

## 2015 Collegiate Sports Sustainability Summit June 24-26, 2015 Speaker/Moderator Bios



**Morgan Burke**, Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics at Purdue University

Morgan Burke has left an indelible mark on Purdue University while etching his name as one of the visionary leaders in intercollegiate athletics. Now in his 22nd year as athletics director at his alma mater, he has the fourth-longest tenure among current FBS athletics directors and currently serves as chair of the Big Ten athletics directors.

A 1973 industrial management graduate and captain of the swimming team his senior year, Burke was a member of Phi Beta Kappa scholastic honorary. After graduation, he continued at Purdue and earned a master's degree in industrial relations in 1975. In 1980, he

graduated with a law degree from John Marshall Law School in Chicago. Burke pursued a successful career with Inland Steel Co. after law school, moving through 13 positions in an 18-year span. He was vice president when he departed to return to Purdue.

Beyond Purdue, Burke is past president of the Division 1A Athletic Directors Association and previously served on the NCAA Leadership Council and several Big Ten boards and NCAA working groups.

Burke continues to put his heart and soul into what he truly views as a labor of love, setting a high standard for the Boilermakers, to improve the position of athletic programs, strive towards student-athlete academic excellence and develop responsible citizens.



Elisa Halpin, Coordinator, NCAA Men's Basketball Championships Elisa served for more than nine years at the NCAA as a staff assistant for education services; executive assistant for men's basketball, football and baseball; and executive assistant for championships and alliances. She was promoted to coordinator of men's basketball in July 2012, is the point person for the Division III Men's Basketball Championship and oversees transportation, sustainability and student-athlete enhancements for the Division I Men's Basketball Championship. Prior to joining the NCAA staff, Elisa was a meeting coordinator with Eli Lilly and Company. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics from DePauw University and has a master's degree in higher education administration from Drexel University. A native of Greenfield, Indiana, Elisa has one son, Sam.



Maureen McGonagle, Director of Campus Recreation, DePaul University Maureen McGonagle, MBA, has worked for Centers LLC as the Director of Campus Recreation at DePaul University since 1998 and as an external program review consultant since 2003. She is an active and respected leader in collegiate recreation; she is currently serving on NIRSA's Commission for Sustainable Communities and former association leadership positions include NIRSA President, NIRSA Services Corporation Board Member, NIRSA Foundation Board Member, faculty member on the National School of Recreational Sports Management, and presenter of over 100 educational sessions at local, state, regional, and national conferences. She served on DePaul's Sustainability Initiatives Task Force and actively engages in sustainability efforts on campus.



Michael Andresen, Sustainable Designer, RDG Planning and Design Michael has managed the sustainable design process on nearly 5,000,000 square feet of new construction, including over 50 LEED® projects – nine of which have achieved LEED® Platinum Certification. Michael is a member of the US Green Building Council (USGBC), a past chair of the Green Schools Advocacy Committee, and has been recognized as a sustainable content expert by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI); participating in item writing for the national release of the 2009 LEED® Exams.



**Heather Barberio**, Program Coordinator, SC Department of Health and Environmental Control

Heather graduated from the College of Charleston, in Charleston, South Carolina in December 2013 with a Bachelor's degree in Biology and a minor in Spanish. She began working at the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in Columbia, South Carolina, in June 2014, where she currently works as a program coordinator in the state's recycling office. In this position, Heather provides colleges and universities with technical assistance in establishing and improving their campus waste reduction and recycling programs. In her free time, Heather enjoys exploring the outdoors with her dog and her husband as well as painting and reading.



**Lindsay Batchelor,** Program Development Specialist, North Carolina State University

Lindsay has been working to integrate sustainability into the campus at NC State University for 12 years. Her first major effort was the creation of a recycling program at Carter-Finley Stadium in 2003. Since then, Lindsay has helped lead a collaboration with Athletics focused on sports sustainability. More recently, she is also working with University Recreation to develop long term sustainability goals and programs. Lindsay has attended the Collegiate Sports Sustainability Summit for the last 3 years and served on the Content Committee for the last 2 years.

Kelly Boeger, University Housing Menu Management Dietitian, University of Illinois
Kelly Boeger is the Menu Management Dietitian for University of Illinois Dining Services. She
works closely with chefs and other food service professionals within the organization to promote
and practice sustainable habits. She has a special interest in sustainability, environmental
issues, and reduction of food waste and enjoys being part of an organization that is committed
to sustainability. University of Illinois Dining is proud to participate in such programs as Zero
Percent, Lean Path and EPA Food Recovery Challenge and recently won an award from the
National Association of College and University Food Service for their sustainability efforts.



Chelsea Brehm, Movement Science Faculty (Grand Valley State University) & Sustainability Coordinator (Gazelle Girl Half Marathon)
Chelsea is a visiting faculty member in the sport management program at GVSU. She teaches courses regarding sports in society, facility and event management, and sustainability in sports. Chelsea also serves as the sustainability coordinator for the Gazelle Girl Half Marathon and 5K. The Gazelle Girl has become the only event in Michigan to reach a silver level certification through the Council for Responsible Sport.



Al Capitos, Maintenance Superintendent, Purdue Athletics
Al Capitos is the Stadium Superintendent for Purdue University
Athletics. He received his undergraduate degree from the
Pennsylvania State University in 1998 and he has worked in
Facilities Maintenance for the last 17 years. Mr. Capitos held
positions with Major League Baseball's Baltimore Orioles and at
Johns Hopkins University prior to settling at Purdue. He's been
involved with Stadium Operations and Event Management here
for the last 9 years and he works closely with the University's

Office of Sustainability, developing green opportunities at athletic events. He resides in West Lafayette with his wife Lisa and their 3 children.



Justin Caron, Business Development Manager, Aquatics Design Group Mr. Caron has worked with over 25 colleges and universities as they studied, planned, programmed, designed, and constructed new or renovated aquatic centers. He has been particularly active in assisting clients designing projects that are both fiscally and environmentally responsible. Caron is an accomplished speaker and author. He has presented multiple educational sessions at conference for six national organizations and four regional organizations as well as having six articles published in national or international publications. Caron has also been a project manager for over 150 completed aquatic facilities in 19 states around the country and 7 countries around the world and routinely makes presentations to City Council's, Park and Recreation Boards, public forums,

and at college campuses relating to aquatic issues.



Alec Cooley, Director of Recycling Programs, Keep America Beautiful Alec Cooley is a director of recycling program at Keep America Beautiful, where he oversees public space recycling and collegiate programs. Prior to joining KAB in 2009, Alec was a project manager with the National Recycling Coalition for three years. He began his carrier in the recycling field as an operations manager for the Arcata Community Recycling Center, and later spent nine years at Humboldt State University in Northern California managing the school's solid waste and recycling, as well as waste reduction programs. Alec is a former president of the California Resource Recovery Association and has served on the board of the Carolina Recycling Association. Alec lives in Charleston, South Carolina.



Katharine DeRossette, Graduate Assistant, University of Arkansas
Katharine is a second year graduate student studying higher education
administration and sustainability. She is a graduate assistant in the Center
for Community Engagement where she advises the Volunteer Action Center's
Full Circle Food Pantry and Razorback Food Recovery. Katharine was first
exposed to game day recycling as an undergraduate at the University of
Mississippi, where she coordinated "Green Grove" for three football seasons.
As a graduate student interning in the Office for Sustainability at the
University of Arkansas she worked closely with the Athletic Department and
Boston Mountain Solid Waste District recruiting, communicating, and training
volunteers for recycling initiatives at each Razorback home football game.



Elyssa Emrich, Midwest Correspondent, GreenSportsBlog
Elyssa is currently the Midwest Correspondent for the GreenSportsBlog.
This blog writes at the intersection of Green & Sports; her blog series, the Greening of College Athletics focuses on athletic departments attaining environmental sustainability. Elyssa is based in Madison, WI where she recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a dual degree in Marketing and Management. As a student Elyssa worked four years for the university's athletic department. During this time she worked in the Guest Services, Event Management and Marketing Departments. She played an integral role in introducing the

Wisconsin Badgers to the Green Sports Alliance.



Dean Fredette, General Manager, Purdue Sports Properties
Dean Fredette is in his 13th year as the General Manager of Purdue
Sports Properties, a Division of Learfield Sports. Learfield Sports is the
premier collegiate multi-media rights holder with nearly 100 collegiate
properties across the country. A native of Dover, N.H., Fredette earned
both his bachelor of arts and master of science degrees from Purdue.
As a student at Purdue, Fredette was a member of the Purdue
swimming and diving team. During his career he set several school
records, including the 100 and 200 fly and 500 freestyle, and also was
a member of the record-setting 200 and 400 medley relay teams. He

was voted team captain during his junior and senior seasons.



Michael J. Gulich, Director of Sustainability, Purdue University
Michael J. Gulich, AIA, LEED is the Director of University Sustainability at
Purdue University and is responsible for providing the vision, organizational
strategy, and focus for advancing sustainability efforts campus-wide.
Collaborating with students, faculty, and staff, he also provides leadership in
assisting the University with the continued enhancement of its efforts and
reputation with regard to sustainability programs. Michael received his
LEED-AP designation in early 2002, and worked for Croxton Collaborative
Architects (CCA) prior to coming to Purdue where he served as Vice
President and director of the firm's initiatives in High Performance Buildings
and Strategic Sustainability Consulting. Michael has more than 15 years of
prior experience in the management, design, and practice of architecture for

a wide client base including commercial, institutional, and public agency organizations.



Grace Haines, Game Day Manager of the Green Grove Initiative
Grace Haines graduated from the University of Mississippi with a B.A.
degree in International Studies and French in May 2015. She has served as
a student intern with the UM Office of Sustainability since the fall of 2013,
working primarily on the management team for the game day recycling
program, called the Green Grove Initiative. This student-led initiative utilizes
campus and community volunteers to educate tailgaters about how to
properly recycle and reduce waste on game days. Her personal involvement
has evolved along with the program's growth, from a student volunteer, to a
Game Day Coordinator, to most recently as the Initiative's Project Manager.
Inspired by her undergraduate studies and internship experience, Grace
intends to work in the field of international sustainability in the future.



**Jeanette Hanna**, Ph.D., Market Development Manager, BASF Corporation Biopolymers

Jeanette completed a PhD in chemistry from Purdue University in 2007. She has spent the last eight years working at BASF Corporation in Wyandotte, Michigan in technical and commercial roles. She is currently the North American Market Development Manager for the biopolymers business. Growing the market for compostable plastics includes collaboration with stakeholders throughout the composting value chain, advocacy for compostable plastics, and developing composting outreach programs for the community. Zero waste events, such as those that can be found in sporting venues, are ideal settings to introduce new technologies, partner with stakeholders, and engage fans.



David Kopsell, Ph.D., Professor of Horticulture, Illinois State University Dr. David Kopsell, Professor of Horticulture at Illinois State University, Normal, IL, has a 75% teaching and 25% research academic appointment. Dave grew up in the Illinois Green Industry on a 200-acre production nursery, received his B.S. in Horticulture (1993) with a minor in Business Administration from Illinois State, and an M.S. (1995) and a Ph.D. (1999) from the Horticulture Department at the University of Georgia. His research specialization is plant nutrition and quality enhancement of horticultural crops, but he and his graduate students have recently focused on Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Certification and its impact on university and national golf courses. This work received the 2014 ISU Environmental Stewardship Award and a 2014

"Caught Green-Handed" Sustainability Award from the Illinois Green Governments Coordinating Council.



**Alana Lee Levine**, Recycling and Solid Waste Manager, Arizona State University

Alana has over twenty years of experience in solid waste program development and operations management. Before coming to ASU, she worked in behavioral health as Programs Director for the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Arizona. She previously held the positions of Recycling and Solid Waste Supervisor at MIT in Cambridge, and as Recycling Coordinator at the University of Arizona. Alana has a B.S. in Marketing and is currently working on her M.S. in Public Administration.



Jonathan Martin, Landscape Architect, RDG Planning and Design Jonathan's passion for College and University work has led him to focus on various aspects of the planning and design of college and university campuses. Integration with client groups and key design professionals in the planning and design process, Jonathan strives to provide the best solution for the client, end users and the environment. Jonathan is also an integrated design team member in Sports and Urban Design Studios at RDG Planning & Design, lending his design talents, knowledge, and expertise to a variety of sports and urban related projects.



**Ryan McCaughey**, Equipment and Grounds Manager, Penn State University

Ryan has been the Manager of Grounds, Equipment and Waste for the last two years at Penn State, which was the winner of the 2014 National Recycling Coalition award for Outstanding Higher Education institution. Prior to that Ryan oversaw the landscape and waste at UMass Lowell outside of Boston. Ryan started my college career at Fresno State in California where he oversaw all landscape and waste.



**Lauren McKinnis**, Outreach Coordinator, North Carolina State University

Lauren has a Bachelor's Degree in Graphic Design and Video from Rutgers University and a Master's Degree in Sport Management from Western Illinois University. She has prior experience working in Marketing and Special Events within Campus Recreation and Parks and Recreation. She currently works as the Outreach Coordinator for Waste Reduction and Recycling at NC State University. At NC State, Lauren oversees the WE Recycle tailgate program and other activities designed to promote a culture of recycling and waste minimization on campus.

Lauren also designs educational materials, oversees the NC State Recycles social media accounts and manages the Waste Reduction and Recycling website.



Melissa Nergard, Director of Sustainability, Illinois State University
Melissa has over two decades of experience in higher education and
sustainability and serves as the Director of Sustainability on an urban campus
of over 20,000 students. In her role she works to integrate education and
civic responsibility by providing students with practical, hands-on, applications
of sustainability on campus and in the community. An avid golfer, Melissa is
delighted at the opportunities presented by implementing the Audubon
Cooperative Sanctuary Program. This golf course certification process
provides opportunities for students from multiple disciplines to make the
campus more efficient and ecologically cohesive while enabling engagement
and awareness of Athletics programming. Melissa practices her passion for

civic responsibility by serving on several community boards and volunteering extensively with the Emergency Management Agency as a K9 Handler.



**Dave Newport**, Director, Environmental Center, University of Colorado Boulder

Dave Newport was hired in 2006 as Director of the Environmental Center at the University of Colorado –Boulder. Founded on Earth Day 1970, the CU Environmental Center is the nations' first, largest, and most accomplished center of its kind. Previously, Dave launched the University of Florida's sustainability program in 1999. He worked in the famous SEC football stadium dubbed "The Swamp" to pilot zero-waste football and homecoming while founding UF's campus wide sustainability program and brand. After coming to the University of Colorado-Boulder Environmental Canter, the Buffalos became the nation's first NCAA Division 1 athletics program to create a comprehensive sustainability program. CU's athletics is now zero-

waste, zero-carbon, and zero-pesticides across all sports. This year, CU will unveil the nation's first zero-net electricity practice facility.



*Michael Pfahl*, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sports Management, Ohio University

Previously, Michael Pfahl was on the Management and Marketing faculties of Yonok College (Thailand) and the International College at Bangkok University (Thailand). He worked in various management and sales positions with the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Cleveland Lumberjacks, and Players Management, Inc., a sport marketing and athletic representation firm of which Michael was co-founder and president. His current research interests are primarily conducted from a qualitative perspective and include the convergence of media, technology and sport, environmentalism and sport, and human resource issues in sport organizations.



Tara Pike, University of North Las Vegas

Tara Pike is the Rebel Recycling Manager and Sustainability Coordinator with UNLV Facilities Management. She started UNLV's recycling program from her undergraduate senior thesis. The 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her program will be on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Rebel Recycling's goal is to divert the highest amount of recyclables and compostables to productive use and away from the landfill as possible. More importantly, Tara tries to encourage people to reduce and reuse before recycling. As the Sustainability Coordinator, Tara primarily works on hydration station placement, bottle water reduction and she oversees the new Campus Community Garden. Tara has an Environmental Studies degree with a minor in Biology from the UNLV College of Urban Affairs.



**Torsten Reimer, Ph.D.**, Professor of Communications and Psychology, Purdue University

Torsten Reimer (Ph.D. in Psychology, Free University of Berlin) is an associate professor of communication and psychology at Purdue University. Dr Reimer studies the role of communication in decision making and organizational behavior. His research program has the overarching goal to understand the functionality of heuristic information processing in advice giving, persuasion, and group decision-making. Current research projects explore

how communication principles facilitate decision making by guiding information processing and reducing information overload. Applied topics include the design of persuasive messages and risk communication. Dr. Reimer has recently co-edited the Sage Handbook of Risk Communication and is currently working on a research project funded by Keep America Beautiful that aims to understand and influence students' recycling decision.



Jair Short, Sustainability Coordinator, Eastern Kentucky University Jair is Campus Sustainability Coordinator at Eastern Kentucky University and serves on its Committee for Responsible environmental Stewardship. With an educational background in business, technology, and sports administration, she is seeking a second Master's in Safety, Security, and Emergency Management. Her interests in environmental law, sustainability in sports, and the role corporations have in generating positive social trends were shaped by working at Citigroup, Inc., Cincinnati Bell, Inc., EKU Athletics, and The Keeneland Association, Inc. When she doesn't

have her head in a book or separating recyclables, she enjoys traveling and spending time with friends, family, and her canine Kylee.

Pam Swingle, P2 Program Manager, U.S. EPA Region 4

Pam Swingle is the Pollution Prevention Program Manager for EPA Region 4's Office of Environmental Justice and Sustainability (OEJS). Pam's responsibilities at EPA include administering pollution prevention and sustainability programs and providing technical assistance within Region 4's eight southeastern states. OEJS's sustainability focus areas include sustainable manufacturing, sustainable communities and green sports. Prior to her work with OEJS she lead EPA Region 4's Resource Conservation Challenge dealing specifically with municipal solid waste recycling, scrap tires, construction and demolition and recycling market development. Pam received her Bachelor of Science in Zoology at Southern Illinois University and her Masters in Sustainable Development and Policy at University of Illinois. She came to EPA in 1999 where she was the State Program Leader for Pollution Prevention and Recycling Market Development for the University of Illinois Extension Service.



**Dave VanDeventer,** Recycling and Solid Waste Manager, Clemson University

Dave is the Solid Waste, Recycling, and Composting Manager for Clemson University. He has served in his current role since 2008 and has been involved with Waste Management and Recycling since 2002. He has been the Chair of the Solid Green Committee for Clemson University since 2010. He is certified by the State of South Carolina as a Recycling Professional and is a certified by the US Composting Council as a Compost Operator. His background is extensive with experience in Business Administration, Sales, and

Manufacturing. He has served on the Board of the Carolina Recycling Association (2007-08, 2012-13). He is a current board member with the College and University Recycling Coalition and serves on the Steering Committee for the Game Day Recycling Challenge.



**Ron Vance**, Chief, Materials Conservation and Recycling Branch Chief, U.S. EPA

Ron Vance is the Chief of the Materials Conservation and Recycling Branch at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington DC. Ron leads national sustainable materials management efforts related to materials measurement, food, green sports, federal government, and stakeholder engagement. More specifically, Ron leads WasteWise, Food Recovery Challenge, and the Federal Green Challenge. Ron has worked with the collegiate community on sustainability and materials management issues for more than 15 years. During this time, Ron designed and launched the Game Day Challenge and served as the agency liaison for RecycleMania and the Collegiate University Recycling Coalition.



Susan Vescovi, Environmental Engineer, U.S. EPA Region 5
Susan Vescovi is an Environmental Scientist at the United State
Environmental Protection Agency in Region 5. Currently Susan
manages food waste reduction initiatives through engaging partners in
EPA's Food Recovery Challenge and overseeing regional grants related
to food waste reduction in K-12 schools. Susan also manages the
Region's effort to encourage greener demolition and deconstruction
practices. She received her Master's degree in Environmental
Engineering and Certificate in Global Health and Ecological Engineering
from Northwestern University in 2011 and received her Bachelor's
degree in Biology from Grinnell College in 2006.

Stacy Wheeler, President, RecycleMania, Inc.

Stacy Edmonds Wheeler is the co-founder and president of RecycleMania, and for the last 20 years she's been an advocate for advancing sustainability, recycling and zero waste efforts on campuses and communities across the country. She is part of the planning team that organizes the national Game Day Recycling Challenge aimed at increasing waste prevention practices within collegiate tailgating and football stadiums.