

Workforce Development

2017 PNWER Annual
Summit
Portland, Oregon

Tuesday July 25th
2:30-5:30

Co-Chairs

The Pacific Northwest Economic Region



Shawna Argue

Director of Education & Governance

Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Saskatchewan

Shawna is a registered Professional Engineer in Saskatchewan. She is a graduate of Industrial Systems Engineering, University of Regina (1987) and holds a Masters of Business Administration from Athabasca University (1999). Shawna's experience covers a wide variety of industries both domestically and internationally. Shawna is a Past-President of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS). In her current role, Shawna is involved with educational initiatives related to engineering and geoscience as a profession and the importance of continual professional development of practicing professional engineers and geoscientists, as well as enforcing requirements for licensure. She holds the designations of Fellow of Engineers Canada, Fellow of the Canadian Society of Senior Engineers and Fellow of Geoscientists Canada (Honourary).



Maralyn Chase

Senator

Director of Education & Governance

Senator Maralyn Chase is honored to represent the views and values of the citizens of the 32nd Legislative District in moving our state forward with sustainable public policy. Senator Chase is the Ranking Minority Member of the Agriculture, Water, Trade and Economic Development Committee. She believes in education with multiple pathways to a successful future. Senator Chase crafts economic development initiatives that lead to jobs and prosperity for all our communities founded upon principles that ensure that our children and grandchildren will have the resources necessary to meet their needs. Prior to serving in the Legislature, Maralyn and her daughter, Carin, operated a general and specialty contracting firm. Before entering the contracting field, Maralyn ran a job training and development program for disabled and disadvantaged citizens for five years.

Speakers



Gary Gaussion

CEO

Silver Eagle Manufacturing

Mr. Gaussion is the Chief Executive Officer of Silver Eagle Manufacturing, a privately held Oregon business specializing in metals, transportation equipment, and defense. Operating since 1936 it currently employs 100 people and has customers in both the public and private sectors, including the United States Military. Mr. Gaussion is the Chairman of the Board for Manufacturing 21 Coalition in Portland, Oregon which advocates for the manufacturing industry in both Oregon and Southwest Washington. Its main focus is on sustaining a highly skilled workforce and expanding the region's capacity to support innovation through applied research and development. He is also a founding board member and treasurer of the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center (OMIC), a founding and current board member of the Northwest Collaboratory for Sustainable Manufacturing (NWCSM) as well as the North American Council for Freight Efficiency (NACFE) in Boulder, CO.



Jill Tsolinas

Executive Director

Centre of Training in Mining Excellence

Jill Tsolinas is Executive Director for the B.C. Center of Training Excellence in Mining (CTEM), an organization that facilitates collaborative, innovative training opportunities for the BC mineral exploration, development and operating mines (mining industry), job seekers and communities. Jill desires to see the continual development and incorporation of innovative, best-fit practices to sustain the mining industry. She is a Director of the Association for Mineral Exploration British Columbia (AME) and past Vice-Chair of Roundup - the world's preeminent exploration conference. She has provided subject-matter expertise for organizations such as United Nations and Government of British Columbia in addition to sector specific companies.



Betsy Johnson

Senator

Oregon State Legislature

Betsy's 16th Senate District includes the cities of Banks, Tillamook, Seaside, Astoria, Clatskanie, St. Helens, Scappoose, as well as portions of industrial Multnomah County and rural Washington County, Oregon. She holds a law degree from Lewis & Clark College, a history degree from Carleton College in Minnesota and is a licensed commercial pilot for helicopter and fixed wing. She founded, operated and flew for TransWestern Helicopters for 2 decades; providing helicopter services on a variety of missions. Johnson has served on many local regional and

national boards, including the Oregon Health Sciences University Foundation, Doernbecher Children’s Hospital, OPB and the High Desert Museum



Nagi Naganathan

President

Oregon Institute of Technology

After a nationwide search in 2016, Oregon Institute of Technology’s Board of Trustees selected Dr. Nagi Naganathan as the 7th President of the university on November 16, 2016. At the time, Dr. Naganathan served as the dean of the College of Engineering at The University of Toledo (UT) in Toledo, Ohio. Dr. Naganathan was also UT’s interim president during 2014-15; was the founding chairperson of the Mechanical, Industrial, and Mechanical Engineering department; and was a member of the faculty since 1986. Under his leadership as dean, UT’s College of Engineering achieved historically high student enrollment, registering an increase in enrollment every fall semester for 11 years through improved recruitment and retention; successfully implemented a mandatory co-operative experience program – one of only eight in the nation. He has co-authored more than 100 publications and has secured more than six million dollars in grants and contracts



Tim Probst

Director of Workforce Initiatives

Washington State Employment Security Department

Tim Probst has committed his professional career to jobs, economic growth, and helping people move up in their lives. As Director of Workforce Initiatives for the Washington State Employment Security Department, Tim is responsible for the joint ventures and partnerships with the school system, workforce development councils, social services, community and technical colleges, the economic development system, and labor and business organizations, as well as implementation of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. He is leading the agency’s implementation of Career Connect Washington, to increase career connected learning and youth registered apprenticeship across the state. Previously, Tim served as Vice Chair of the Appropriations Committee for Education in the Washington State Legislature, and served on the Lieutenant Governor’s Committee for Economic Development and International Trade. Tim designed and passed the Opportunity Scholarship Act, a scholarship program that has now raised nearly \$200 million. He has served as Workforce Development Advisor to the Governor of Illinois, State Budget Analyst for Workforce and Economic Development, CEO of the Washington Workforce Association, and Legislative Chair of the National Workforce Association.



William (Bill) Gerry

Program Manager for Global Technology

The Boeing Company

Mr. Gerry, Program Manager in Boeing’s Global Technology organization, is responsible for developing and managing research and development alliances domestically and internationally, providing a key interface between Boeing programs and third party technology providers. Before joining Boeing Research and Technology, Mr. Gerry was responsible for supporting the Boeing Venture Capital Strategy within the Phantom Works organization, interfacing with international venture funds to identify and transition start-up technology solutions into the Boeing Enterprise. Most of his aerospace career has been focused on bringing world-class technology solutions to the unique and dynamic problem set of the world’s largest aerospace company as well as developing creative and productive interfaces between the Boeing Enterprise and a host of international organizations. Before joining The Boeing Company, Mr. Gerry worked as Research and Development Specialist and Principle Investigator for Battelle Pacific Northwest National Laboratory where he managed and executed a host of Department of Energy research and development programs.



Nirav Desai

Chief Technologist

Booz Allen Hamilton

Nirav S. Desai is a Chief Technologist in Booz Allen Hamilton’s Strategic Innovation Group where he leads the firm’s Horizon 3 Immersive Technology Strategy and their Seattle Innovation Hub. In these roles Mr. Desai seeks to help bridge the divide between the innovation economy and incumbent business models – with an acute focus on AR/VR, Machine Intelligence, Internet of Things, and emerging disruptive technologies applied to the Federal, Health, and Technology sectors. He works with corporate innovation labs, government research centers, universities, and startup incubators and accelerators, to identify edge technologies that address challenging use-cases. Mr. Desai serves as a Startup Mentor for TechStars, a leading startup accelerator with programs in Seattle, Boulder, Austin, Boston, Berlin, and others. He also has an affiliate faculty appointment with the University of Washington’s Department of Electrical Engineering. Prior to working at Booz Allen, Mr. Desai worked at various robotics and media startups in DC and Austin. He graduated from the University of Texas with degrees in Computer Science, Math, and Philosophy.