



Annual Conference & Expo
August 23, 2023
Speaker Bios



Brandon Allen, Ph.D.
Purdue University
Co-Director of Diversity and Culture of Inclusion
ASPIRE Engineering

Dr. Brandon Allen is a Research Professor in the School of Engineering Education at Purdue University. He is the Co-Director of Diversity and Culture of Inclusion of the NSF ASPIRE (Advancing Sustainability through Powered Infrastructure for Roadway Electrification) Engineering Research Center. Dr. Allen also leads the Equity Research Thrust for ASPIRE where he helps develop strategic research plans to address equitability and sustainability in the pursuits of an electrified transportation system. Dr. Allen has hosted K-12 and undergrad summer research experiences for students to work with Electric Vehicles and has led mentoring programs to assist those in engineering disciplines. Dr. Allen received the Purdue Societal Impact Fellow Award (2021), Frances A. Cordova Leadership in Action Award (2019), National Land-Grant Diversity Conference Diversity Champion Award 2019, APLU Experiment Station Section's Diversity and Inclusion Award Recipient (2018), and One Brick Higher Award from Purdue University (2017).



Richard Clark
Business Development Manager
Hydrogen

More information is coming soon!



Dave Dorsett
EV Account Manager
Kerlin Bus Sales & Leasing

Dave is the EV account manager and Regional Account manager for Kerlin Bus Sales. A seasoned sales rep, Dave has been selling since 1984. He joined Kerlin as a regional account manager in 2017. Dave's relationship with multiple schools has been the springboard for becoming immersed in the EV world from buses to infrastructure to funding. He also serves on the Drive

Clean Indiana Board of Directors.



Rahim Evans
Environmental Stakeholder Inclusion Coordinator
IDEM
Community Outreach Coordinator
LAMP/RAP
Office of Program Support

Rahim Evans is an Environmental Stakeholder Inclusion Coordinator with the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Evans started with IDEM in July of 2022.

Since Evans joined IDEM he has been learning and connecting with environmental justice communities. Evans is passionate about community engagement and collaboration. Evans holds a B.A. in Communications from Purdue University Northwest.



Dr. Jeff Hauswald
Superintendent
Monroe County School Corporation

Dr. Hauswald assumed the position of superintendent of the Monroe County School Corporation in the late spring of 2020. He has worked as a superintendent for 11 years in the Kokomo School Corporation and acted as assistant superintendent five years before that. He currently assumes the position of President of the Indiana Urban Schools Association and was awarded the 2013 IU

Chancellor and Provost Medallion as well as the IAPSS District III Superintendent of the Year Award in 2019.



Vicki Hover
State Grant Manager
EV Charging
BorgWarner/Rhombus Energy Solutions

Vicki Hover serves as the Grants Manager for BorgWarner EV Charging. In this role, Vicki identifies public funding that is available to EV charging partners to help reduce or eliminate costs associated with the purchase and installation of EV chargers and infrastructure. This

partnership can help businesses drastically reduce the cost of transition for EV fleets or commuters. BorgWarner is a leader in the exciting market of electric vehicle charging systems as well as advanced applications for power conversion systems such as inverters and microgrids. We are the industry leader in vehicle to grid (V2G) technologies and proud to manufacture and certify all of our products in the USA.



Meghan Jones
Commercial Manager
BP Whiting Refinery

Meghan has been on the board of Drive Clean Indiana for two years. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame with a bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering and has been with bp for over 20 years in various engineering and commercial roles. She is passionate about ensuring we can sustainably meet the energy needs of the region while also transitioning to a lower carbon future. Meghan has been married for 15 years, they have a 12 year old boy and a 9 year old girl, and the family has added two Doberman pinschers to the mix in the past 4 years.



Danielle Judin
Business Engagement Director
Indiana Department of Transportation

Danielle joined INDOT as Business Engagement Director last August with over 8 years of experience in development and alumni relations at Indiana University in Bloomington, where she most recently served as Associate Director of Alumni Engagement for the Kelley School of Business. During her time at IU, Danielle worked with internal and external partners to deliver strategic engagement opportunities for alumni, conducted alumni research and outreach in key markets, and implemented and managed a comprehensive volunteer program. In her first year at INDOT, Danielle has worked on developing a strategic plan for business engagement to maintain and strengthen INDOT's relationships with the private sector. She has enjoyed playing a small part in the planning process to deliver a network of EV charging stations to the state of Indiana through NEVI. Danielle is originally from Fort Lauderdale, Florida and graduated from the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in English. In her spare time, Danielle enjoys traveling, reading, and outdoor activities.



John Kenny

CPA- Director of Business Operations

Monroe County Community School Corporation

John Kenny has been with Monroe County Community School Corporation for over six and a half years. His background includes roles such as Chief Financial Officer at the Indiana University Alumni Association, Director of Finance at the Centerstone of IN Regional Mental Health Center, and City Controller for both Richmond, IN, and Piqua, OH. He's also held positions at Earlham College and Greenwalt Sponsel & Co. John's influence expands beyond finance, as he's been a driving force in MCCSC's transition to electric buses (EV buses). He successfully secured the first EV bus through Volkswagen Mitigation Trust funds and obtained two more using EPA's Diesel Emissions Reduction Act funds. He's currently overseeing the procurement of 10 additional EV buses through bond funding, aiming for a total fleet of 23 by 2023. Collaborating with Drive Clean Indiana, he's pursuing EPA funding to further this mission. Working in line with Superintendent Dr. Hauswald's vision, John is accelerating the district's shift toward a fully electric fleet in the next six years. He's also championing sustainable charging infrastructure, with plans for solar canopies to power the buses. John Kenny's financial expertise and commitment to sustainability are propelling MCCSC toward an environmentally-conscious future.



LaToya King
Operations Supervisor
South Bend Community Schools

LaToya has an excellent knowledge of the ins and outs of school transportation. Perhaps most impressive is her knack for building relationships and serving as a point person for any challenges she faces along the way. She has spent more than a decade supporting school transportation needs and loves providing opportunities for kids. Prior to serving as operations supervisor, King was the athletic secretary at George Washington High School from 2010 to 2016. She worked as a commercial driver for South Bend schools for seven years prior to when she started her career.

She received her bachelor's degree in organizational management from Bethel College. She also holds an associate's degree in business administration from Ivy Tech Community College in South Bend.

She holds a Class B CDL license with endorsements in CPR and first aid. LaToya is also the Founder of a nonprofit organization KingsKourtz that serves underserved youth in her community.

King lives in South Bend with her husband, Lynn King Jr, and they have four beautiful children, Essence, 28 who attended Purdue University West Lafayette, Lynne, 22 who recently graduated from IU Bloomington, Lynn III who attends Franklin College, 20, and Elijah King, 14.



Kevin Kirkham
Manager of Business Development
NIPSCO

Kevin is responsible for helping new customers get connected to NIPSCO infrastructure, including renewable energy programs. He was responsible for NIPSCO's pilot electric vehicle charging station program for homeowners & public charging stations. Kevin joined NiSource Inc. in 1992 & held various positions including Director of Strategic & Economic Analysis for NIPSCO & Director positions for NiSource in Corporate Development, Project Management Operations & NIPSCO's energy efficiency programs. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University & a Masters of Business Administration degree from IUN.



Carl Lisek
Executive Director
Drive Clean Indiana

Carl Lisek leads Drive Clean Indiana (DCI) as executive director of Indiana's only designated Clean Cities Initiative to implement strategies to advance affordable, efficient, and clean transportation and fuels throughout the Hoosier State. He currently advocates for the State of Indiana on the deployment and collaboration of Electric Vehicles and Electric Vehicle Infrastructure to decarbonize Indiana's transportation sector by shifting vehicles, fuels, and technologies that reduce transportation greenhouse gas emissions. In 2022 Drive Clean Indiana coordinated over \$ 30 million of Clean Transportation funding opportunities with its partners. This includes the deployment of EV charging infrastructure and EV vehicle deployment. Drive Clean Indiana in partnership with the State of Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) provides education, outreach, and marketing of the statewide electric initiative in collaboration with the Indiana Utility Group. Carl was inducted into the U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Hall of Fame in 2015.



Anthony Maietta
Life Scientist
Region 5 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air and Radiation Division

Anthony (Tony) Maietta is an Environmental Protection Specialist in the Chicago/Region 5 office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air and Radiation Division. Tony graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a B.S. in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution. Since 2003 his work at the EPA includes review and processing of state clean air laws under the Clean Air Act, transportation conformity in Indiana and Ohio, and managing voluntary programs such as the Midwest Clean Diesel Initiative, the SmartWay Transport Partnership, EPA's Clean School Bus Program, and EPA's Ports Initiative.



Katie Maller
Business Development Associate
Marketing Coordinator
EV United

Katie Maller is an EV Charging Specialist with EVUnited. In her role, she assists businesses and municipalities pursue EV charging projects from start-to-finish. Katie is passionate about promoting awareness surrounding EV charging and the resources available. As a born & raised Hoosier, Katie is excited to assist in the expansion of Indiana's EV charging network.



Marianne Mintz
Principal Transportation Systems Analyst
Argonne National Laboratory

Marianne Mintz is a principal energy analyst within Argonne's Energy Systems Division. She has over 40 years' experience in transportation and energy analysis and has authored over 120 publications in the field. Her current work centers on infrastructure requirements of alternative fuel pathways (especially renewable natural gas, electricity and hydrogen), and economic impacts of fuel cells, electricity, hydrogen and natural gas fueling infrastructure.

She is an active member of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), and past chair and Emeritus member of TRB's Transportation Energy Committee. She holds a masters degree from UCLA and has completed post-graduate work at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Susan Mudd
Senior Policy Advocate
Environmental Law & Policy Center

Susan Mudd is an attorney and senior policy advocate for ELPC, where she directs ELPC's Diesel Pollution Reduction Initiative to protect children's and community health, ELPC's Electric School bus campaign and with ELPC's Science Advisory Council. Susan previously served as Citizens for a Better Environment's Wisconsin director for 15 years, consulted for the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, and the Brico Fund. She lives in Chicago with her husband.

Susan holds a core belief that everyone deserves clean air, water, and not to be assaulted by toxins or climate change.



Kay L. Nelson
Director
Environmental Affairs
Northwest Indiana Forum

Kay Nelson is a 1977 graduate of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the School of Agriculture in Natural Resources and Environmental Science. In the pursuit of her degree, Ms. Nelson focused upon water quality issues.

Kay joined the Northwest Indiana Forum in 1998. Recognizing the integral relationship between economic development and environmental protection, Ms. Nelson's role with the Northwest Indiana Forum is diverse. She is

an active participant during the new and/or expanding business process – working to assist understanding by the community at large of the impact and importance of economic development. At present, Ms. Nelson is engaged in multiple renewable energy initiatives.

Kay represents the business community in discussions with environmental and community stakeholders to develop understanding and often consensus on issues of regional, state and international importance.

Kay serves on the Great Lakes Commission as a Commissioner and the VW Trust Fund Advisory Board at the appointment of Governor Holcomb. Additionally, she is a Great Lakes Advisory Board member for the U.S. EPA Region V Great Lakes National Planning Office since 2020.



Alec Pashkow
Commercial Developer
BP

Alec is supporting BP's effort to develop a U.S. Midwest clean transportation ecosystem via hydrogen filling stations.

Previously, Alec spent 12 years on BP's Marketing and Origination teams where he played a role in delivering complex cross business opportunities requiring creative structuring. After spending the first 12 years of his career in the options trading pits of Chicago with Goldman Sachs, Alec joined BP's Integrated Supply and Trading finance team in 2007.

Alec was born and raised in the northern suburbs of Chicago and graduated from the University of Rochester with a BS in Economics and received his MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management.



Belinda Puetz
Director of Marketing
CountryMark

Belinda Puetz has been with CountryMark since 2007. As Director of Marketing, Belinda manages the company's brand, as well as company sales and marketing efforts. In her tenure at CountryMark, Belinda has been involved in the development of the company's brand promise, as well as the rebranding of retail fuel stations and fuel delivery trucks. Belinda

holds a bachelor's degree from Purdue University in agriculture economics and agriculture communications. Prior to her work with CountryMark, she served as Biofuels Manager for the Indiana Soybean Alliance and the Indiana Corn Marketing Council, was a writer and project manager for an advertising agency and was a reporter for a weekly farm newspaper.

Belinda is currently serving as the president of Drive Clean Indiana's Board of Directors. Belinda also serves on the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers Sustainability Working Group and is Founding Director of IN-CLIMATE, a consortium of Indiana ag and energy leaders seeking to find sustainability solutions that work best for Indiana farms, families and fleets.

Belinda is a graduate of the Indiana Ag Leadership Program and a past President of the Indiana FFA Foundation. She has served as an advisor on the Purdue University School of Agriculture Steering Committee and was a director of the Purdue University Ag Alumni Association.



Shawn Seals
Senior Environmental Manager
Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Shawn Seals, Senior Environmental Manager, Indiana Department of Environmental Management: Shawn's IDEM responsibilities include a variety of air quality priorities. As it relates to electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging, Shawn is the administrator of the State of Indiana's Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust program.

Over the last several years, Shawn has been working with Indiana communities and utility providers to build the foundation for Indiana's Level 2 and DC Fast EV charging networks. Shawn manages the EV charging infrastructure collaboration between IDEM, seven (7) Indiana utilities (Indiana Utility Group), and Indiana's Department of Energy designated Clean Cities coalition, Drive Clean Indiana. Along with these partners, Shawn co-leads the GOEVIN program. Shawn has administered the rollout of over 50 Level 2 EV charging stations in 30 Indiana communities. In partnership with the Indiana Utility Group and Drive Clean Indiana, 61 DC Fast charging stations are expected to be in place across Indiana by the end of 2023, with several being operational as early as late-Spring to early-Summer.

Shawn has received multiple Environmental Impact Awards, Dedicated Service Awards and Certificates of Excellence presented by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management in appreciation of his 25 years of service. He has also earned several awards from local community and non-profit organizations for his dedication to air quality and the quality of life for Indiana citizens.



Rushabh Shah
Director
BP Midwest Hydrogen & CCS

Rushabh is currently the Director of Midwest Hydrogen and CCS (Carbon Capture and Storage) in BP's Gas and Low Carbon Energy business. In this capacity, he is responsible for BP's Midwest Integrated Energy Hub and for the management and oversight of the hydrogen portfolio of development assets in the region.

Prior to his current role, Rushabh was the Head of Supply for the US East Coast/Gulf Coast and Mexico hydrocarbon product supply business, where he was responsible for the strategy, operations, business development, commercial negotiations, and financial delivery of all aspects of integrated products supply and logistic value chains in these regions.

Rushabh holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Michigan and an MBA in Finance from the Northwestern Kellogg School of Management. He has a passion for DE&I (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) and is one of the co-founders for Chicagoland Men as Allies, a group dedicated to improving awareness of gender inequity and creating a culture of allyship.

Rushabh is married and has three young children. When he is not working or spending time with family, he enjoys watching his beloved Detroit Red Wings and Philadelphia Eagles.



Aco Sikoski
Chancellor
Ivy Tech Valparaiso

Mr. Sikoski completed his Bachelors of Science in Electrical Engineering at the University of Kiril I Metodi in Skopje, Macedonia. He continued his education at Purdue University where he obtained his Masters of Science in Engineering.

Intermittently, Mr. Sikoski has consulted for various institutions and organizations. In 1997, he started his career at Ivy Tech Community College where he has stayed until the present. He served as a professor, program chair, dean, campus President, and Chancellor. As a program chair and dean, Mr. Sikoski was involved in developing several technology and engineering programs, including the Energy Technology and Pre-Engineering Program. Developing programs to meet industry workforce needs and student's successes is his priority.

He is a board member of Valpo and Michigan City Chambers, Portage and Duneland Economic Development, Our Grader Good, Valpo School Foundation and of course, Rotarian. He enjoys family time, traveling, hiking, and biking



Leah Thill
Director of Sustainability
Michiana Area Council of Governments

Leah focuses on MACOG's clean transportation, clean air, clean energy and brownfields programs. Previously, she served with MACOG as the Technical Advisor for the SolSmart Program funded by the Department of Energy, leading seven local governments to earn solar-ready,

solar-friendly designation for making it easier, faster and more affordable to go solar. She completed graduate studies at the Indiana University School of Public and

Environmental Affairs, with a Master of Public Affairs and a Master of Science in Environmental Science with concentrations in Energy and Sustainability.



Jason van den Brink
Chief Financial Officer
Ozinga Energy

Jason joined Ozinga Energy in 2019. He has a decade of experience in financial strategy and analytics. He is passionate about sustainable business practices and financial excellence. Jason recently took on the role of CFO and enjoys being very hands-on with planning of both internally and customer-funded CNG and RNG projects.

Jason holds an MS in Nonprofit Management from Spertus Institute, a BS in Public Accounting from Calvin University, and is a registered IL CPA.



Thomas Vander Woude
AICP
Director of Transportation
NIRPC

Tom is the Director of Transportation for the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC). He joined NIRPC in May of 2023 and had previously worked there from 2008 to 2012. For the past 6 years, he served as the Planning Director for the Town of Munster, Indiana. Prior to Munster he worked for 5 years in local and regional planning in Illinois.

Tom has a bachelor's degree in philosophy and theology from Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois and a Master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also holds a certification with the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

Mike Wortham
Government Affairs Manager
BP Midwest

More information is coming soon!



Ben Wrightsman
President & CEO
Battery Innovation Center

Ben Wrightsman is a strategic global industry executive with over 22 years of experience in high-tech manufacturing, electronics, advanced battery, energy economy, and product development companies. He has a passion for finding and utilizing untapped resources and capabilities within a company to open up new opportunities for growth and revenue generation along with rehabilitation.

Ben has held key positions with one of the industry's leading electronics contract manufacturers, large format lithium battery manufacturer, advanced energy development firm, and non-profit battery commercialization center, and owns and advises multiple small business ventures/startups. His career has taken him all over the world; working, living, supporting, and building companies in the US, Mexico, Asia, Canada, and portions of Europe.

Ben attended Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) majoring in electrical engineering where he was co-captain of the Electric Jag (Indy) race car team. He is a Lean Six-Sigma Black Belt, APICS-CPIM accredited, and received Sandler President's Sales Certification. In addition to his primary role, Ben also has served on advisory

boards for Indiana IoT Lab, CareBand, Eclipse Energy Labs, EMC² lab, and Switchback Energy, along with several OEMs.
