Public Sector, Innovation, Leadership, and Management in the Digital Age

Management Conference 2023
April 13 – 14, 2023
Robertson Hall
# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page No.</th>
<th>THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Registration (Dodds Atrium)</td>
<td>12:00 PM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alumni Perspectives: Careers in Public Sector Consulting (Arthur Lewis Auditorium)</td>
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<td>Office Hours with Conference Participants and Graduate Students (Weickart Atrium Cafe, Lewis A. Simpson Building)</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Onwards to the Future Brave New World of Generative AI, Remote Work and much more (Arthur Lewis Auditorium)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Proceed to Reception/Dinner (Dodds Atrium)</td>
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<td>Dinner (Shultz Dining Room)</td>
<td>7:00 – 9:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Registration (Dodds Atrium)</td>
<td>7:30 – 9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Breakfast and Networking (Bernstein Gallery)</td>
<td>7:30 – 9:00 AM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Introduction to the Day (Arthur Lewis Auditorium)</td>
<td>9:00 – 9:15 AM</td>
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<td>Embracing Digital Transformation Pioneering Innovations in Public Sector Leadership (Arthur Lewis Auditorium)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>A. Transforming Public Sector Operations through Agile Practices (Robertson Hall Bowl 001)</td>
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<td>B. Place-Based Urban Economic Development in the Digital Age: Strategies for Inclusion (Robertson Hall Bowl 002)</td>
<td>10:45 – 12:00 PM</td>
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<td><strong>Lunch – Bernstein Gallery</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Lunch Discussion A: Early-Stage Ventures, Government Procurement and Transforming the Public Sector (Robertson Hall 029)</td>
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<td>Lunch Discussion B: Fostering Inclusive Economic Development in Tulsa, Oklahoma (Robertson Hall Bowl 020)</td>
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<td>Lunch Discussion C: Leveraging Technology and Digital Data for Inclusive Progress in Urban America (Robertson Hall 011)</td>
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<td>Lunch Discussion D: Latin America Innovation and New Technologies (Robertson Hall Bowl 002)</td>
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<td>A. Innovating New Jersey: SPIA Princeton Alumni on Advancing Public Sector Excellence (Robertson Hall Bowl 001)</td>
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<td>B. Navigating Africa's Future: Innovations and Challenges in Leadership, Management, and Policy (Robertson Hall 020)</td>
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<td>Alumni Panel: Reflections on Careers in Public Service (Robertson Hall Bowl 001)</td>
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<td>Closing Remarks (Robertson Hall Bowl 001)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exit and Networking Reception: Goodbyes, Desserts and Snacks Available (Bernstein Gallery)</td>
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<td>Conference End</td>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
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<td>13 - 45</td>
<td>Speakers and Panelists</td>
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<td>46 – 47</td>
<td>Robertson Hall - Floor Plans (0 Ground Level and 1st Floor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Acknowledgments</td>
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# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## Thursday, April 13

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<tr>
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<td>Arthur Lewis Auditorium</td>
<td><strong>Alumni Perspectives: Careers in Public Sector Consulting</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Moderator: Amy Pszczolkowski, Associate Director of Graduate Career Development and Alumni Relations Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
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<td>❖ Jessica Hembree, MPA '08, Principal Consultant, Platform Civic</td>
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<td>❖ Marissa Korn, MPA '21, Manager, Manatt Health</td>
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<td>❖ Taylor Nelson, MPA '19, Consultant, Bloomberg Associates</td>
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<td>2:00 - 4:15 PM</td>
<td>Weickart Atrium Cafe</td>
<td><strong>Office Hours with Conference Participants and Graduate Students</strong></td>
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<td>Lewis A. Simpson Building</td>
<td>Coordinator: Barbara A. Hampton, Director of Graduate Career Development and Alumni Relations Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 - 4:45 PM</td>
<td>Arthur Lewis Auditorium</td>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Karen L. McGuinness, MPA '85, Associate Dean for Graduate Education</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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| 4:45 - 6:00 PM | Arthur Lewis Auditorium   | **Onwards to the Future Brave New World of Generative AI, Remote Work and much more**  
Moderator: Steven Strauss, Lecturer and  
John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor  
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs  
Panelists:  
❖ Uriri diakoghene “Ulili” Onovakpuri, Managing Partner, Kapor Capital  
❖ Prem Ramaswami, Director, Product Management / Head of Sidewalk Labs, Google, Inc.  
❖ Tina Walha, MPA '09, Chief Partnerships Officer, U.S. Digital Response.  
❖ Raylene Yung, Executive Director, Technology Modernization Fund, U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)  |
| 6:15 PM      | Dodds Atrium              | Proceed to Reception/Dinner                                                        |
| 6:30 PM      | Dodds Atrium              | Reception                                                                         |
| 7:00 - 9:00 PM | Shultz Dining Room        | Dinner  
Dinner is buffet style and will be served from 7:00 – 8:30 PM |
### Friday, April 14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 - 9:00 AM</td>
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<td>Steven Strauss, Lecturer and John L Weinberg/Goldman Sachs &amp; Co. Visiting Professor, Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<td>9:15 - 10:30 AM</td>
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<td>Pioneering Innovations in Public Sector Leadership</td>
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<td>Moderator: Steven Strauss, Lecturer and John L Weinberg/Goldman Sachs &amp; Co. Visiting Professor, Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<td>Panelists:</td>
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<td>Santiago Garces, Chief Information Officer, Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT), City of Boston</td>
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<td>Rochelle Haynes, MPA-URP '06, Managing Director, What Works Cities-Bloomberg Philanthropies, Results for America</td>
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<td>Nigel Jacob, Mechanic Emeritus, Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics, City of Boston</td>
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<td>Kelly Jin, Vice President, Community and National Initiatives, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Bernstein Gallery</td>
<td>Networking Break</td>
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</table>
### A. Transforming Public Sector Operations Through Agile Practices

**Moderator:** Jennifer Widner, Professor of Politics and International Affairs  
Director, Innovations for Successful Societies  
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

**Participants:**
- Dan Chenok, Executive Director, IBM Center, The Business of Government
- Ed DeSeve, Coordinator, Agile Government Center, National Academy of Public Administration
- Qahir Dhanani, Partner & Associate Director, Boston Consulting Group

### B. Place-Based Urban Economic Development in the Digital Age: Strategies for Inclusion

**Moderator:** Eduardo Bhatia, AB '86, Lecturer and John L Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor  
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

**Participants:**
- Scott Andes, Program Lead for Build Back Better Regional Challenge at U.S. Economic Development Agency
- Autumn Evans, Deputy Director of Digital Equity & Inclusion, City of Detroit
- Desiree Frieson, Director of Programming, Build in Tulsa
- David Shideler, Chief Research Officer for Heartland Forward

### Lunch

Participants will select lunch and proceed to Sessions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 12:15 - 1:30 PM | Robertson Hall 029 | **Lunch Discussion A: Early-Stage Ventures, Government Procurement and Transforming the Public Sector**  
Moderator: David Eaves, Associate Professor of Digital Government and Co-Deputy Director, Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose (IIPP) University College London  
**Participants:**  
- Alex Kelly Berman, Vice President, Programs & Partnerships, CORTICO  
- Catherine Nikolovski, Founder & Executive Director, Civic Software Foundation  
- Dustin Palmer, MPA '16, Program Director, Safety Net Team, Code for America  
- Cheraé Robinson, Head of Community, Flybridge Capital Partners  
- Johan Schwind, Managing Director, URBAN-X |
| 12:15 - 1:30 PM | Robertson Hall 020 | **Lunch Discussion B: Fostering Inclusive Economic Development in Tulsa, Oklahoma**  
Moderator: Martha Coven, Visiting Lecturer Princeton School of Public and International Affairs  
**Participants:**  
- Tyrance Billingsley, Founder, Black Tech Street  
- Jake Cronin, Director, Research and Analytics, inTulsa, LLC  
- Desiree Frieson, Director of Programming, Blackstone Launchpad, New York University  
- Conor Godfrey, MPA '14, Director, Tulsa Innovation Labs |
| 12:15 - 1:30 PM | Robertson Hall 011 | **Lunch Discussion C: Leveraging Technology and Digital Data for Inclusive Progress in Urban America**  
Moderator: Steven Strauss, Lecturer and John L Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor Princeton School of Public and International Affairs  
**Participants:**  
- Autumn Evans, Deputy Director of Digital Equity & Inclusion, City of Detroit  
- Akshay Malik, Smart Cities Director, City of Philadelphia  
- Prem Ramaswami, Director, Product Management / Head of Sidewalk Labs, Google, Inc.  
- Annie Rittgers, Founder, 17a  
- Michael Samuelian, Founding Director, Jacobs Urban Technology Hub, Cornell Tech  
- Stacy Taylor, MPA '11, Head, Policy and Partnerships, Propel, Inc.  
- Richard Todd, MPA '17, Chief Data Officer, City of Boulder, CO |
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<td>12:15 - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Robertson Hall Bowl 002</td>
<td><strong>Lunch Discussion D: Latin America: Innovation and New Technologies</strong></td>
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<td>Moderator: Ambassador Juan Carlos Pinzón, MPP '10, Lecturer and John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs &amp; Co. Visiting Professor Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
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<td>❖ Leah Campos (USA), Senior Strategic Advisor for Latin America, Middle East and Africa (SAS), Former Senior Staff for Western Hemisphere in U.S. House Committee</td>
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<td>❖ Juanita Rodriguez Kattah (COL), Director, Government Affairs for the Andean Region (BINANCE), Former Deputy Minister of Technology</td>
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<td>❖ Hilen Meirovich (ARG), Head of Climate Change (IDB Invest)</td>
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<td>12:15 - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Robertson Hall Bowl 001</td>
<td><strong>Lunch Discussion E: Effective Leadership, Innovation, and Change in the Public Sector</strong></td>
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<td>Moderator: Jeffrey Oakman, MPA-URP '03, Senior Policy Advisor Office of Governor Phil Murphy, New Jersey</td>
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<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
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<td>❖ Emily Apple, MPA ‘20, Director, Economic Security, New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA)</td>
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<td>❖ Christine Blumauer, MPA ’18, Executive Director of Policy, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development</td>
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<td>❖ Joe De LaTorre, MPA ’20 Innovation Fellow, New Jersey State Office of Innovation</td>
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<td>❖ Graham Simpson, MPA ’19, Policy and Engagement Fellow, New Jersey Office of Innovation</td>
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### B: Navigating Africa's Future: Innovations and Challenges in Leadership, Management, and Policy

**Moderator:** Jennifer Widner, Professor of Politics and International Affairs  
Director, Innovations for Successful Societies  
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

**Panelists:**
- Moussa Blimpo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Economic Inequality & Societies, University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy
- Dr. Ernst Jan “EJ” Hogendoorn, MPA '02, Ph.D. '08, Former Senior Advisor, U.S. Department of State
- Morgan (McClain-McKinney) Limo, MPP '17, Foreign Service Officer / Founder & Principal, USAID/Uganda
- Bunmi Otegbade, MPP '19, Senior Director, Ashoka

### C: Government Use of Digital Data and Partnerships: Puerto Rico's 2023 Prosperity Initiative (PRPI)

**Moderator:** Eduardo Bhatia, AB ’86, Lecturer and John L Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor  
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

**Panelists:**
- Mara Abrams, Founder, Census Open Innovation Labs and Social Innovation Consultant
- Mei Lin Fung, Chair, People Centered Internet (Co-founded with Vint Cerf)
- Lisa Morales-Hellebo, Founder & Co-Managing General Partner, REFASHIOND OS (rOS)
- Haley Ashcom Miller, Deputy Director, The Opportunity Project, U.S. Census Bureau

### Networking Break

(Luggage pick up in Robertson Hall 109)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Bowl 001</td>
<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
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<td>❖ Rody Damis, MPP ’22, Senior Legislative Analyst, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Executive Office of the President</td>
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<td>❖ Morgan (McClain-McKinney) Limo, MPP ’17, Foreign Service Officer/ Founder &amp; Principal, USAID/Uganda</td>
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<td>❖ Dustin Palmer, MPA ’16, Program Director, Safety Net Team, Code for America</td>
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<td>❖ Nausheen Rajan, MPA ’22, Innovation Fellow, New Jersey State Office of Innovation</td>
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<td>❖ Tina Walha, MPA ’09, Chief Partnerships Officer, U.S. Digital Response</td>
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<td>4:30 - 4:45 PM</td>
<td><strong>Closing Remarks</strong></td>
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<td>Robertson Hall</td>
<td>Barbara A. Hampton, Director of Graduate Career Development and Alumni Relations Princeton School of Public and International Affairs</td>
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<td>Bernstein</td>
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<td>Gallery</td>
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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

MARA ABRAMS  
Founder and Social Innovation Consultant  
Census Open Innovation Labs  
www.linkedin.com/in/maraabrams/  

Mara is a leader in social innovation and civic engagement, with a career that has spanned government, philanthropy, and entrepreneurship. She is a network-weaver, connecting people across disciplines to solve complex global and national challenges. Most recently she served as Director of Impact Partnerships for Unfinished, a philanthropic group dedicated to a more ethical, equitable digital future. She also co-founded the U.S. Census Bureau’s first innovation lab, Census Open Innovation Labs, where she focused on creating modern and culturally-relevant approaches to reaching hard-to-count communities for the 2020 Census, as well as working with the private sector to develop digital tools for the public good. Other career highlights include leading innovation partnerships for the Nike Foundation, with the mission to lift adolescent girls out of poverty; co-founding an incubator in Cuba; and working with citizen journalists in war zones to help them tell their stories to a global audience. She lives in Los Angeles.

SCOTT ANDES  
Program Lead, Build Back Better Regional Challenge  
U.S. Economic Development Agency  
www.linkedin.com/in/scott-andes-14466b12/  

Scott Andes leads the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, a $1 billion regional economic development competition in the Economic Development Administration. Prior to EDA, Scott was the Executive Director of the Block Center for Technology and Society at Carnegie Mellon University, a research center that applies artificial intelligence to address societal challenges. He established and ran a new program at the National League of Cities that partnered with over 100 mayors to create local entrepreneurship policies and programs. Scott was a Fellow at the Brookings Institution and the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation where he published over 100 research reports and articles on innovation-based economic development. Scott served as Special Assistant to Senator Chuck Schumer at the Democratic Senate Campaign Committee and has worked on numerous national political campaigns. He has degrees from the London School of Economics and Carnegie Mellon University and lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife Sasha and son Max.
| **EMILY APPLE, MPA '20**  
**Director, Economic Security**  
**New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA)**  
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<tr>
<td>Emily Apple is Director for Economic Security at the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) where she works to advance Governor Murphy’s agenda to create a stronger and fairer New Jersey, developing new programs that enhance community wellbeing and economic opportunity. In this role, she helps lead the implementation of programs focused on food security, child care, maternal and infant health, and workforce development—including the development of the first in the nation publicly-funded Pay it Forward Fund. Prior to NJEDA, Emily worked on issues of economic security and mobility in the New York City Mayor’s Office. Emily received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the CUNY Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College and a Master of Public Affairs from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs.</td>
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| **ALEX KELLY BERMAN**  
**Vice President, Programs & Partnerships**  
**CORTICO**  
[www.linkedin.com/in/alexandra-g-kelly/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/alexandra-g-kelly/) |
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<tr>
<td>Alex Kelly Berman is the VP of Programs &amp; Partnerships at Cortico where she works with partners from around the world to amplify underheard voices one conversation at a time. She has worked for over 15 years in media and non-profit sectors on projects that strengthen public participation through storytelling, dialogue, and making, bringing her interests in community-built programming to organizations such as The New York Public Library, The New School, and StoryCorps.</td>
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EDUARDO BHATIA, ESQ., AB '86
Lecturer and John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs
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Mr. Bhatia is an attorney, advocate and expert on fiscal matters and public policy with over 25 years of experience championing government / democracy reforms and public and private coalitions to achieve fiscally responsible policy targets, economic development, quality education and renewable energy goals. He is currently a John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor and visiting lecturer in public and international affairs at Princeton University and a Board Member of the Natural Resources Defense Council Action Fund. Mr. Bhatia grew up in Puerto Rico with his mother -a Puerto Rican political science professor- and his father – an economist from India and partition war survivor- who instilled in him core values of honest public service, opportunity for all, diversity, and civil rights. As a public servant, Bhatia served as President of the Senate of Puerto Rico (2013-2017). In this capacity, he worked directly with former US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew, Moody's Investors Service, S&P, and Fitch Group, bondholders, and labor groups to design solutions in anticipation of a $72 billion default, the largest municipal bankruptcy in US history. He reformed and secured an open market for the island’s energy sector to end the fully oil-dependent, inefficient state-owned monopoly of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority, and co-authored sweeping bipartisan legislation mandating an orderly transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050. Previously as the Director of Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration (2005-08), he was primarily responsible for articulating the local government’s policy positions to the US Congress, The White House, federal agencies, state offices and national organizations. He is a former president of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL), former president of the Council of State Governments (CSG-East), and a former member of the United States Senate Presidents’ Forum. He successfully promoted public/private partnerships and prioritized climate change discussions among policymakers, businesses, and academia from the 50 states and territories. At the international level, Bhatia served as president of the Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA) (2016-18), leading dialogues between legislators from every country in the Western Hemisphere on cooperation, democracy, economic growth, social justice, and gender equality. Bhatia holds a B.A. in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University (1986), served at the Woodrow Wilson School Advisory Council, and became Princeton University’s 2018 Commencement (“Baccalaureate”) keynote speaker. His speech delivered a forceful message on the urgency of a “National Honor Code” to protect and strengthen democracy. A J.D. from Stanford Law School (1990), Bhatia co-founded the Stanford Law and Policy Review. He was a Fulbright Scholar (1986-87) in Chile and a federal law clerk to the Hon. Judge Levin Campbell in the US Federal Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston (1990-91).
TYRANCE BILLINGSLY, II
Founder
Black Tech Street
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Tyrance Billingsley II is a born and raised entrepreneur, ecosystem builder, and community leader with a background in politics and community organizing. For the past 3 years he has worked to seed the narrative of the rebirth of Black Wall Street as the world's premiere Black Innovation Economy under the new moniker “Black Tech Street” and founded the Black Tech Street organization to achieve that goal. Through storytelling and program development, Black Tech Street serves as a liaison/coordinator between the Tulsa ecosystem and Black tech focused opportunities that will help Black Tulsans/Greenwood residents break into the tech workforce or become/thrive as Black tech entrepreneurs. By starting in Tulsa, Black Tech Street looks to create a model for using the creation of Black tech ecosystems to economically uplift Black communities across the country. Our goal is for the Black Tech Street movement to mobilize Black people across the country to embrace the tech industry as a means to build wealth and scale their human potential. Tyrance in an Inaugural Forbes the Culture 50 Champion, has given a TEDx Talk on "How the opportunity of the tech industry, powered by the story of Black Wall Street, can transform Black America", has chaired various statewide boards, worked with startups and VC’s as well as brokered partnerships with fortune 100 companies.

MOUSSA P. BLIMPO, PhD
Assistant Professor, Economic Inequality and Societies
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Moussa Blimpo is an Assistant Professor of Economic Inequality and Societies at the University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy. He was a Senior Economist in the Africa Chief Economist Office at the World Bank. His research addresses various issues, including education and labor economics, infrastructure, and taxation in developing economies. His work on the economics of education examines how demand-side features drive education quality and skills acquisition, particularly the incentives and involvement of students and parents in the educational system. At the World Bank, Moussa led research programs on electricity access and digital development in Africa, publishing key reports such as "Electricity Access in Sub-Saharan Africa" in 2019 or “Digital Africa, Technological Transformation for Jobs” in 2023. His work on these issues emphasizes the role of political economy, complementarities, and access for productive use. Moussa’s recent work explores the issue of taxation, especially in the informal sector, and the nexus between economic development and climate implications in African economies. Moussa holds a Ph.D. in Economics and a master’s in political science from New York University and a B.Sc. in Mathematics from the University of Pau (France). His work has appeared in peer-reviewed academic journals such as the Journal of Development Economics; American Economic Journal: Applied Economics; World Bank Economic Review; World Development; Economic Development and Cultural Change; the Journal of African Economies. In addition, Moussa was the founding director of the Center for Research and Opinion Polls (CROP), a think tank in his home country of Togo.

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CHRISTINE BLUMAUER, MPA '18
Executive Director of Policy
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Christine Blumauer is the Executive Director of Policy at the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL). Christine supports implementation of laws across her entire agency and provides strategic advice to NJDOL teams in tackling complex policy problems. She plays a key role in promoting and growing a human-centered approach and equity-based culture in her agency. In her experience, the human-centered design used in New Jersey’s unfolding digital transformation of government-provided services, is also one that profoundly reshapes the human interactions between NJDOL staff and their customers. Christine’s passion lies with building worker power and she knows a thing or two about how to make this happen in the context of labor standards enforcement. Ask her about strategic enforcement to learn more. Christine received her Master’s in Public Affairs from Princeton University’s School of Public and International Affairs, and her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Sciences Po, Lille (France) and the University of Münster (Germany). When she’s not working, she is enjoying time with her two kids and husband.

LEAH CAMPOS
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Leah F. Campos is Senior Strategic Adviser for Latin America, Middle East and Africa at SAS, an American multinational - the leader in business analytics software and services, and the largest independent vendor in the business intelligence market. Prior to joining SAS, Leah served as Senior Advisor on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, where she advised Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) on the Western Hemisphere. In this capacity, she was the lead Republican staff member handling policy issues pertaining to Latin America and the Caribbean in the House of Representatives, and she was the Majority’s primary liaison to the White House, Department of State, and National Security Council on matters pertaining to the region. Leah established working relationships with Ambassadors and senior embassy staff from Latin America to the United States, and led multiple Congressional and staff delegations to Mexico, Central and South America. Ms. Campos served as Staff Director of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere from 2013 to 2015. In 2012, she was a candidate for the 9th Congressional District in Arizona. Prior to this, Leah served over a decade as an Operations Officer in the Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency. She has an M.A. in Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh (1997), and a BS in Political Science from Arizona State University. Leah is fluent in Spanish, and lives in Arlington, VA with her four children.
Dan Chenok is Executive Director of the IBM Center for The Business of Government. He oversees all of the Center's activities in connecting research to practice to benefit government, and has written and spoken extensively around government technology, cybersecurity, privacy, regulation, budget, acquisition, and Presidential transitions. Mr. Chenok previously led consulting services for Public Sector Technology Strategy, working with IBM government, healthcare, and education clients. Mr. Chenok serves in numerous industry leadership positions. He is a CIO SAGE and member of the Research Advisory Council with the Partnership for Public Service, Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, Member of the Board of Directors for the Senior Executives Association, Member of the Government Accountability Office Polaris Advisory Council for Science and Technology, Member of the American University IT Executive Council, and Mentor with the Global Policy, Diplomacy, and Sustainability Fellowship. Previously, he served as Chair of the Industry Advisory Council (IAC) for the government-led American Council for Technology (ACT), Chair of the Cyber Subcommittee of the DHS Data Privacy and Integrity Advisory Committee, Chair of the NIST-sponsored Federal Information Security and Privacy Advisory Board, and two-time Cybersecurity commission member with the Center for Strategic and International Studies. Mr. Chenok also generally advises public sector leaders on a wide range of management issues. Finally, Mr. Chenok serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor with the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas in Austin, teaching at the school's Washington, DC Center. Before joining IBM, Mr. Chenok was a Senior Vice President for Civilian Operations with Pragmatics, and prior to that was a Vice President for Business Solutions and Offerings with SRA International. As a career Government executive, Mr. Chenok served as Branch Chief for Information Policy and Technology with the Office of Management and Budget, where he led a staff with oversight of federal information and IT policy, including electronic government, computer security, privacy and IT budgeting. Prior to that, he served as Assistant Branch Chief and Desk Officer for Education, Labor, HHS, and related agencies in OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. Mr. Chenok began his government service as an analyst with the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, and left government service at the end of 2003. In 2008, Mr. Chenok served on President Barack Obama’s transition team as the Government lead for the Technology, Innovation, and Government Reform group, and as a member of the OMB Agency Review Team. Mr. Chenok has won numerous honors and awards, including a 2010 Federal 100 winner for his work on the presidential transition, the 2016 Eagle Award for Industry Executive of the Year, and the 2002 Federal CIO Council Azimuth Award for Government Executive of the Year. Mr. Chenok earned a BA from Columbia University and a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government.
MARTHA B. COVEN
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Martha Coven has spent her career inside and outside of government working on domestic policy, with a particular focus on poverty reduction and the federal budget. She is also the author of *Writing on the Job: Best Practices for Communicating in the Digital Age* (2022) and the founder of Coven Consulting, LLC, a consulting practice serving foundations and other nonprofits. She brings to her teaching 25 years of policy experience in the executive branch, legislative branch, and nonprofit sector. Coven served as an Agency Review Team Lead for the Biden-Harris Presidential Transition in 2020-21 and spent six years in the Obama White House, as a Special Assistant to the President at the Domestic Policy Council and Associate Director for Education, Income Maintenance, and Labor at the Office of Management and Budget. Before joining the Obama Administration, Coven spent nearly a decade in the nonprofit sector, at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and Consumers Union. She began her career on Capitol Hill, where she worked on the communications and policy staff of the House Minority Leader. Coven holds a B.A. in Economics and a J.D. from Yale University.

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At inTulsa, LLC of the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Jake focuses on building an inclusive and accessible knowledge economy by connecting diverse talent to innovative companies. In this role, Jake's research focuses on human capital development, pathways to knowledge economy jobs, effective workforce development programs, labor market dynamics, and regional competitiveness. Before joining inTulsa, Jake worked as a Statistician at the Census Bureau where he oversaw operations of the University of Missouri's Federal Statistical Research Data Center. Prior to that he worked at the University of Missouri's Institute of Public Policy where he worked on federal, state, and local research and evaluation projects.
RODY DAMIS, MPP '22
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Rody was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, and currently serves as a Senior Legislative Analyst at the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB). At OMB Rody is assigned to justice-related policy issues including policing, prison reform, drug control, gun control, terrorism, bankruptcy, antitrust, and election law. Rody is also a part-time faculty member at American University's Department of Justice, Law, and Criminology where he lectures on the intersection of public policy and the criminal justice system. Rody began his career in public service as a Presidential Management Fellow at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs where he worked on federal acquisitions and procurement. Through his academic, personal, and professional experience Rody has pursued his passion for advancing fair and equitable public policies. Rody earned a Juris Doctor and Master of Business Administration from the University at Buffalo, and a Master of Public Policy from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs.

JOE DeLaTORRE, MPA '20
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Joe DeLaTorre is a technology and policy strategist with the New Jersey Office of Innovation. Joe specializes in human centered design and investigates the use of new technologies and innovations to improve the delivery of government services, support residents, and aid the implementation and development of policies and regulations. Joe has piloted the State’s use of no-code front end development software, the deployment of AI and bots to provide customer service support via the NJ Business Live Chat, and the development of data-driven practices using advanced analytics and A/B testing platforms. Joe also conducts policy research, formation, and implementation related to workforce development and the future of work, which included the development and launch of the State’s Lifelong Learning Account pilot. Prior to joining the Office of Innovation, Joe was a member of a Washington D.C.-based consulting firm where he supported causes, philanthropies, and Fortune 100 companies on issues ranging from the opioid epidemic to expanding California’s EITC. Joe is a veteran of the United States Air Force where he worked as a Tactical Aircraft Maintenance Technician, and briefly worked as a high rise land surveyor in Southern California during the housing crisis. Joe received his Master’s in Public Affairs from Princeton University’s School of Public and International Affairs, and his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles. When he’s not working, Joe likes spending time traveling, but now with two small children, he only explores the limits of his sanity.
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Coordinator, Agile Government Center  
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Ed DeSeve was Special Advisor to President Barack Obama and oversaw the successful implementation of the $787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. He is currently the Coordinator of the Agile Government Center at the National Academy of Public Administration. Since 2019 he has been a Visiting Fellow of the IBM Center for the Business of Government. His career has included work in finance, academia and government. Mr. DeSeve was the founder and president of Public Financial Management—the United States’ largest independent financial advisor to governments. At Merrill Lynch Capital Markets, he was a managing director in charge of public finance in a 20 state region. Additional government service at the federal level included being Controller and Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget as well as the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He was the Director of Finance for the City of Philadelphia and served as a Special Assistant to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He held a tenured professorship of Public Management and Finance at the University of Maryland and was a Senior Lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania. He was Executive Director of the State Budget Crisis Task Force, founded by Richard Ravitch and Paul Volcker, to examine the financial condition of states following the global financial crisis. At each level of government, Mr. DeSeve oversaw complex fiscal affairs. He was instrumental in balancing Philadelphia’s budget during two fiscal crises. At OMB, he helped balance the federal budget for the first time in more than a generation. While at OMB, he oversaw the fiscal reforms of the District of Columbia that led to its return to investment grade ratings with strong budget and cash surpluses. He is the author of numerous publications including, The Presidential Appointees’ Handbook (Second Edition Brookings 2017). At the National Academy of Public Administration, he served as Vice Chair and was awarded the George Graham award for outstanding service in 2021. He was also awarded the Kenneth Howard award for career public service in financial management by the American Society of Public Administration. He is a graduate of Cornell University’s School of Industrial and Labor Relations and has a Master’s in Public Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.
Qahir Dhanani is a Partner & Associate Director at Boston Consulting Group. He serves as a leader in BCG’s International Development, Climate & Sustainability, and Public Sector leadership teams working with multilateral institutions, bilateral donor agencies, foundations, governments, community organizations, NGOs, and the private sector. His experience spans work across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America, Europe, and North America, advising senior officials and executives on policy and programmatic issues such as strategy, climate action, international development, economic growth, coalition building, infrastructure, innovation, entrepreneurship, job creation, and poverty alleviation, as well as on operational issues such as agile transformation, organizational design, process excellence, change management, and leadership development. Qahir previously served as an Advisor to the CEO, the COO, and the Senior Vice President of Operations at the World Bank, supporting them on a myriad of strategic, organizational, and operational issues. Also at the World Bank, Qahir built and managed a portfolio of over $500 million in lending operations focused on innovation, entrepreneurship, job-creation, and competitiveness in numerous countries. Before the World Bank, he held various positions within the Aga Khan Development Network. Qahir currently serves in an honorary capacity on the Secretariat of the Ismaili Leaders’ International Forum, the global social governance body of Ismaili Muslim Community. He also serves on the Board of the Global Youth Leadership Centre, an organization focused on mobilizing youth for climate action through leadership building and entrepreneurship. Qahir holds an MBA and an MPP from Harvard University and a BA from Cornell University. He was a visiting scholar at Oxford University. He lives in Washington, DC with his wife and two daughters.

David Eaves is Associate Professor of Digital Government and Co-Deputy Director of the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose at University College London. David’s courses focus on the governance of digital public infrastructure and the minimum viable knowledge public administrators need on technology to be effective in a digital era. He is a co-founder of Teaching Public Service in a Digital Age, which seeks to increase the number of public servants receiving digital era public administration skills. David also works with Co-Develop, a philanthropic fund that supports the development of digital public infrastructure in ways that promote inclusion, safeguards, and equity. A believer in public entrepreneurship David has helped train numerous cohorts of Code for America fellows, White House Presidential Innovation Fellows and Code for Canada Fellows. He was also co-founder and CEO of ReCollect, a software company used by hundreds of municipalities to help encourage recycling and better manage their waste streams.
AUTUMN EVANS
Deputy Director of Digital Equity & Inclusion
City of Detroit
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Focusing on public-private partnerships with an emphasis on implementing and sustaining strategic initiatives, Autumn has contributed to the success of many initiatives of Connect 313, the City of Detroit’s digital inclusion strategy. In her current role as Deputy Director of Digital Inclusion and Equity, Autumn has implemented the EBB 313 awareness and support campaign that contributed to over 100,000 household enrollments for the Emergency Broadband Benefit. Also, Autumn led the distribution operation that dispersed devices, connectivity, and technical support to 7,000 local seniors during the city-wide Connecting Seniors program. Currently, she is providing critical support in deploying over $40 million in American Pandemic Rescue Act funding to combat the negative effects of COVID on Detroit residents, specifically addressing the digital divide. Autumn has provided leadership in the development of corporate and federal grants that have secured over $3.5 million in net new resources to bridge the digital divide. In her previous role as a fund development professional at Focus: HOPE, Autumn procured over ten million dollars in funding to support workforce and early childhood development and food security programming. In addition, while leading the organization’s first digital transformation in its fifty-year history, Autumn garnered an additional one million dollars in net new resources.

ERNESTO FREIRE
Chief of Staff to the CEO and Internal Management Lead,
Bloomberg Associates
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Ernesto helped develop and launch Bloomberg Associates in January 2014. With nearly two decades of experience working in the city government sphere, Ernesto heads all internal operations for Associates. His responsibilities include overseeing and managing the overall relationship with Mayors and their executive teams. As a practitioner, Ernesto also leads the organization’s Internal Management & Communications practice responsible for helping clients develop comprehensive communications and operational strategies including refining public messaging priorities, reviewing and helping implement internal reporting and management structures, creating stakeholder engagement programs, and establishing data-driven performance monitoring processes and best practices. Previously, Ernesto was Vice President of External & Government Affairs at NYC & Company—New York City’s marketing and tourism organization—overseeing the creation and launch of the Government Affairs department. He was responsible for developing public policy and legislative positioning to support continued tourism growth and was the organization’s representative at key associations including the Governor’s Tourism Advisory Council, National Tour Association, Latin Media and Entertainment Commission and the Lower Manhattan Task Force. Ernesto hails from Baltimore and is a first-generation American with roots in Lima, Peru. He holds a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and a Juris Doctorate from Fordham University School of Law, and lives in Skillman, NJ with his wife and daughter.
| **DESIREE FRIESON**  
Director of Programming  
Build In Tulsa  
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Desiree has spent the last decade helping startup founders succeed. An entrepreneur herself, she’s worked at a variety of nonprofits before launching programming at Blackstone Launchpad at New York University, then leading operations and programming for NYDesigns as the Assistant Director. Born and raised in Queens, NY, Desiree moved to Tulsa in 2021 to help build the infrastructure for entrepreneurial success in the home of Black Wall Street.  
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| **MEI LIN FUNG**  
Chair  
People Centered Internet (Co-founded with Vint Cerf)  
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People must be at center of the Internet which is becoming “the infrastructure that underlies all infrastructures” Mei Lin Fung is Chair of the People Centered Internet building resilient communities with digital supply chains and finance, harnessing data so that all community members can thrive. She chairs the Technical Committee on Sustainability for the the IEEE Society for the Social Implications of Technology. She is on the advisory council of GovStack, a UN initiative to develop common digital building blocks for government services and was named a 2022 Hasso Plattner Institute Fellow. She worked at intel and Oracle. Mei Lin served as Co-Chair for the Expert Roundtable for Asia, Europe, Africa and the Middle-East for the 2023 UN Commission on the Status of Women report on Digital Innovation. She convenes the Digital Cooperation and Diplomacy network in monthly international meetings chaired by the Tech Envoy of Estonia. She is the lead author of policy briefs for the German and Japan G7 presidencies, Think7.org process, of which two of the 2022 policies have been selected for implementation by the German Government. The Puerto Rico Prosperity Initiative is the first sandbox for digital transformation underway in the US that engages with digital cross sector regulatory issues, in a participatory democracy approach.  
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As a kid growing up in Bogotá, Colombia, Santiago “Santi” Garces witnessed the near collapse of the national government and the general disillusionment of national politics, along with creative and unconventional approaches to solve issues at the local level. Those experiences developed a lifelong passion for making government more efficient and effective for citizens. Santi joined the City of Boston as Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) to help push forward Mayor Wu’s vision of building a government that earns the trust of its people. As CIO, Santi oversees the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) and a team of nearly 150 employees. DoIT provides and maintains mission-critical technologies for the City’s more than 18,000 employees and hundreds of thousands of constituents. In the last few decades, DoIT has been an enabler of progress in Boston. Santi’s goal is to create a new chapter in that history so that DoIT can continue to be an engine of transformation in the service of residents and employees. Through data science, statistics, and human-centered design, Santi will empower his staff to deliver more dignified experiences for residents and optimize the role of government. He also plans to leverage the City’s relationships with academia, local industries, and civic organizations to make sure big decisions reflect the many voices of Boston. Before becoming CIO of Boston, Garces was the Executive Director of the Department of Community Investment in South Bend, Indiana, and formerly served as CIO of South Bend and of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In South Bend, Santi oversaw planning, zoning, housing, and sustainability, leading a generational transformation in housing investments in the city. He also spearheaded the largest neighborhood planning effort in South Bend’s history, as well as $1 billion in economic development projects. As CIO of South Bend, Santi won national recognition, including the Bloomberg’s Mayor’s Challenge for the Commuter’s Trust, for creating an innovative platform that allowed companies, the government, and individuals to provide transportation and secure workers with reliable options to get to work. He also helped create CLICK centers, which were a partnership between libraries, the City, and other nonprofits to provide access to computers and training within a 15-minute walk of low-income residents. As CIO of Pittsburgh, Santi transformed its Department of Innovation and Performance into a service-oriented organization. This work led to improvements to core infrastructure in the City and included everything from establishing a citywide network to migrating Pittsburgh’s data center to the cloud. He also spearheaded negotiations with Cable franchises that helped convert existing recreation centers into technology-enhanced ReczTech Centers for residents. Before working in civic tech, Santi helped found enFocus, a nonprofit dedicated to providing innovative solutions for government and industry. He is a graduate of Notre Dame with degrees in Electrical Engineering, Political Science, and a master’s degree in Technology Entrepreneurship. As a lover of languages, Santi speaks fluently in Spanish, English, some French and dabbles in Portuguese, Italian, and German, Quechua and Irish and is trying to learn Chinese. Santi also likes learning programming languages including C/C++, Python, Ruby, Julia, and R. As a new Chinatown resident, he’s open to any and all recommendations for neighborhood cuisine. He also really likes Corgis.
CONOR GODFREY, MPA '14
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Conor is a lifelong public servant at home and abroad with over a decade of experience building diverse coalitions to achieve national security goals. At TIL, he oversees a large portfolio of infrastructure and workforce development initiatives designed to create a world-class cybersecurity and analytics ecosystem in the Tulsa region. In this role, he draws on a wealth of national security experience at the federal level spanning defense, diplomacy and development, as well as years of promoting U.S. trade and investment abroad. Over the course of eight years working with the U.S. Department of State, Conor regularly briefed combatant commanders, the intelligence community and Department of State principals. He has also spoken on conflict issues in his public or private capacity at the United States Institute of Peace, Africa Center for Strategic Studies, U.S. Foreign Service Institute and several private sector events. In addition to these and other speaking engagements, Conor has frequently trained U.S. and foreign diplomats in conflict analysis and intervention. Prior to joining the Department of State, Conor received monetary awards from two start-up competitions and was selected to participate in Princeton University’s engineering department’s eLab accelerator. Conor received a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. He and his family relocated to Tulsa during the summer of 2021. He speaks French fluently and is a member of the Truman National Security Project.

BARBARA A. HAMPTON
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Prior to joining SPIA in 2016, Barbara held several roles focused on Career Development at her alma mater, the University of Virginia (UVa) where she spent over 15 years preparing both undergraduate and graduate students for internships and full-time positions with top-tier organizations across all sectors. With a long-standing passion for helping students attain their career goals, Barbara spent a decade serving as a career advisor while simultaneously managing various aspects of employer relations. During that time she led a team responsible for arranging 7,000+ interviews per year, organizing several large scale career fairs, and coordinating boutique style events/workshops, student trips to NYC and DC for consortia events, and career conferences to assist students with career exploration and building connections with employers and alumni. In 2013, she became the inaugural Director of Career Services at UVa’s Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy. Throughout her career, Barbara has managed extensive office operations using both the Symplicity and GradLeaders CRM platforms. As a National Certified Counselor (NCC) for over 20 years, she has also been actively involved in several professional associations including: the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), the Virginia Association of Colleges and Employers (VACE), the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), and the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA). She completed NACE’s Leadership Management Institute (LMI) and Leadership Advancement Programs (LAP), has served as the College Director and President of VACE, Co-Chaired the NAPSAA Career Services Conference Logistics Committee, and Chaired the APSIA Career Directors Conference. She has a M.Ed. in Counselor Education with a concentration in Student Affairs Practice in Higher Education (SAPHE) and a B.A. in Psychology and Spanish.
ROCHELLE HAYNES, MPA-URP '06
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Rochelle’s multi-sector career has a common thread of focusing on policies and programs that seek to identify solutions to ending the cycle of poverty in vulnerable communities. She has had the privilege to serve individuals, families, and children through work in government, nonprofit and philanthropic sectors with an expertise in anti-poverty programs that span from birth to adulthood. Rochelle began her career at the United Spinal Association working on legislation in the areas of affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities. While her career in New York City government extends from affordable housing to social services where she worked to guide policies and improve operations for public benefit programs including a tenure as Chief of Staff at NYC’s Department of Homeless Services. After 10 years in municipal government, Rochelle joined 100 Resilient Cities -Rockefeller Foundation, where she led operations and strategy for the City Practice Management team and was responsible for the global delivery of the 100RC core program. Rochelle then pivoted to early childhood development, where as Vice President of the US Social Impact team at Sesame Workshop, she led the strategic expansion of the Sesame Street in Communities initiative from 3 to 13 cities and regions serving 75,000 vulnerable kids and families with resources to foster healthy development. Rochelle is currently the Managing Director of What Works Cities at Results for America, where she leads efforts to engage cities in North and South America to adopt data and evidence based practices to develop equitable policies and programs that will improve the economic mobility options of vulnerable residents and communities. She is also an independent social impact consultant where she leverages her experience in program, policy and strategic planning to advise clients on economic mobility and anti-poverty efforts. Rochelle earned dual Masters’ degrees in Public Affairs and Urban Planning from Princeton University as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University at Albany. She currently resides as a Board Member of the University at Albany’s Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy and as an Advisory Council Member of the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

JESSICA HEMBREE, MPA '08
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Jessica Hembree is the Principal of Platform Civic, a consulting firm that provides nonprofits with strategic planning and policy advocacy. In this role, Jessica has helped to incubate ballot initiatives, facilitate federal planning processes, and create strategic plans. With twenty years of experience in policy change, including ten years as Policy Director at a regional health foundation, Jessica has experience across multiple issues. From starting new advocacy organizations to researching complex issues to developing model policies, Jessica is an insightful leader in nonprofit policy and civic change. Jessica received her Master’s in Public Affairs from Princeton University. She serves on the Shawnee Mission School District Board of Education. She is married to her high school sweetheart and the mother of three sons. On Saturday mornings, you can usually find Jessica taking walk to her favorite coffee shop.
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Ernst Jan “EJ” Hogendoorn was Senior Advisor to the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan from 2019-2023 supporting Sudan’s transition to democracy and implementation of the Sudan and South Sudan peace agreements. From 2012 to 2019, he was the Deputy Program Director for Africa at the International Crisis Group, based in Washington, DC, with frequent travel to Africa. Before moving to DC, EJ was Crisis Group’s Horn of Africa project director, based in Nairobi, Kenya. EJ was a former Sanctions Expert with the United Nations Panel of Experts on Somalia (2002-2003) and Sudan (2005-2006). Prior to that, he worked as a researcher for the Human Rights Watch Arms Division and with Amnesty International USA. EJ has published and edited numerous reports and articles on African conflicts, armed extremist groups, counter terrorism, peacekeeping and peacemaking, the political economy of conflict, international security threats, and the arms trade, arms embargoes and sanctions for Crisis Group and other organizations. He has testified before the U.S. Congress on Bosnia, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan. Prior to joining the State Department, he regularly contributed to television, radio, print, on-line media and documentaries. He has a PhD in Public Affairs and an MPA (with a Certificate in Science, Technology and Environmental Policy) from the School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University.

NIGEL JACOB
Mechanic Emeritus
Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics
Boston, MA
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Nigel Jacob is the Co-founder of the Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics, a civic innovation incubator and R&D Lab within Boston’s City Hall. Nigel’s work is about making urban life better via innovative, people-oriented applications of technology and design. Prior to joining the City of Boston in 2006, Nigel worked in a series of technology start-ups in the Boston area. In 2022, Nigel left the City of Boston to bring the model of New Urban Mechanics to new cities through an opportunity at Northeastern University’s Burns Center for Social Change and Innovation. He still remains engaged with the team in Boston and a partner in exploring new approaches to city government. He was also previously the Urban Technologist in Residence at Living Cities, a philanthropic collaboration of 22 of the world’s largest foundations and financial institutions, is currently a board member at organizations such as Code For America and coUrbanize, and is an Executive-in-Residence at Boston University. Nigel’s work has been written about extensively in magazines such as Wired, MIT Technology Review, Fast Company and books including The Responsive City, by Stephen Goldsmith and Susan Crawford and Smart Cities by Anthony Townsend. This ground-breaking work has earned Nigel a number of awards including being named a Public Official of the year in 2011 by Governing Magazine, a Whitehouse Champion of Change and the Tribeca Disruptive Innovation award for 2012. Nigel is also a 12th level Wizard-Pirate with a special focus on causing chaos in large municipal bureaucracies via befuddlement spells.
KELLY JIN
Vice President for Community and National Initiatives
John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
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Kelly Jin is Vice President for Community and National Initiatives at John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, where she leads a team of 20 in offices across the country, a $150M active grant portfolio, and $40M in annual grant-making. The Community and National Initiatives team invests in the future of more engaged and informed 26 Knight cities, with investment strategies including downtown and neighborhood revitalization, smart cities, public spaces, and economic opportunity. Kelly most recently served as Chief Analytics Officer for the City of New York and Director of the Mayor’s Office of Data Analytics. Her New York City team focused on delivering insights for a more equitable and efficient city. Her office launched the NYC Recovery Data Partnership, a first-of-its-kind effort for community, non-profit, and private organizations to share data with the City to aid in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. Previously, she was a director at the Laura and John Arnold Foundation and worked in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where she advised the chief technology officer and chief data scientist of the United States. She built and co-led the City of Boston’s analytics team, working alongside front-line workers to gain a deeper understanding of how to collect data to make informed decisions and recommendations. Kelly speaks nationally on using data and technology to responsibly improve governments and organizations. Her teams and projects have been featured in Wall Street Journal, Forbes, The Economist, New York Times, PBS NewsHour, Wired, City & State, and Governing. Kelly holds a degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania and is a trustee of the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science.

JUANITA RODRIGUEZ KATTAH
Director, Government Affairs for the Andean Region
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Juanita Rodriguez Kattah, Director of Government Affairs for the Andean Region has worked on projects and initiatives related to technology innovation, digital entrepreneurship, digital transformation and cybersecurity. At Binance, Juanita is focused on contributing to the development of regulatory frameworks and secure ecosystems that protect users and pave the way towards the mass adoption of crypto assets and the blockchain. Previously, Juanita has held several positions in the Colombian Government, including Counselor at the Colombian Embassy in the United States, Deputy Minister of Digital Economy and Director of Apps.co and Digital Content, the national government program aimed at fostering a new generation of digital startups. Additionally, she served as Director of Science, Technology and Innovation at the Ministry of National Defense and as deputy chancellor for Innovation at the Ean University. Juanita is a lawyer, holds a Master’s degree in Management of Information Systems, and postgraduate degrees in New Technologies, Innovation and City Management as well as in International Business Law.
Marissa Korn is a Manatt Health manager in the firm's Washington, D.C., office. Marissa provides qualitative and quantitative research on a broad range of substantive issues including health care business and policy. In addition, she monitors federal and state health policy and market development and other emergent health care trends. Prior to joining Manatt, Marissa served as a graduate policy fellow for State Health and Value Strategies, where her research informed technical assistance to state governments on policy priorities including health equity, affordability and coverage. She also served as a program and advocacy coordinator at a national consumer health advocacy organization, focusing on issues related to Medicaid expansion and defending the Affordable Care Act from repeal. Marissa received her M.P.A. from Princeton University’s School of Public and International Affairs in 2021.

Morgan Limo is a diplomat and entrepreneur, currently serving as a Foreign Service Officer at USAID/Uganda. She is responsible for design, inclusion, budget, and monitoring and evaluation of U.S. foreign assistance programs valued at over $450 million - spanning across sectors including health, governance, education, and economic growth. Morgan previously served at USAID/Guinea & Sierra Leone, where she supported a robust Ebola recovery portfolio across both countries. She has completed both short and long term assignments in Guinea, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda. Morgan has worked in other capacities at USAID including as a Program Manager for President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), and as a Program Advisor for the Power Africa and Trade Africa initiatives. She directly supported the development of the USAID Africa Private Capital Group (now the Office of Private Capital and Microenterprise); she also supported the Africa and Food Security Congressional Liaisons as a consultant in the USAID Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs. Additionally, Morgan is the founder and Principal Consultant at Molo Global Consulting, LLC, a boutique firm which specializes in literary works. Past professional experiences include the personal office of a U.S. Senator, as well as with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Organization Affairs. Morgan is an author and has been featured in notable publications such as the American Foreign Service Journal, Ventures Africa Magazine, and the Diplomatic Courier on topics including diversity and inclusion in Foreign Affairs, youth, trade and investment, and entrepreneurship in sub-Saharan Africa. She holds both a Bachelor’s and Master’s Degree in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), and a Master’s Degree in Public Policy from the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University. Morgan was a 2022 Africa Policy Accelerator cohort member with the Center for Strategic International Studies, and was named as a 2022 Next Generation Black Diplomatic Leader by the Meridian International Center for Diplomatic Engagement. She is an alumni of the International Career Advancement Program for mid-career international affairs professionals, and the Penn Kemble Fellowship at the National Endowment for Democracy. She currently serves as a board member for the Department of Political Science at UIUC, and as Outcomes Director/board member at Cross World Africa, and non-for-profit supporting livelihoods in Kenya.
AKSHAY MALIK
Smart Cities Director
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As the Smart Cities Director, Akshay Malik manages Philadelphia’s SmartCityPHL portfolio, which is focused on several dimensions of technology and innovation strategies to improve the operations and service delivery for the City and its regional partners. Before joining the SmartCityPhl team, Akshay was part of the Office of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (OTIS) team, working at the intersection of data science, strategic planning, and transportation safety policy. Before joining the City, he practiced as an architect for several years and led design & construction efforts on a wide range of infrastructure projects. Akshay holds a Master’s in City Planning and a Graduate Certificate in Geospatial Analytics from the University of Pennsylvania. He also has a Bachelor’s in Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi, India.

KAREN L. McGUINNESS, MPA'85
Associate Dean for Graduate Education
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As the Associate Dean for Graduate Education, Karen works closely with the Vice Dean on planning the curriculum for the MPA and MPP programs and continues to advise the student co-coordinators of GPN. Before she assumed her current role in fall 2004, she was a Lecturer in Public and International Affairs at the School intermittently between 1994-2004, teaching a range of courses, including WWS 501, The Politics of Public Policy, Gender and Development, Bottom Up Approaches to Development, Alternative Development Strategies and undergraduate Policy Taskforces on Microfinance and Poverty Reduction. She received an MPA from the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs in 1985, and worked for the Ford Foundation in New York and New Delhi for more than 6 years, initially on an Asia regional program covering human rights, child survival, women’s status, and capacity building in China; and later as a Program Officer responsible for Women’s Employment and Empowerment in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. She later earned an M.A. in Government from Cornell University, and conducted research on social movements, pro-poor policies and policy change in Andhra Pradesh in 1994-95.
HILEN MEIROVICH
Head of Climate Change
IDB Invest
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Hilen is the Head of Climate Change at IDB Invest, based in Washington, D.C. She leads a specialization team of experts that seek to provide added value and innovation to IDB Invest transactions. To do so, Hilen has mobilized in technical assistance resources from climate funds and bilateral donors focusing on supporting private sector actions. Among some of the recent closed transactions are examples of agribusinesses where drone technology is used to deploy organic material for pest management, climate risks analysis of infrastructure projects as well as sustainable finance and green bond certification for banks. Hilen also chairs the Think Sustainable Network, a unique network of financiers, investors and insurance companies, investing in the LAC region. Hilen has more than 16 years of experience working on climate in the IDB Group. An expert on enabling environments for climate investments, Hilen has solid experience in working with public sector actors and private companies to promote and consolidate climate actions and strategies, as well as leverage international funds for climate that can attract private investments in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has received the Ortiz Mena Award for Best Innovative Loan for an operation that combined fiscal and climate adaptation measures to reduce the impacts of climate in Central America. Before joining IDB Invest, Hilen worked at IDB as a climate policy expert for 8 years. Hilen is a Political scientist from Universidad Católica de Cordoba, Argentina. She received a Master’s degree from Hebrew University, Israel and a Master’s degree and PhD degree from Georgetown University, USA.

HALEY ASHCOM MILLER
Deputy Director, The Opportunity Project
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Haley Ashcom Miller is a strategic government innovator currently serving as the Deputy Director of The Opportunity Project, a cross-sector, civic-tech innovation program at the U.S. Census Bureau’s Census Open Innovation Labs (COIL). Haley joined the U.S. Census Bureau’s Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs (OCIA) in 2016 as an Intergovernmental Affairs Partnership Portfolio Manager working with state, local, and tribal governments to prepare for the 2020 Census using more human-centered approaches. In 2020 she then joined COIL to continue her work in human-centered design, data equity, workforce innovation culture, and civic-tech partnerships. In seven years and sixteen sprint cycles, The Opportunity Project has produced 200+ digital products, engaged 30+ federal agencies, 30+ universities, 350+ federal open datasets, and 1500+ stakeholders from cross-sector collaborators. Haley earned a Bachelor of Arts in Global Affairs from George Mason University, a Master of Arts in Statecraft and National Security Affairs from The Institute of World Politics, and a Master of Science in Psychology of Leadership from Pennsylvania State University. She resides in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and is a doting mom of two.
Lisa Morales-Hellebo is a VC, seasoned entrepreneur, strategic futurist, and community builder. She has honed her skills for spotting and coaching winning teams over her 27+ years working with startups to F500s on strategy and execution across branding, product development, and innovation. She is passionate about helping fashion tech and supply chain startups achieve industry adoption, growth, and scale. Lisa is co-founder and general partner of REFASHIOND Ventures — a NY-based venture fund that invests as the first institutional check in early-stage startups refashioning supply chains across Data & AI, Advanced Materials, Advanced Manufacturing, and Next Generation Logistics; defensible through economic moats. She is also catalyzing the infrastructure paradigm shift to localized, collaborative fashion demand chains as co-founder of REFASHIOND OS (rOS), which acts as a digital agent for local fashion value chains, from fibers to finished goods; delivering sustainability, living wages, and better margins — Made in the USA. She is co-founder of The Worldwide Supply Chain Federation, an organization that is changing how supply chain professionals learn about, collaborate, and adopt supply chain innovation around the world. The New York Supply Chain Meetup is its founding chapter, attracting hundreds of attendees from around the globe to its monthly events. Lisa founded and launched the New York Fashion Tech Lab in 2014, with Springboard Enterprises and the Partnership Fund for NYC while serving as Executive Director for the first year. Lisa’s previous fashion tech startup, Shopsy, raised capital and participated in TechStars in 2012. A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, Lisa has been featured in numerous publications and media outlets, has received numerous awards, including being selected as the 2022 Top Woman in Supply Chain by Supply & Demand Chain Executive Magazine; and is profiled in the bestselling book; Disrupters: Success Strategies from Women Who Break the Mold. Lisa has keynoted events and participates in panels as a distinguished speaker, covering technology, supply chain, logistics, venture capital, fashion tech, women in tech, diversity, building innovation ecosystems, entrepreneurship and more.
TAYLOR NELSON, MPA '19
Consultant
Bloomberg Associates
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Taylor Nelson is a consultant at Bloomberg Associates, the philanthropic consulting arm of Bloomberg Philanthropies. In this role, she advises mayors’ offices on matters concerning internal operations, strategic partnerships, and data & technology, helping these entities provide quality and streamlined services to their constituents. Prior to joining Bloomberg Associates, Taylor was the executive programs coordinator for the City of Detroit Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs. In this position, she worked to integrate refugees into Detroit and connect immigrant groups to community resources. For her efforts, Taylor was recognized by Crain’s Detroit Business as a Twenty in their 20s honoree and by the Michigan Chronicle as a 40 Under 40 honoree. Before working in government, Taylor spent almost three years in education. As a Teach For America corps member, she taught middle school special education in Decatur, GA. Taylor also taught English as an Additional Language in Clermont-Ferrand, France. Taylor hails from Metro Detroit and holds a Master in Public Affairs from Princeton University with a focus on domestic urban policy. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, graduating with distinction with a Bachelor of Arts in English Language & Literature and a minor in French & Francophone Studies. Taylor is fluent in French and is certified by the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages as an Advanced/C1 French speaker.

CATHARINE NIKOLOVSKI
Founder and Executive Director
Civic Software Foundation
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Catherine Nikolovski is the Founder and Executive Director of Civic Software Foundation, a non-profit organization started in 2013 with the mission of creating technology and practices built on principles of ethical data use and sustainable impact. Through her work at CIVIC, Catherine has led teams to develop dozens of open source software projects with public sector, academic, and NGO partners. Her approach to developing technology has contributed to defining the field Context-Aware Systems, a growing body of knowledge that considers how digital architectures can contain and evolve situated knowledge. This body of work includes a global applied research and collaboration effort to demonstrate principles and methodologies to more deeply understand and clarify embedded assumptions that distort the structures, interpretations, and societal effects of data. Across her various roles and engagements, Catherine advocates for digital citizen rights, sustainable climate innovation, Data Feminism and decolonial AI futures.
JEFFREY OAKMAN, MPA-URP '03
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Jeffrey joined the Murphy Administration as a Senior Policy Advisor in the fall of 2019, and covers economic development, housing, workforce development, and innovation policy. In his first year, he led the effort to develop and implement Jobs NJ, the Administration’s comprehensive workforce development agenda. As part of the State’s pandemic response, he focused on maintaining housing stability for homeowners and renters, supporting small businesses, designing innovative workforce programs to help people get back to work, and enhancing New Jersey’s worker protection programs. More recently, he has helped implement investments in affordable housing, property tax relief, and economic development initiatives to boost the economic recovery, and is helping manage the Governor’s Wealth Disparities Task Force and the NJ Public Bank Implementation Board. Prior to working in the Governor’s Office, Jeffrey was an Associate Director in the Graduate Program Office at SPIA, where he is a Masters in Public Affairs and Urban/Regional Planning alumnus from 2003. In between his stints at Princeton, Jeffrey served in the governments of New York City and Washington, DC, as an economic development policy analyst and project manager. He has also worked in real estate development for several non-profits and for-profit companies, building an expertise in tax credit financing and public subsidies for affordable housing and community development. Jeffrey lives in Princeton with his wife and two children.

HELAINE OLEN
Contributing Columnist
THE WASHINGTON POST
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Helaine Olen is a columnist for the Washington Post’s opinion section. She’s the author of Pound Foolish: Exposing The Dark Side of the Personal Finance Industry and co-author of The Index Card: Why Personal Finance Doesn't Have to be complicated.
ULILI ONOVAKPURI
Managing Partner
Kapor Capital
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Uririđiakoghene “Ullii” Onovakpuri returned to the Kapor Capital team in 2016. She is focused on sourcing investment opportunities, conducting diligence and supporting Kapor Capital’s portfolio companies particularly those in the digital health and medical technology industries. Previously, Ulili served as Director of Global Programs at Village Capital, a global accelerator program and venture capital firm which supports healthcare, education, agriculture, energy and FinTech businesses. At Village Capital she worked side by side with entrepreneurs from around the world helping them grow their ideas into marketable businesses. Ulili received her MBA with a concentration in Health Sector Management from Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business. She is a native San Franciscan and a proud UC Berkeley Alum. In her free time, you will likely find Ulili watching Bollywood movies or playing with her niece Maya.

Bunmi Otegbade, MPP '19
Senior Director
Ashoka
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Bunmi combines thought, venture and capital to build a future Africa for The Global African, who owns the narratives, knowledge production, capital and agency that define Africa. A senior leader at Ashoka, Bunmi forges global partnerships for future technologies to create societies that empower everyone to create positive change. Before Ashoka, Bunmi was a research scholar at Princeton University’s Innovations for Successful Societies covering political economy, firm incentives and innovation (future-of-work) for low-income countries. He is an early-stage investor in startups that commercialize scientific research in biotechnology, healthcare, edtech and fintech. Bunmi co-founded Generation Enterprise, Africa’s largest network of youth incubators for marginalized youth. Prior to his entrepreneurial pursuits, Bunmi was a management consultant advising Africa’s largest companies in manufacturing, telecoms and banking across Nigeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and South Africa. He holds a BSc. in Electrical & Computer Engineering from Baylor University and Master of Public Policy from Princeton University.
DUSTIN PALMER, MPA '16
Program Director, Safety Net Team
Code for America
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Dustin is a Program Director on the Safety Net team at Code for America. He leads the Integrated Benefits work, including a recent partnership with the state of Minnesota to relaunch the state’s online benefits application serving 1 million Minnesotans annually. Before joining Code for America, Dustin was a Senior Associate at Third Sector, a nonprofit advisory firm that supports governments in using data and innovative financing structures to improve outcomes in social services. Prior to that, he worked in international development, focusing on governance, policy-making, and justice challenges in Asia. Dustin holds a BA in Political Science from Washington University in St. Louis and an MPA from Princeton University. In his spare time, he volunteers as a Crisis Counselor with Crisis Text Line and explores the world by bicycle.

AMB. JUAN CARLOS PINZÓN, MPP '10
Lecturer and John L. Weinberg/Goldman Sachs & Co. Visiting Professor
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Ambassador Juan Carlos Pinzón is the former minister of defense of Colombia and two-time ambassador of Colombia to the United States. He served as minister of defense for nearly four years from 2011 to 2015. Following this position, Pinzón served as Colombia’s ambassador to Washington from 2015 to 2017. Between 2018 and 2021, Pinzón was president of the Foundation for the Progress of the Capital Region – ProBogotá, a private nonprofit for the promotion of public policy and long-term strategic projects for the capital region of Colombia. From 2021 to 2022 he returned to Washington to serve a second time as ambassador of Colombia. Additional previous positions include chief of staff to the president of Colombia; deputy minister of defense; senior adviser to the executive director at the board of the World Bank; vice president of the Colombian Banking Association; assistant vice president of investment banking at Citigroup; private secretary and chief of staff for the Finance and Public Credit Ministry; and economist for Colombia at Citigroup. Pinzón received an honorable mention for his outstanding academic performance while earning his bachelor of science in economics from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá. He also holds three master’s degrees: a master of science in economics from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana; a master in public policy from Princeton University (scholarship awarded); and a master’s degree (honoris causa) in defense and national security from Colombia’s National War College. Pinzón also completed advanced courses in strategic studies at Johns Hopkins University, in science and technology policy at Harvard University, and in smart cities at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Ambassador Pinzón taught economics at Universidad Javeriana and Universidad de los Andes from 1996 to 2004.
AMY PSZCZOLKOWSKI

Associate Director of Graduate Career Development and Alumni Relations
Princeton School of Public and International Affairs

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Amy Pszczolkowski has worked in the field of career and professional development for over 30 years. Amy joined the School of Public and International Affairs in January 2022 where she serves as the Associate Director for Graduate Career Development and Alumni Relations. Prior to SPIA, she served in the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School at Princeton University as the inaugural Assistant Dean for Professional Development from 2016 - 2021 and as the Sr. Associate Director for Graduate Career Development in the Center for Career Development from 2008-2016. In each of her roles at Princeton she has advised initiatives to strengthen and build new career and professional development opportunities for graduate students. Prior to Princeton, Amy served in the President's Office of a CT Community College. Amy was a founding board member for the Graduate Career Consortium (GCC), an international association of higher ed professionals serving as the leading voice for graduate-level career and professional development. Amy served six years on the Executive Board. She currently serves as the co-chair of the GCC Mentorship Committee. Amy received her BA in Psychology and French from Allegheny College and her MS in Higher Education Leadership from Miami University of Ohio. She lives in Titusville, NJ with her husband who is the CEO for the Hopewell Valley YMCA and an volunteer EMT and her two boys, Joel (20 yo) and Daniel (15 yo) and two labs, Porter & Tito.

NAUSHEEN RAJAN, MPA '22

Innovation Fellow
New Jersey State Office of Innovation

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Nausheen Rajan is a policy and data specialist with the NJ State Office of Innovation. Her work focuses on using insights to enhance the reach of products and programs developed by the Office and develop strategies that are responsive to the state’s policy priorities and needs. Outside of this role, Nausheen provides ad-hoc support to client cities related to workforce development for Bloomberg Associates’ Economic Development Team. Prior to her graduate studies, she worked as a senior associate at Chemonics International, where she provided project management and business development support for multimillion dollar USAID-funded projects. Previously, she engaged with issues at the intersection of foreign affairs and economic development through work with the United States Department of State, and also at leading think tanks in Washington, D.C. She has also worked on initiatives that have built the capacity of women to create, sustain, and scale their businesses in Pakistan. Most recently, she was the Harold W. Rosenthall Fellow with the U.S. Department of Labor. In June 2020, Nausheen co-founded Ismailis Rise Up, in order to increase organizing efforts around voter participation and civic engagement within the Ismaili Muslim community. Nausheen completed her Master's in Public Affairs from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs, and her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from American University.
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<td>Director, Product Management/Head of Sidewalk Labs, Google, Inc.</td>
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<td>ANNE RITTLERS</td>
<td>Founder, 17a</td>
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**PREM RAMASWAMI**

Prem Ramaswami is a product management leader focused on the intersection of technology and wide-scale social impact. He currently heads up Sidewalk Labs building products to radically improve the quality of urban life for all. Prem previously led efforts in Google Search’s Social Impact projects in the domains of Health, Civics, Education, Arts & Culture, Crisis Response, and Social Good. Prem holds a degree in Computer & Biomedical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon. He also holds a MBA from Harvard Business School. Prem developed and taught an introductory course on Product Management at Harvard, Stanford, Sequoia’s startup school, and numerous other venues. When not building products for the cities of the future, Prem spends hours building Lego cities with his two sons and watching way too much TV with his wife.

**ANNE RITTLERS**

Annie Rittgers is the founder of 17a, a strategy firm focused on public service delivery. She has more than 10 years of experience in public sector program design, innovation and transformation. Annie’s work primarily focuses on designing new programs for better outcomes using tools like alternative payment models, pilots, cross-system operations, and more. She has supported projects in Medicaid, housing, courts and corrections, economic development, education, and more. Annie also leads 17a’s work to develop stronger professional supports in the public service delivery ecosystem. Prior to founding 17a, Annie worked as a consultant at McKinsey & Company. She holds a JD/MBA from Harvard University and a BA from Dartmouth College. Annie lives in Cincinnati with her husband Colin, daughter Perry and dog Penny. She believes that stronger engagement with the administrative side of government is one of the most important ingredients to stronger communities and a better future.
Cheraé Robinson is an entrepreneur, cultural architect, and global citizen currently leading Community at Flybridge Capital Partners, an early-stage Venture Capital fund. Her journey to venture started as a founder building Tastemakers Africa, an experiences marketplace connecting travelers to unique tours in African cities - Flybridge was the largest investor. She is also the creator of “The Thread,” a community platform for the African diaspora built in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Before launching her career in tech, Cheraé spent a decade working in civil society and the public sector, focusing on agriculture, public health, and economic development at the CDC/WHO, CIMMYT/World Bank, and CARE. Cheraé has been named one of “10 Emerging Women Entrepreneurs in Africa” by Forbes, “20 to Watch” by Culture Shift Labs, a “Woman to Watch” by the United Nations Foundation and one of "44 People Changing The Way We Travel" by Condé Nast Traveler. She was pivotal in the success of “The Year of Return” in Ghana and is a pioneer in the travel industry - especially among Black millennials. She serves on the board of Birthright Africa and is on the host committee for the AMREF ArtBall. Cheraé graduated with a B.S. in Biology from Morgan State University. When not focused on supercharging entrepreneurs, she is a DJ, scuba diver, and frequent dinner party host. She currently resides in Brooklyn, New York with her son Trace and dog Tales.
MICHAEL M. SAMUELIAN, FAIA, AICP
Founding Director
Jacobs Urban Technology Hub
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Michael Samuelian, FAIA, AICP, is the founding director of the Jacobs Urban Technology Hub at Cornell Tech. He is an urban planner, real estate developer, professor and most recently the CEO of the Trust for Governors Island. From community development in Lower Manhattan and the creation of a new neighborhood in Hudson Yards to the activation of Governors Island; he’s helped plan, design and develop some of the most transformative projects in New York City. Michael is an experienced executive, accomplished leader, open space advocate and strategic planner who has made an enduring mark on the skyline and streetscape of the city. Upon founding the Urban Tech Hub at Cornell Tech, Michael has become one of the city’s leading voices on the role that technology plays in today and tomorrow’s cities. The Hub originates applied research on ways that technology can optimize urban systems while ensuring equity in tech deployment and development. Michael has produced public academic and industry events which have engaged thousands of participants, including the Hub’s signature Urban Tech Summit, held annually at Cornell Tech’s new Roosevelt Island campus. As the President and CEO of the Trust for Governors Island, Michael led the non-profit organization created by the City of New York and charged with the planning, development, and ongoing operations of Governors Island. During Michael’s tenure, the Trust significantly expanded the public’s access to the Island, attracted new mission-aligned cultural and educational partnerships and created a strategic plan for sustainable real estate development, all while elevating the Island’s reputation as one of the city’s most beloved open spaces. Prior to his appointment as President of the Trust, Michael was a Vice President with Related Companies, where his work focused on the planning of large-scale mixed-use real estate development projects. He was responsible for the planning and design of Hudson Yards, a $25 billion master plan for 18 million square feet on Manhattan’s West Side. Michael led the rezoning, entitlements, master-planning and design of the public spaces as well as the development of the signature component of the project, the Vessel. After 9/11, Michael was the Director of Lower Manhattan Special Projects at the New York City Department of City Planning, helping the city’s efforts to rebuild downtown. In this position, he worked with a variety of constituents, ranging from the local community boards to state and city agencies to develop consensus for the disposition of federal funds dedicated to the recovery and rebuilding of Lower Manhattan. Michael also led the effort to plan and design a new waterfront park on the East River and was the city’s representative in the creation of the World Trade Center Commercial Design Guidelines. He received a Master of Architecture in Urban Design from Harvard University and a Bachelor of Architecture from Cooper Union. Michael teaches extensively and is currently an Assistant Professor Adjunct at Cooper Union and a lecturer at Cornell Tech. Michael is a Fellow of the AIA, a registered architect in New York State and former Chair of the New York State Board for Architecture. He currently serves on the New York Advisory Board of the Trust for Public Land and the Long Island City Partnership, and he has served on the Board of Governors of Open House New York and the Friends of Governors Island. In 2018, he was honored with the prestigious John Q. Hedjuk Alumni Award and inducted into the Cooper Union Alumni Hall of Fame.
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**STACY TAYLOR, MPA '11**

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Stacy Taylor is the Head of Policy and Partnerships at Propel, a technology company that builds services for households who receive means-tested government benefits. They are the company behind the Providers app used by over 5 million SNAP participant households every month. Prior to Propel, Stacy worked with advocacy and direct service nonprofit organizations working to improve access to social services. Stacy holds an MPA from Princeton University and an MBA from Stanford University. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband and three daughters.

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As Chief Data Officer at the City of Boulder, Richard is responsible for data analytics, data governance and data infrastructure that further the City’s policy and operational goals. He was previously Data Analytics Lead for the City of Seattle; prior to this he worked in the consulting and investment banking sectors. Richard earned his master’s degrees in data science from the University of Washington and in public administration from Princeton University. He read philosophy, politics and economics as an undergraduate at the University of Oxford. Wittgenstein convinced him to take that interest no further.

**TINA J. WALHA, MPA '09**

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Tina J. Walha is the Chief Partnerships Officer of U.S. Digital Response, a nonpartisan nonprofit that places experienced, pro-bono technologists to support state and local governments in responding to resident needs. Prior to USDR, she served as Chief Innovation Officer for the City of Seattle and Policy Advisor in the New York City Mayor’s Office. Walha has a Master’s in Public Administration and Urban Policy and Planning from Princeton University and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
### JENNIFER WIDNER

Professor of Politics and International Affairs; Director, Innovations for Successful Societies  
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Jennifer Widner is Professor of Politics & International Affairs at Princeton University. She directs Innovations for Successful Societies, a research program that helps public servants leading efforts to build more effective, more accountable government learn from each other. The program has worked in over 45 countries since its founding in 2008 and its management cases help aspiring leaders across the globe. Professor Widner's own research has focused on a range of subjects such as rule of law and government capacity to respond to disasters and crises. She is author or editor of books on political parties in Africa, judicial independence, democratization, and the scientific underpinnings of qualitative case studies. She has published articles on a variety of topics in journals such as Democratization, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Journal of Development Studies, The William & Mary Law Review, Daedalus, and the American Journal of International Law. In addition to books on African law and politics, and she has three projects forthcoming—one on interagency coordination during disaster response, one on the effects of decentralization on public financial management and development strategy in low income countries, and a third general text on improving service delivery where geography or other conditions make implementation difficult. Before joining the Princeton faculty, she taught at Harvard and the University of Michigan.

### RAYLENE YUNG

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Raylene Yung is the Executive Director of the Technology Modernization Fund at the U.S. General Services Administration. Previously, she served as the co-founder and CEO of U.S. Digital Response, a nonpartisan, nonprofit initiative created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which has provided support in areas such as vaccination equity, unemployment insurance, housing security, and food access. Prior to that, she was a fellow with the Aspen Institute’s Tech Policy Hub and an engineering and product executive at Stripe and Facebook. She holds a BS and MS in Computer Science from Stanford University.
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