



2014 Michigan Broadband Conference

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

Radisson Hotel at the Capitol
111 North Grand Avenue
Lansing, Michigan

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Agenda

- 7:30 am** **Registration: Lobby**
- 8:00 am** **Breakfast with Cable Green, Creative Commons: Michigan 2 & 3**
- 9:00 am** **Opening Session: Ballroom**
Eric Frederick, Executive Director, Connect Michigan
John Windhausen, Executive Director, Schools, Health and Libraries
Broadband Coalition (SHLB)
Professor William Dutton, Director of the Quello Center, Michigan State University
Andrew Spurgeon, US Department of Commerce, NTIA
- 10:15 am** **Break and Transition**
- 10:30 am** **Breakout Session 1**
Competitive Edge of Technology for Small Businesses: [Ballroom](#)
How We Teach and Learn with Technology: [Michigan 2 & 3](#)
Mobile Impact on Community Development: [Regency 1](#)
Navigating the Provider and Municipal World: [Regency 2](#)
- 11:15 am** **Break and Transition**
- 11:30 am** **Breakout Session 2**
Rural Infrastructure Development: [Ballroom](#)
The Technology Thread through Economic Development, Job Creation,
and Workforce Innovation: [Michigan 2 & 3](#)
Beyond the Classroom: A Library-School Partnership: [Regency 1](#)
- 12:15 pm** **Break and Transition**
- 12:30 pm** **Lunch and Keynote Speakers – Sponsored by Frontier Communications: Ballroom**
Cable Green, Creative Commons
Allyson Knox, US Government Affairs Division, Microsoft
- 2:00 pm** **Break and Transition**
- 2:15 pm** **Breakout Session 3**
Ultra-High-Speed Broadband Network Development: [Ballroom](#)
Encouraging STEM Education among Girls: [Michigan 2 & 3](#)
Tech-Savvy Seniors: [Regency 1](#)
Education Networks and Members Supporting Economic Development: [Regency 2](#)
- 3:00 pm** **Break and Transition**
- 3:15 pm** **Closing Session and Presentation of the Broadband Hero Awards: Ballroom**
Harold Feld, Public Knowledge
Eric Frederick, Executive Director, Connect Michigan
- 4:15 pm** **Networking Cocktail Hour – Sponsored by COMLINK: Ballroom**

Speakers

Eric Frederick, AICP, LEED AP **Executive Director, Connect Michigan**

Eric Frederick is the Executive Director for Connect Michigan. He has built and led a nationally recognized team that has produced the nation's first Certified Connected Community. Eric has developed relationships with statewide, national, and international groups that are partnering with CN to solve problems of connectivity and to bolster the value of Internet connections. The success of the Connect Michigan program has created communication opportunities to share Connect Michigan's success across the CN family, across Michigan, and into neighboring states.



Prior to joining Connect Michigan, Eric worked for LSL Planning, Inc. as a Project Planner. In this role, Eric was responsible for comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance development, transportation planning, the development of specialized Cost of Community Services Studies, economic development and grant-related projects, all for various cities throughout the state of Michigan and the Midwest. He holds a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from Michigan State University and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Planning and a minor in Geographic Information Systems from Northern Michigan University.

John Windhausen **Schools, Health and Libraries Broadband Coalition (SHLB)**

John Windhausen, Jr. is the Executive Director of the Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband (SHLB) Coalition, a diverse coalition of community anchor institutions, broadband companies, foundations (such as the Gates Foundation) and public interest groups. The SHLB ("SHELL-bee") Coalition advocates for open, affordable, high-capacity broadband services for anchor institutions and their communities around the country. Mr. Windhausen also represents a variety of non-profit and commercial organizations through his consulting firm, Telepoly Consulting. In prior years, he served as President of a telecommunications trade association in Washington D.C., as Senior Counsel to the United States Senate Commerce Committee working for Senator Hollings (SC) and Senator Inouye (HI), and as Staff Attorney at the FCC. Mr. Windhausen graduated from Yale University and the UCLA School of Law.



Speakers



Professor William Dutton

Michigan State University

William H. Dutton is the Quello Professor of Media and Information Policy in the Department of Media and Information at the College of Communication Arts and Sciences at Michigan State University, where he is also Director of the Quello Center. Prior to this appointment, Bill was Professor of Internet Studies at the Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, where he was the Founding Director of the OII and a Fellow of Balliol College.

Bill received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his role in founding the OII. He is also the recipient of the International Communication Association's first Fred Williams' award for contributions to the study of communication and technology, and the William F. Ogburn Lifetime Achievement Award from the Communication and Information Technologies Section of the American Sociological Association in 2014. Bill is presently a co-principal investigator in the UK FCO supported Global Cyber Security Capacity Project, among others. His most recent books include *The Oxford Handbook of Internet Studies* (OUP 2013), four edited volumes on *Politics and the Internet* (Routledge 2014), and a reader titled *Society and the Internet*, with Mark Graham (OUP 2014). He is currently working on a book on his concept of the Fifth Estate.



Andrew Spurgeon

U.S. Department of Commerce, NTIA

Andy Spurgeon is a Director with the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. During his four-year tenure with the BTOP team, Mr. Spurgeon's responsibilities have included the evaluation of grant applications, establishing the Program's data analytics and business intelligence teams, and managing regulatory relationships between grant recipients, other Federal and State government agencies, and Tribal governments.

Prior to joining NTIA, Mr. Spurgeon served as a senior executive at several start-up technology companies in the telecommunications and cloud computing industries, with roles spanning corporate development, sales, and marketing. As a "Big 5" consultant earlier in his career, Mr. Spurgeon advised several of the world's largest telecommunications providers on provisioning and business integration issues. Altogether, Mr. Spurgeon has had the opportunity to work with clients in twenty countries spanning five continents.

Andy holds a B.S. in geotechnical engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology. He lives in Colorado, splitting time between Denver and Summit County.

Speakers

Cable Green
Creative Commons



Cable Green, director of global learning, works with the global open education community to leverage open licensing, open educational resources, and open policies to significantly improve access to quality education and research resources so everyone in the world can attain the education they desire.

Cable has 15 years of academic technology, online learning, and open education experience and recently led a project to build and share a general education curriculum under the CC BY license. Cable holds a PhD in educational psychology from Ohio State University and tweets @cgreen.

Allyson Knox
Microsoft



Allyson Knox has worked for Microsoft for ten years. She is the Director of Education Policy for Microsoft's US Government Affairs team in Washington, DC and addresses STEM (particularly computer science), Education Technology (particularly personalized learning) and Student Privacy (particularly safeguarding student data in the cloud) issues at the state and federal levels. Last year she testified on "Our Nation of Builders: Training the Builders of the Future" US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade. Before working on education policy at Microsoft she brokered new partnerships resulting in free education programs including: InterroBang / Problem Solving with Smithsonian, START with the Corporation for National and Community Service, Scale Framework with Dr. Chris Dede from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, Gaming Challenge with NEA Foundation as well as MI-LIFE and CareerForward with and Michigan Virtual University and Michigan Department of Education.

Allyson grew up in East Lansing, Michigan and worked on education programs before heading to Washington, DC including: Michigan School for the Blind, Jocundry's Bookstore, Young Spartan Program at Michigan State University, Washtenaw County Extension, Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Michigan Community Service Commission.

She received her BA from the University of Michigan, MA from Michigan State University, and MEd from Harvard University.

Harold Feld
Public Knowledge



Harold Feld is Senior Vice President, Public Knowledge. As Senior Vice President of Public Knowledge, Feld develops Public Knowledge's overall strategy for issues pertaining to broadband and telecommunications such as Network Neutrality, spectrum policy, and universal broadband access. Feld has written numerous scholarly articles and opinion pieces on technology policy, broadband access, and wireless policy. Feld also writes Tales of the Sausage Factory, a progressive blog on media and telecom policy (available at <http://www.wetmachine.com>). In 2007, Illinois Senator Dick Durbin praised Feld and his blog for "[doing] a lot of great work helping people understand how FCC decisions affect people and communities on the ground."

Previously, Feld worked as Senior Vice President of Media Access Project, advocating for the public interest in media, telecommunications, and technology policy for almost 10 years. Prior to joining MAP, Feld was an associate at Covington & Burling, and clerked for the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Breakout Session One

10:30 – 11:15 am

Competitive Edge of Technology for Small Businesses Ballroom

This session will focus on ways community organizations, such as chambers of commerce, economic development corporations, libraries, and others are working to raise the use and awareness of the benefits of technology among small businesses locally, and helping them sustain and grow. From education and awareness campaigns and personalized training, to local small business technology summits and web development seminars, communities are proactively supporting technology adoption among small businesses.

Panelists



Brian Balasia, Digerati

Brian is the co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Digerati, a Detroit-based software development and process improvement firm. Brian is responsible for directing the company's vision, supporting business development, and overseeing the operations of Digerati's subsidiaries.

Brian has over a decade of proven expertise and thought leadership in driving organizational change through the intelligent application of technology. Under Brian's leadership, Digerati has been honored with numerous awards, including the Midwest Collaboration Award, the Corp! Economic Bright Spot and Digital/Science/Technology Awards. Brian was also recognized by the Detroit Free Press as a Shining Light Award winner in 2011 for his leadership in the community.

Brian received his BSE in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Michigan. Outside the office Brian is actively involved in the community, serving as a Board member for the Governor's Talent Investment Board (State of Michigan), Venture for America and The MORE Program. Brian is also a U.S. German Marshall Foundation Fellow and a graduate of the Leadership Detroit program.



Mike Marzano, Small Business Association of Michigan

Marzano is a 2009 graduate of the University of Michigan with a B.A. in Political Science. After managing two congressional campaigns in the 2010 election cycle, Marzano worked as the Chief of Staff for State Representative Rick Outman from 2011-2012. He most recently served as the Deputy Manager of Constituent Relations for the Executive Office of Governor Rick Snyder before joining the Small Business Association of Michigan as Grassroots Coordinator and Policy Advisor.



Michelle Rasmussen, Michigan Works!

Michelle Rasmussen is the Business Services Director for Michigan Works! West Central. She assists employers with their hiring, recruitment, and retention efforts in the rural counties of Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo, and Osceola. She also manages marketing, communications, and social media for Michigan Works! West Central and has more than 15 years of experience in marketing, public relations, and communications in the employment and training industry and higher education.

Michelle received her MBA from Ferris State University, Certified Business Solutions Professional designation from Michigan State University, and her bachelor's degree in Health Communications from Grand Valley State University. She currently serves as a board member for the Mecosta County Area Chamber of Commerce, is a member of the Michigan Economic Developers Association, and is a candidate for Board of Education for Big Rapids Public Schools.

Breakout Session One

How We Teach and Learn with Technology **Michigan 2 & 3**

During this session, panelists will discuss the Michigan State Education Network and how the network is leveraging interconnectivity between school districts to boost connectivity and spur shared services. Panelists will also provide perspective on the application of high-speed school networks for the delivery of digital learning and its impact on students and communities.

Panelists

Sonya Callahan, Charter Communications

Sonya Callahan has been involved with the Cable and Telecommunications industry over the last 14 years. Her career path has consisted of Sales Engineering, Operations Management, Sales Leadership, and most recently Director of National Sales for Charter Communications.



In her current role, she is responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of sales strategy to schools and libraries. As a visible partner with these schools, Sonya and her team have been successful in creating relationships with the schools promoting improved technical solutions that enable schools for success in the digital age of learning.

Sonya graduated from the Colorado State University with a degree in Business Management.

Dave Childs, Genesee Intermediate School

Dave has over 30 years of experience working with multi-service, high bandwidth networks. He graduated from Wayne State in 1976 with a degree in business and earned his Masters Degree in Information Technologies from Michigan State. For the past 13 years he has worked with K-12 schools managing regional fiber networks. He is currently Project Manager for the state's effort to build a state-wide intranet connecting all schools in Michigan.



Breakout Session One

Mobile Impact on Community Development

Regency 1

Mobile broadband can provide connectivity to areas that are expensive to serve by wireline technologies (fiber, cable). We will discuss whether mobile is a full substitute for fixed access, how public policies can promote mobile broadband deployment and use, and how communities can take advantage of mobile to support economic and social development.

Panelists



Dr. Shelia Cotten, Michigan State University

Shelia R. Cotten is a Professor in the Department of Media and Information at Michigan State University. She studies technology use across the life course and the social, educational, and health impacts of that use. She conducts large-scale, community-based intervention studies designed to use technology to enhance various aspects of quality of life. Dr. Cotten has studied the largest dissemination of One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) XO laptops in the United States. She is currently finishing up a randomized, controlled trial designed to enhance quality of life among older adults through the use of technology training. Her work is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. She is the past Chair of the Communication and Information Technologies Section of the American Sociological Association (CITASA) and the 2013 recipient of the Public Sociology Award from the CITASA section of the American Sociological Association. Dr. Cotten enjoys teaching courses on the social impacts of technology, survey research, and research methods. Prior to joining MSU, Dr. Cotten was a Professor in the Department of Sociology at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.



Christian Sandvig, University of Michigan

Sandvig is a faculty member at the School of Information specializing in the design and implications of Internet infrastructure and social computing. He is also a Faculty Associate at the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. Before moving to Michigan, Sandvig taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Oxford University. Sandvig's research has appeared in *The Economist*, *The New York Times*, *The Associated Press*, National Public Radio, CBS News, and *The Huffington Post*. His work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Social Science Research Council. He has consulted for Intel, Microsoft, and the San Francisco Public Library.



Steven S. Wildman, Michigan State University

With the exception of 2013, when he served as a Chief Economist for the Federal Communications Commission, Dr. Wildman has served on the faculty of Michigan State University since the fall of 1999. Prior to joining Michigan State, he was Associate Professor of Communication Studies and Director of the Program in Telecommunications Science, Management & Policy at Northwestern University. Earlier positions include Senior Economist with Economists Incorporated and Assistant Professor of Economics at UCLA.

Dr. Wildman holds a Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University and a B.A. in economics from Wabash College. He is well-known for his research and publications on economics and policy for communication industries.

Breakout Session One

Navigating the Provider and Municipal World

Regency 2

This session provides an overview of the programs available through the USDA Rural Utilities Service and provides end-user experiences from infrastructure borrowers that will discuss the application process and demonstrate how the programs can be used in rural communities.

Panelists

Rick Coy, Clark-Hill

Roderick S. "Rick" Coy serves as Of Counsel in the Clark-Hill's Lansing office and contributes to serving the firm's clients' needs before state government officials and agencies. Rick has more than 43 years of experience specializing in energy, telecommunications, and utility law in Michigan and provides legal counsel and representation to large corporate and institutional utility service users and their statewide associations, as well as new competitors in these restructured industries.



Rick's practice in gas, electric, and telecommunications regulatory issues has given him a unique vantage point to observe each industry as it has been restructured, moving towards deregulation, increasing competition, and potential reregulation. Coy also serves as General Counsel to the new Michigan Statewide Educational Network and Special Counsel to many large educational networks in Michigan.

Michael Shafer, CNX

E. Michael Shafer, II is Vice President of Engineering and Program Management where he provides technical and strategic guidance for Connected Nation Exchange's broadband utilization and aggregation initiatives. Shafer brings a wealth of strategic leadership, tactical program management, as well as network design and operations expertise from both the public and private sectors.



Shafer's most recent experience includes involvement in the design and execution of California's CAPSNET and CAPSCOM projects, both public safety modernization programs targeting state-wide microwave, fiber optic, and land mobile radio network upgrades. CAPSCOM, in particular, included a multi-agency, unified telecommunications needs assessment and strategic evolution plan requiring the input and agreement of some 10 key state and federal agencies.

Breakout Session Two

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

Rural Infrastructure Development **Ballroom**

This session will focus on ways in which Michigan communities are helping to encourage broadband infrastructure expansion. From creating public/private partnerships and leveraging existing infrastructure and increasing demand and identifying areas without service, to exploring creative and cutting-edge technologies, community leaders are working with broadband providers to help fill service gaps.

Panelists



Lisa Mecheau, Frontier

Lisa Mecheau brings more than 20 years of telecommunications experience to Frontier Communications as General Manager. She works closely with Michigan to fill its broadband needs.



Rachel Smolinski, HARBOR, Inc.

Rachel Smolinski is the Executive Director of Harbor Area Regional Board of Resources, Inc. (HARBOR, Inc.), 501(c)(3) that brings together representatives from a broad range of interests and serves property owners and residents of the greater Harbor Springs, Michigan area.

Smolinski has coordinated a regional broadband team since 2011 to evaluate broadband access, adoption, and usage in the service area. In 2012, HARBOR, Inc. launched a survey to gauge the demand for broadband service in the area and this survey had been used as a model for other communities throughout the nation. In 2013, the team completed a plan that set community-wide goals to enhance technology in the area and they continue to move forward with implementation of that plan.

Smolinski had an 11-year career with the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians beginning in 2000 as a water quality specialist then as the Director of the Environmental Services Department. Originally from Indiana, she is a graduate of Purdue University.



Todd Wells, Casair, Inc.

Todd is an entrepreneur with over 25 years of business development and marketing experience and incorporated his first company at the age of 15.

He has over 16 years of experience in the retail cellular phone business. Todd has represented all Michigan-based carriers and sold a whole range of telecommunication products from dial-up and satellite, to 4G cellular, fixed wireless and, currently, Fiber Internet.

He has sold for Casair for over ten years. Todd's current position is the sales manager where he heads up the commercial business development department and oversees all wireless sales. He is also coordinating the roll out of Fiber Internet to businesses and homes.

Todd attended Ferris State University and lives in Stanton.

Breakout Session Two

The Technology Thread through Economic Development, Job Creation, and Workforce Innovation

Michigan 2 & 3

This session will highlight programs that are using innovative strategies of workforce development to impact economic development. Speakers will address how organizations are addressing the supply of workers versus the demand for technologically skilled labor by businesses – overcoming the skills gap.

Panelists

Paul Griffith, Michigan Works!

Paul Griffith is Executive Director of Michigan Works! West Central with administrative offices located in Big Rapids. Michigan Works! West Central is one of Michigan's 24 workforce development agencies, serving the counties of Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Newaygo, and Osceola. The organization's \$6 million budget provides a variety of workforce development services to the residents and employers of the area through five Workforce Service Centers located in each of the five counties, with as many as eight partner agencies co-located in one Service Center.



Paul received a bachelor degree from Ferris State University's College of Business. Paul has 38 years of experience in the workforce development field, having seen many advances take place in recent years in Michigan.

Stu Johnson, Connect Ohio

Stu Johnson is the Executive Director of Connect Ohio, a division of Connected Nation, Inc. Stu serves as the primary spokesperson to local, regional, and statewide media regarding Connect Ohio programs. Stu directed and managed Connect Ohio's Every Citizen Online (ECO) program funded by the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant. This included meeting objectives for more than 300 facilities, training over 43,000 participants, and other metrics of success within the program and beyond.



Stu is currently working to establish Digital Works: Connecting People & Jobs, an extension of Connect Ohio's ECO program. Digital Works is a digital skills training program aimed at providing a link between twenty-first century workforce opportunities and community revitalization.

Dan Massy, Osceola County

Dan Massy is Osceola County's Community Development Coordinator. Prior to his current position he worked for 15 years as a Michigan State University Extension Educator focusing on community and economic development and served 20 years in the United States Air Force.

Dan holds a Masters of Public Administration from Troy State University and a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology from Southern Illinois University.

Breakout Session Two

Beyond the Classroom: A Library-School Partnership

Regency 1

DigiBridge is a partnership between the Grand Rapids Public Library and the Grand Rapids Public Schools to connect students and educators to the library's online resources and technology. The panelists will share how the program was initiated, how the particular services were chosen, and the challenges of working through the differing cultures and policies of the two institutions. Most importantly, they will share their success stories!

Panelists



Carolyn Evans, Grand Rapids Public Schools

Carolyn J. Evans is currently Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Learning. She has served in Grand Rapids Public Schools as a teacher, reading teacher, principal of a highly successful central city school, Director of Elementary Literacy, Director of the Reading First Grant, Executive Director of the School Leadership in the Elementary Division and Chief Academic Officer including Curriculum.

Currently, Evans is responsible for K-12 curriculum as well as school and district common assessments, foreign language and fine arts, libraries, GRASP, and is the District Academic Achievement Committee representative.



Jessica Liddell, Grand Rapids Public Library

Jessica Anne Liddell is a Youth Services Librarian at Grand Rapids Public Library. She began a partnership (DigiBridge) between Grand Rapids Public Schools and the Grand Rapids Public Libraries, which won the 2014 Urban Library Council's Top Innovator award. She has presented nationally on collaborations between schools and libraries, engaging teens in literacy through technology, and the reader's advisory gap between tweens and young adults. Her other whimsical adventures include playing piano, writing book reviews on Goodreads, and leveling up her magical cooking kingdom called Chef de Buble. Jessica holds a MILS degree from Indiana University Bloomington.



Marcia Warner, Grand Rapids Public Library

Marcia Warner is the Director of the Grand Rapids Public Library, a position she has held since December 2004. Marcia began working in libraries in 1977, holding several management positions, most recently as the Director of the Public Libraries of Saginaw. Well-known in the library field, she is the past-president of the Michigan Libraries Association and has presented nationally on customer service in libraries and using advertising to gain public acceptance and awareness of library services. She was the 2011 President of the Public Libraries Association and was named the 2012 Michigan Librarian of the Year.



Shannon White, Library of Michigan

Shannon White is the Continuing Education Coordinator at the Library of Michigan in Lansing where she coordinates professional development for libraries across the state. White has worked in the library and non-profit community since 1997 holding positions with the Historical Society of Michigan, Hartzell Mika Consulting, Nebraska Library Commission, and the University of West Alabama.

Breakout Session Three

2:15 – 3:00 pm

Ultra-High-Speed Broadband Network Development **Ballroom**

This session continues the discussion from the morning panel, “Navigating the Provider and Municipal World.” Providers and communities across Michigan are working to deploy or have been enjoying ultra-high-speed broadband networks. Learn more about these networks and how they can benefit your community and local economic development activity.

Panelists

Kevin Schoen, ACD.net

Techno-bulldog, boundless energy, and a compassionate type-A are words being used to describe the leader of the ACD.net. He’s an overnight success that is twenty years in the making. His rise began with selling floppy discs from his parents’ house to building fiber networks to every corner of the state.



Kevin is one of Michigan’s important transitional forces helping to bridge Michigan’s post-industrial economy to a thriving knowledge-based economy. His contribution to Michigan’s future will be to move cities from broadband to the speed of Gigaband.

Jennifer Rigterink, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Jennifer Rigterink joined the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) in May 2010, and in her current role manages the Redevelopment Ready Communities® program. Jennifer is working to assist Michigan communities adopt innovative and streamlined policies around planning, zoning, and development. Prior to joining the MEDC, Jennifer worked with the Genesee Institute where she assisted in building awareness of Michigan’s land bank authority model and vacant property initiatives.



Rigterink has a bachelor’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Michigan State University and is a certified Economic Development Finance Professional through the National Development Council. She’s also involved in the Urban Land Institute’s Larson Center for Leadership, is a certified Lean Green Belt and has completed the course series on the creation and implementation of form-based codes from the Form-Based Codes Institute.

Michael Cain, Boyne City

Michael Cain has been the City Manager for Boyne City for 12 years. During that time Boyne City has become a dynamic bright spot in Northern Michigan sporting a 6% population growth in the 2010 census and out growing much larger neighbor Traverse City in terms of actual numbers. Mike credits much of Boyne City’s recent success to its willingness to try new things, working together as the community, schools, Chamber of Commerce, library, Economic Development agency, and City united to become one of the first four Michigan Main Street Communities. Mike has over thirty years of local government experience and remembers when PCs, fax machines, and bag phones were on the cutting edge. Mike is an Eagle Scout who holds a Masters in Public Administration from MSU.



Breakout Session Three

Encouraging STEM Education among Girls

Michigan 2 & 3

A diverse workforce is critical to economic development in Michigan. However, research suggests that STEM fields are failing to keep girls interested at each stage of education, leading to less women in science and technology-based fields. Learn from experts on the programs available to increase the interest of girls in technology and all levels of education and the impact it can have on local communities.

Panelists



Lisa Chambers, TECH CORPS

Lisa M. Chambers has 15 years of experience developing nationally recognized and award winning, youth-focused technology education programs. Lisa joined TECH CORPS in 1999 and served as the State Director of the Ohio chapter. In 2011, she was named the TECH CORPS National Executive Director. TECH CORPS is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring K-12 students have equal access to technology programs and resources that enhance early learning and encourage them to pursue technology, educational, and career pathways. Lisa's work has been recognized and honored at the local, state, and national levels. She was named a "Modern-day Technology Leader" by US Black Engineer & Information Technology magazine, qualified as a finalist for the Cable's Leaders in Learning Award, and received the Technology Innovation Award in Nonprofit Service Delivery from TechColumbus. Lisa is a member of the National Center for Women and Information Technology, K-12 Alliance, a member of the Computer Science Collaboration Project's Change Agents Council, the Chair of the Teaching and Learning Collaborative, a board member of the Graham Expeditionary Middle School, and was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority Board. Lisa is a graduate of The Ohio State University.



Allyson Knox, Microsoft

See biography on page 6



Leigh Graves Wolf, Michigan State University

Leigh Graves Wolf is a teacher-scholar and her work centers around online education, emerging technologies, and relationships mediated by and with technology. Leigh has worked across the educational spectrum from K-12 to Higher to further and lifelong. She has been a disc jockey, network administrator, teacher, instructional technologist, and now professor. She believes passionately in collaboration and community.

Breakout Session Three

Tech-Savvy Seniors

Regency 1

An increase in the population aged 60 years and older is no surprise. Research shows, however, that this demographic in Michigan has the lowest rates of technology adoption. Keeping a senior population technologically engaged is critical for the delivery of government services, access to healthcare, and the local and state economy. Panelists will provide strategies for increasing the awareness and digital literacy of an aging population and resulting benefits to communities.

Panelists

Melissa Seifert, AARP

Melissa Seifert is the Associate State Director for Government Affairs with AARP Michigan. She has worked around the capitol for 12 years as a legislative staffer and a multi-client lobbyist. Melissa has worked for AARP for four years first as the Associate State Director for Economic Security and Work focusing her attention on workforce development issues as well as financial security and Social Security and that last year with Government Affairs. Melissa holds a Master's degree in Administrative Science from Central Michigan University. She is currently advocating on numerous issues before the legislature to better the lives of 50+ Michiganders.



Andrew Sutherland, West Branch Library

Andrew Sutherland is the Head of Circulation and Technology at the West Branch District Library in West Branch, Michigan. He believes in easy access to technology for everyone and strives to make technology friendly. Andrew holds a degree in computer science and information technology and is certified by Microsoft, CIW, CompTIA, PMI, and Apple.



Erin Bruder, COMLINK

Erin Bruder has over 15 years of experience in administration, finance, and information technology for hospitals and physician practices within Michigan. Erin is a Lean Sigma Green Belt and a Certified Professional of Healthcare Information and Management Systems (CPHIMS). She completed her bachelor's degree in Health Administration from Eastern Michigan University in 1998. Erin is now the Medisphere Product Manager for COMLINK bringing her expertise to the Medisphere team offering HIPAA compliant products and services in addition to funding education to the healthcare community.



Breakout Session Three

Education Networks and Members Supporting Economic Development

Regency 2

Merit Network is a nonprofit, member-owned organization providing high-performance networking and services to the research and education communities in Michigan and beyond. As the definition of who provides education services continually evolves, so also does Merit's membership. Hear from new members of Merit regarding why they chose to join and how their broadband service is supporting local economic development.

Panelists



Daniel Childs, Michigan Works!

Dan's experience began in 1981 while working in the technology/electronics industry. Since then he has obtained experience in K-12 education in the private sector, as well as an entrepreneur.

His experience ranges from designing and setup of computer labs to construction of new infrastructure. Dan has system experience with everything from Novell to Windows servers and is currently working with VMware, Firewalls, VOIP Systems, etc. Dan is also an experienced, certified

Microsoft Office instructor. Organizational decisions based in technology are a collaboration between Dan and his supervisor.



Elwood Downing, Merit Network

Elwood Downing is Vice President for Membership Outreach and Engagement at Merit Network, Michigan's high-speed research and education network. Since joining Merit in 1995, he has provided strategic leadership, technical consulting, and service engagement to Merit's 300 and growing member organizations, which include public universities, private colleges, community colleges, K-12 organizations, research organizations, government, healthcare, and nonprofit organizations.



Larry Garter, Northern Michigan Electronics Consortium

As a technology consultant to schools and libraries, Larry has over 35 years of experience in the system contracting industry. He has worked with over 20 school districts in Northern Michigan in designing and implementing technology infrastructure. He has assisted in writing technology plans, written RFPs, and managed the process of implementing projects for schools and libraries. Since 1995, he has been an owner in Techplex, a technology education and management company.

He serves as the Network Manager for the Northern Michigan Electronics Consortium, which involves 11 school districts in Northern Michigan, and provides technical support to two library clients.



MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



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