovation Center**

Raymond Miller is Adjunct Associate Professor in Michigan State University's Department of Forestry and Director of MSU's Forest Biomass Innovation Center in Escanaba, Michigan. Miller coordinates the university's forestry field research activities in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and has worked for over 35 years to develop, refine, and promote the sustainable production and use of woody biomass in the state. His research has focused on the silviculture, genetics, logistics, and economics of short rotation intensive culture plantations.

Stephen Carlson

**Senior Planner West Michigan Shoreline Regional
Development Commission**

Stephen Carlson manages the Economic Development and Local Government Services programs for the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission (WMSRDC). Stephen earned a bachelor's degree in Geography from Grand Valley State University and has been with the Commission for over 10 years. He has assisted many communities with completing master and recreation plans, written hazard mitigation and community wildfire protection plans, and has lead a course in mapping design as adjunct professor at Muskegon Community College. In addition to assisting with the Deconstruction study, Stephen is currently working on the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the WMSRDC region and assisting Blue Lake Township in Muskegon County with master plan and recreation plan five-year updates.



Michigan Forest Bioeconomy Conference February 1-2, 2017
Speaker Biographies

Terry Sharik, Ph.D.

**Professor and Dean, School of Forest Resources and
Environmental Science**

Michigan Technological University

Terry Sharik is currently professor and dean of the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science (SFRES) at Michigan Tech. He holds a B.S. degree in Forestry and Wildlife Management from West Virginia University and M.F. and Ph.D. degrees in Forest Recreation and Forest Botany, respectively, from the University of Michigan. Prior to assuming the SFRES deanship in July 2012, he held faculty positions at Oberlin College, Virginia Tech, Michigan Tech, University of Michigan Biological Station, and Utah State University (USU). While at Michigan Tech, he served as president of the University Senate and as co-director of the Lake Superior Ecosystem Research Center. During his tenure at USU, he served as head of the Department of Forest Resources and the Department of Environment and Society, both in the College of Natural Resources. He is co-founder of the Biennial Conferences on University Education in Natural Resources and the North American Forest Ecology Workshops. He serves as the Education Chair for the National Association of University Forest Resources Programs (NAUFRP). His involvement with the Society of American Foresters, where he is a Fellow, includes being on the editorial board of the Journal of Forestry for forest ecology and for communications and education, and on the Task Force for Accreditation in Natural Resources. He currently serves on the boards or oversight committees of the Sustainable Forests Partnership (chair), Rocky Mountain Science and Sustainability Network, and Gombe (Tanzania) School of Environment and Society-USA (chair). He is the author of over a hundred publications in more than thirty journals in the areas of forest ecology and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

Tom Noland, Ph.D.

Research Scientist

**Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
and Forestry**

Currently, I am the scientific leader (Dr. Rongzhou Man, co-leader) of the cedar herbicide tolerance project and a seed physiology project. I also work with Mr. Joe Maure (lead) and the bioenergy working group of MNR in developing bioenergy policy. Additional collaborative projects include using high resolution digital imagery and LiDAR for tree species identification with Dr. Baoxin Hu and Jili Li at York University and using satellite imagery in a chronosequence to determine canopy chlorophyll content to estimate forest condition in jack pine with Dr. Jing Chen and Dr. Holly Croft at Univ. of Toronto. I also manage the tree biochemistry laboratory at OFRI.