Dr. David Maurrasse is the Founder and President of Marga Incorporated, a consulting firm founded in 2000 providing strategic advisory services and research to philanthropic initiatives and community partnerships. Marga coordinates the work of the Anchor Institutions Task Force. Dr. Maurrasse serves as the Director of this growing network of roughly 700 members, which is an action-oriented learning community promoting the engagement of enduring institutions (e.g. universities and medical centers) in community and economic development.

Marga also coordinates the Race and Equity in Philanthropy Group (REPG), which engages a cluster of member foundations in strengthening policies and practices on racial equity, diversity, and inclusion. The California Endowment, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation, the California Wellness Foundation, and the Ford Foundation are among the foundations which have participated in the REPG.

Numerous major foundations and universities are among those having received assistance from Marga over the years. Marga’s work has taken Dr. Maurrasse across the United States, as well
as to Asia, Africa, Europe, the United Kingdom, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

Since 2000, Dr. Maurrasse has been affiliated with Columbia University, where he currently serves as Adjunct Associate Professor and Adjunct Research Scholar. His periodic course, Strategy, Community Partnerships and Philanthropy exposes Columbia graduate students in the School of International and Public Affairs to emerging trends in strategies to address critical social issues across the globe. From 1995 to 2000 Dr. Maurrasse was an Assistant Professor at Yale University, and a Senior Program Advisor at the Rockefeller Foundation from 1998 to 2000.

Dr. Maurrasse has published several books, including Strategic Public Private Partnerships: Innovation and Development (2013), Listening to Harlem (2006), A Future for Everyone: Innovative Social Responsibility and Community Partnerships (2004), Beyond the Campus: How Colleges and Universities Form Partnerships with Their Communities (2001). His most recent book project, Philanthropy and Society (2018) will explore how strategic philanthropy can better include the perspectives and participation of grantee communities. Maurrasse has served on numerous boards, two of which he has chaired. He is currently a Trustee at Bucknell University. He is a member of the Global Urban Competitiveness Project, which convenes in various parts of the world to discuss trends in strengthening cities. Maurrasse has keynoted several conferences, focusing on how to leverage institutional resources to meet pressing social and economic needs. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, and he holds a Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

Ira Harkavy

Director, Netter Center for Community Partnerships, University of Pennsylvania
Chair, AITF

Ira Harkavy is Associate Vice President and founding Director of the Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships, University of Pennsylvania. An historian with extensive experience building university-community-school partnerships, Harkavy teaches in the departments of history, urban studies, Africana studies, and city and regional planning. As
Director of the Netter Center since 1992, Harkavy has helped to develop service-learning courses as well as participatory action research projects that involve creating university-assisted community schools in Penn’s local community of West Philadelphia.

Executive Editor of *Universities and Community Schools*, Harkavy has written and lectured widely on the history and current practice of urban university-community-school partnerships and strategies for integrating the university missions of teaching, research, and service. His recent publications include: *Dewey’s Dream: Universities and Democracies in an Age of Education Reform* (Temple Press, 2007), which he co-authored with Lee Benson and John Puckett, and *The Obesity Culture: Strategies for Change. Public Health and University-Community Partnerships* (Smith-Gordon, 2009), co-authored with Francis E. Johnston.

Harkavy also served as consultant to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help create its Office of University Partnerships and is a Senior Fellow of the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics. Harkavy is a member of numerous boards, including the Advisory Committee of the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR) at the National Science Foundation; Widener University Board of Trustees; the International Consortium on Higher Education, Civic Responsibility, and Democracy (US chair); Anchor Institutions Task Force (chair); Coalition for Community Schools (chair); and Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (co-chair). He is the recipient of Campus Compact’s Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service Learning (2002), the University of Pennsylvania’s Alumni Award of Merit (2004), a Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant (2005), and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania’s Heritage Award (2006); and, under his directorship, the Netter Center for Community Partnerships received the inaugural William T. Grant Foundation Youth Development Prize sponsored in collaboration with the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Children, Youth and Families (2003) and a Best Practices/Outstanding Achievement Award from HUD’s Office of Policy Development and Research (2000).

Harkavy received his B.A. and his Ph.D. in history from the University of Pennsylvania.

John Schreiber
President & CEO
New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Mr. John Schreiber has been the President at New Jersey Performing Arts Center Corporation since July 2011 and its Chief Executive Officer since June 2013. Mr. Schreiber served as an Executive Vice President of Social Action & Advocacy of Participant Media, LLC since January 2007. Mr. Schreiber was responsible for managing the creation, development and execution of unique social action and advocacy campaigns for each Participant film. His creator and producer credits include the Kool and JVC Jazz Festivals, the weekly TV concert series Hard
Rock Live (VH-1), the Toyota Comedy Festival, the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor (PBS), the New Yorker Literary and Arts Festival, the Discover Grammy Festival and, with Wynton Marsalis, the Harman: How to Listen music education program. For General Colin Powell, he produced the President’s Summit for America’s Future, a multi-day event that inaugurated the America’s Promise volunteer effort, plus the companion Fox TV special Keeping America’s Promise. For the Chinese government, he produced the New York cultural exhibition A Close Look at China. Mr. Schreiber created, developed and was lead producer of the multi-media musical George C. Wolfe’s Harlem Song, which ran for six months at the Apollo Theater and was lauded for the economic impact it delivered in Upper Manhattan. Mr. Schreiber curated and produced Carnegie Hall’s American Popular Song celebration for seven years, as well as the Kennedy Center’s annual Open House multi-cultural festival. He produced Santana: The Celebration for the Grammy Foundation at Universal Amphitheater and Carole King: Making Music with Friends at Madison Square Garden for People Magazine’s 25th anniversary. He has been a producer of gala events at the White House for every President since Jimmy Carter. Mr. Schreiber has developed and produced cause-related event programs for the American Museum of Natural History, National Public Radio, Partnership for A Drug Free America, Children's Television Workshop, the Juilliard School, the Songwriter’s Hall of Fame, General Mills, Loew’s Corporation, Pilot Pen, Mellon Bank, and the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. Mr. Schreiber serves on the board of Safe Space, New York’s largest child abuse prevention organization, as well as the Lupus Foundation and the New School University’s School of Jazz and Contemporary Music. Termed “a visionary producer” by the New York Times, Mr. Schreiber has enjoyed a very successful career as producer of theater, television, music, documentary film and numerous other cultural and cause-related events, winning Tony and Emmy awards for producing the one-woman Broadway hit Elaine Stritch at Liberty and executive producing the subsequent documentary about the show which aired on HBO.
Renée T. White
Provost
Wheaton College

Renée White, a distinguished administrator as well as a scholar on race, gender and social inequality, was appointed Provost following an intensive national search and officially assumed her role as Provost of Wheaton College on July 1, 2016.

As Provost, White serves as the college’s chief academic officer and is responsible for all matters relating to the faculty as well as the administrative units providing academic support services and infrastructure to students, faculty and staff.

White served as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Simmons College in Boston. Assuming the role in 2011, Dean White led the development of new programs, re-envisioned key aspects of the undergraduate curriculum, promoted interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and championed student and faculty scholarship.

Before Simmons, she served as a professor of sociology and black studies and as academic coordinator for diversity and global citizenship at Fairfield University. She started her academic career at Purdue University, where she held a joint appointment in the department of sociology and the African American Studies Research Center.

White is the editor of three books, including the acclaimed Spoils of War: Women of Color, Cultures, and Revolutions, and author of Putting Risk in Perspective: Black Teenage Lives in the Era of AIDS. She has served as editor of the Journal of HIV/AIDS Prevention in Children & Youth and the People of Color Caucus newsletter for the Society for Values in Higher Education. She also served as editorial advisor to the Journal of HIV/AIDS and Social Services. White also was a WYE Faculty Fellow at the Aspen Institute and completed a National Endowment for the Humanities summer Fellowship in Black film studies. Her current research examines the impact of public discourse on social policy concerning reproductive rights. White holds an AB from Brown University and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale University.
José Luis Cruz began his tenure as the third president of the Herbert H. Lehman College of The City University of New York on August 15, 2016.

Widely regarded as one of the nation’s leading advocates for policies to expand opportunities and improve educational outcomes for all students – especially those who have historically been underserved – President Cruz is a frequent keynote speaker and writer on higher education issues. He has testified before the U.S. Congress, and his work has been covered by many media outlets.

Previously, President Cruz served as provost of California State University, Fullerton. He is a former vice president of Higher Education Policy and Practice at The Education Trust in Washington, D.C. and a former vice president of Student Affairs for the University of Puerto Rico system. He began his career as a faculty member in engineering at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, rising through the ranks and serving as chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department and dean of Academic Affairs.

President Cruz is a professor of physics in Lehman’s School of Natural and Social Sciences and serves on the board of directors of The Education Trust and the New York Botanical Garden. He is a Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers as well as a National Science Foundation Career Award recipient. His work on optical interconnections for massively parallel processing systems has been published in scientific journals and presented at international conferences.
He earned his bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering (magna cum laude) from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez and his doctorate from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Born in Puerto Rico, President Cruz spent his formative years on the island and in various cities in California, Florida, and Honduras. He and his wife, Dr. Rima Brusi, have five children—José Luis III, Harold Esteban, Marco Andrés, Aura Angélica Libertad, and Álvaro Juan—and two grandchildren, Kiara Said and Ares Damian.

James T. Harris
President
University of San Diego

James T. Harris III, D.Ed., became the University of San Diego’s fourth president on August 3, 2015. With more than 8,000 students from 77 countries and 44 states, USD is the youngest, independent institution on the U.S. News & World Report list of top 100 universities in the United States and was recognized by Forbes magazine as one of America’s most entrepreneurial research universities. The University of San Diego is one of only 40 universities in the world designated as an Ashoka U Changemaker campus.

Dr. Harris has focused his attention at USD on five key areas: 1). Engaging the university community to gain insight and direction from listening sessions and collaborations with faculty, staff, administrators, students, trustees, alumni, local community members and friends of USD from across the globe; 2). Introducing Envisioning 2024, a strategic planning process that will capitalize on the university’s recent progress and align new strategic goals with current strengths to help shape a vision for the future as the university looks ahead to its 75th anniversary in the year 2024; 3). Launching the public phase of Leading Change: The Campaign for USD, which represents the most ambitious fundraising effort in the history of the university and builds upon the strong philanthropic momentum achieved by USD in recent
years; 4) Creating task forces charged with assessing and further building upon the university's diverse and inclusive community, expanding sustainability initiatives and further developing USD's role as an anchor institution of scholarship, teaching, learning and service; 5) Supporting the university's efforts to enhance the liberal arts in the Catholic intellectual tradition, by emphasizing the importance of developing within students critical thinking, advancing skills in writing and oral communications, and fostering independent thought, innovation, integrity, and engaged citizenship.

Throughout his academic career, Dr. Harris has worked closely with cross-discipline teams to spearhead new civic and community engagements, connecting academic environments with intractable issues faced by society. “USD is in a strong position to address significant societal issues, and the establishment of centers on campus such as the Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness and Social Action and our designation as an Ashoka U Changemaker Campus provides us with a great framework for moving forward,” he said. “I believe we have much work to do as a society and as a university in helping people understand their roles as responsible citizens on and off campus as well as expanding on our work as an anchor institution in San Diego.”

Previously, Dr. Harris served for 13 years as the president of Widener University, a private, independent institution educating more than 6,300 students on four campuses in two states — Pennsylvania and Delaware. He initiated and oversaw the establishment of the Chester Higher Education Council, which is a consortium of a diverse group of colleges and universities dedicated to improving access to higher education for students from underserved populations. This consortium created the College Access Center of Delaware County, which serves more than 1,000 families annually. Under his leadership, Widener opened the Widener Partnership Charter School, the state’s first university-based charter school and also developed many other programs to engage the community such as the Chester Small Business Development Center and the Widener Nursing Clinic. During his tenure, the university completed its largest campaign, achieved the highest undergraduate enrollment in its history, improved the retention and graduate rates of students, and achieved national recognition for its work in civic engagement.

Prior to his appointment at Widener, he was the President of Defiance College in Defiance, Ohio, where he established the McMaster School for the Advancement of Humanity and developed a service-learning program that was ranked among the top 25 in the country.

The span of his career includes volunteer leadership service in numerous local, state, and national roles. Examples of his leadership include his service as Chair of Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania, Chair of the Pennsylvania Campus Compact, and as Vice Chair of National Campus Compact, a national coalition of 1,200 college and university presidents dedicated to promoting civic engagement among college students. He also served on the executive committee of the NCAA and as Chair of the NCAA Division III
Presidents Council. Currently, he serves as a board member of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities and Chair-elect of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Board of Trustees, one of the largest educational associations in the world.

In recognition of his considerable contributions to education and the communities he has served, President Harris is the recipient of many awards and honors, including leadership awards from the NAACP for his work on defending civil rights. Earlier in his career, he was named by the John Templeton Foundation as one of the Top 50 Character-Building Presidents in America, and in 2011, he received the Chief Executive Leadership Award from CASE. Defiance College recognized him in 2002 with its highest recognition, the Pilgrim Award; and Widener University bestowed upon him the lifetime title of President Emeritus in 2015. In 2014, he was recognized with the College and University Public Relations and Associated Professionals’ Ciervo Award, presented to one who exemplifies the association’s fundamental purposes of supporting and advancing the understanding of higher education.

President Harris believes in the transformative power of education. “Education can change individuals and society for the better and it’s one of the great forces in the world today,” he said. President Harris was a first-generation college student whose life was transformed through three profound experiences during his college years. First, he found his Catholic faith, inspired in part by the charismatic spiritual leadership of Pope St. John Paul II. Secondly, he found his vocation and fell in love with the idea of teaching and of being an educator. And third, he found the love of his life, his wife, Mary. President Harris and his wife Mary have been married for 35 years and have two adult sons, Zachary and Braden.

With an authentic leadership style and engaging personality, President Harris creates meaningful connections with students and surrounds himself with student activities. For the past 22 years, he has annually traveled with students and small groups internationally. “I think global exposure for students is one of the most important experiences they can have while they’re in college,” he said. “The University of San Diego consistently ranks among the top three universities in the nation for the percentage of undergraduate students participating in a study abroad program. Last year, more than 70 percent of our students shared in an international experience. The challenge will be to make sure that every student at USD has equal opportunity for those experiences.”

Contributing to a transparent and fun campus environment, President Harris initiated “President for a Day,” where he switches places with a student. He regularly hosts President Forums, where he and other members of his leadership team update the campus on the progress of various initiatives. From ice cream socials to fireside chats, President Harris spends quality time with members of the campus community. At dawn, he can be found walking the trails of Tecolote Canyon with students, faculty, and staff. He regularly hosts students and faculty at his home for dinner, and will show up unexpectedly to student-sponsored events. He
Taino Palermo
Program Director, Community Development and Healthy Communities
Roger Williams University

Dr. Taino J. Palermo has worked as an educator and nonprofit director for over 10 years working in New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island focusing on urban public education, community development and urban sociology. He is the President of Palermo Consulting & Nonprofit Solutions and has launched, managed and/or directed nonprofit organizations specializing in the arts, education, social services, community development and economic development. Dr. Palermo has a history, personally and professionally, of advocating for underrepresented communities and urban youth. He has received numerous state and national-level awards for his professional accomplishments as well as his role as a community activist. He currently sits on the board for several nonprofit organizations, is a commission member for the
Rhode Island Commission for Health Advocacy and Equity and is an appointed member of the Rhode Island Governor’s Overdose Task Force.

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**Umberto Crenca**  
Founder and Plenipotentiary  
AS220

Umberto Crenca is the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of AS220, a nonprofit center for the arts in Providence, Rhode Island. AS220 was established in 1985 to provide a local, unjuried, and uncensored home for the arts. The organization maintains three buildings, providing: fifty eight artist live and/or work spaces, four exhibition spaces, a print shop, a media lab including a black and white darkroom, a fabrication lab, a stage, a recording studio, a black box theater, a dance studio, and a popular bar and restaurant. AS220’s permanent establishment in the City’s downtown is widely recognized as one of the first significant steps in the creation of the Providence Arts and Entertainment District.

Umberto Crenca remains committed to the revitalization of Providence’s historic downtown, and plays an important role in community efforts across the region. He served on Providence Mayor Cicilline’s Arts Culture and Tourism Advisory Board and on the steering committee for the department’s Creative Providence cultural assessment and planning initiative. Crenca also served on the Providence School Board from January 2005 to December 2008 and is an active member of the Providence Downtown Improvement District (DID) Board. Crenca also acted an advisor to the LINC initiative, a national effort to create better support systems for individual artists.
An accomplished educator, Crenca has spearheaded efforts to bring more meaningful arts experiences to incarcerated youth. Crenca was a visual art instructor at the Rhode Island Training School (RITS), the state’s juvenile detention facility from 1998-2004. In 1999, Crenca established AS220’s youth program, Broad Street Studio, on Providence’s south side. Today, the organization continues to serve and support youth in and transitioning out of state care at AS220’s Empire Street complex and the RITS under the banner AS220 Youth. Crenca taught visual art to youth aged twelve to eighteen at Urban Collaborative Accelerated Program (UCAP) and New Pride School, two Providence alternative schools, and served as a mentor for The Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center (The Met School), an inner city Providence school district and local education agency, from 1995-2000. Crenca was the instructor for Art and Community Building, a course offered during Winter Session 2000 at Rhode Island School of Design.

In 2013, Crenca received the Making a Difference Award from the Providence/Warwick Convention and Visitors Bureau for his support of the Rhode Island Tourism Industry. He was also the Key Note Speaker at the Wilmington Renaissance Corporation’s Annual Meeting entitled “Bridging Big Ideas to Life”.

In 2012, Crenca was invited to be the Key Note Speaker for the Museums Aotearoa Conference in New Zealand and the Artists & Entrepreneurs: Creating Community and Jobs Luncheon hosted by The Greater Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and EDC.

In 2011, Crenca was mentioned in Fast Company’s Fast Cities feature “United States of Innovation”, which listed bold ideas and brilliant urbanites who are helping to build the cities of America’s future. The article applauds his role in economic and cultural development, “Crenca has shown how an arts not-for-profit can be a keystone of urban renewal. AS220’s studio space, artist housing, and cafe/bar have helped boost a once-seedy area and lift property values.” (FastCompany.com). During the same year, Crenca received the Rhode Island Foundation’s 2011 Community Service Award.

In 2010, Umberto Crenca received a Rhode Island Pell Award For Excellence in the Arts. The same year, he was honored with a Charles B Willard Professional Achievement Award from Rhode Island College. Rhode Island Monthly magazine included Crenca as one of the region’s most influential individuals in their feature “Who Really Runs This State: The 28 Most Influential Rhode Islanders in 2010”.

In the past three decades, Crenca has also been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), The Urban Institute, LEF Foundation, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Connecticut Council on the Arts (CCA), the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) Artist Trust, and the Creative Cities Summit. He was a guest speaker and mentor for the CCA’s Urban Artist Initiative, and was a fellow both in the Rhode Island Foundation and the Pew Civic Entrepreneur Initiative (PCEI) of the Pew Partnership for
Civic Change. In July 2003, Crenca was awarded a full scholarship to attend the Strategic Perspectives in Non-Profit Management course at Harvard Business School.

Crenca is a visual artist, performance artist, and musician with a long exhibition and performance history. He has been both artist in residence and an exhibiting artist at the New England Center for Contemporary Art in Brooklyn, CT. Crenca’s solo exhibitions include the Galleria Del Corso, Latina, Italy and the Newport Art Museum, Newport, RI as well as four solo shows at the AS220 Galleries. Crenca has participated in two-person and group shows at Rhode Island’s Newport Art Museum and Bristol Art Museum, the Museum of Art at Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), the New York Cultural Center, and Real Art Ways of Hartford, CT, among others. His work is in the permanent collection of both the RISD Museum of Art and the Newport Art Museum. In 2001, Crenca performed in the 2001 Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland as a member of The Panic Band.

Crenca has traveled extensively throughout Europe, Cuba, Bali, and New Zealand. He is a resident of Providence, where he maintains a studio and exhibition space with his wife, Susan Clausen, a visual artist and musician.

Anthony Sorrentino
Assistant Vice President, Office of the Executive Vice President
University of Pennsylvania

Tony Sorrentino has been promoted to Assistant Vice President, Office of the Executive Vice President. EVP Craig Carnaroli said, “This well-deserved promotion is based on Tony’s stellar contributions in developing and executing marketing and communications strategies to promote key elements of the Penn Compact and Penn Compact 2020 as well as his strong support in managing the Office of the Executive Vice President.” Mr. Sorrentino joined the
Office as director in 2006, was promoted to executive director in 2009, and has assumed increasing responsibilities related to goal setting/evaluation and organizational development.

Mr. Carnaroli added, “With respect to marketing and communications, Tony has played a valuable role in developing and coordinating strategies both within the EVP divisions as well as more broadly across the University. In 2006, Tony formed the EVP Communications Group (consisting of the marketing and communications professionals across the EVP divisions) to coordinate the timing and consistency of communication strategy to promote Penn as a well managed institution, and a good institutional citizen. This group has evolved into a very effective body that now includes communications professionals from areas outside the EVP Division. Through the collaborative efforts of this Group, Tony annually produces a comprehensive EVP Marketing, Communications and Public Affairs Plan.”

In addition, Mr. Sorrentino has had a leadership role in developing communication strategy for a number of University initiatives including Penn Connects and the Climate Action Plan. In both 2011 and 2015, he led the production and developed messaging for the widely heralded University Economic Impact report. He is also an effective collaborator, having contributed positively to a wide variety of initiatives ranging from the University-wide Staff Engagement Survey to the Provost’s Council on the Arts. In the past year, he built a unique partnership between Visit Philadelphia and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to help showcase Philadelphia as an asset in recruiting students to Penn, including the creation of the Penn’s first emoji as part of Quaker Days.

Mr. Sorrentino has a passion for city planning and economic development, and holds a Master of City Planning degree from Penn Design. He is a strong collaborator with the Penn Institute for Urban Research, and developed an anchor institution summit that brought together leaders from peer universities to share best practices and challenges. He, along with his colleagues from Penn’s Netter Center, also represents Penn on the Anchor Institutions Task Force, which advises the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on ways HUD could increase its impact and strategically leverage anchor institutions, particularly higher education and medical institutions, to improve communities and help solve significant urban problems. In addition, Mr. Sorrentino has played a critical role in advancing the University’s innovation strategy through both his role on the initial working group studying the potential uses of the former Dupont Marshall Labs and, most recently, in the development and promotion of the Pennovation Works campus.

Finally, “Tony consistently demonstrates a wide range of skills including media relations, developing and producing executive level presentations and videos, and the negotiation of sponsorships and advertising contracts. He also effectively administers and coordinates the activities of the EVP office. Whether speaking to student groups or alumni gatherings, Tony is the consummate Penn promoter and advocate,” Mr. Carnaroli noted.
Andrew B. Frank
Special Advisor to the President
Johns Hopkins University

Andrew Frank joined The Johns Hopkins University in June 2010 as the first special adviser to the president on economic development.

The position was created to work with internal and external partners to develop and implement strategies to strengthen Baltimore City and the neighborhoods around the student campuses. His priorities are the Homewood Community Partners Initiative, which encompasses ten neighborhoods around the Homewood campus, and the East Baltimore Development Initiative, a $1.8 billion neighborhood transformation involving new housing, lab space, community school, retail, central park, and hotel. Frank set up the governance structure, negotiated key agreements with the school district and operator, and serves as owner's representative for the construction of the Henderson-Hopkins school, the first new East Baltimore school in 25 years.

Before joining Johns Hopkins, Frank worked with the City of Baltimore for 15 years, with three years as First Deputy Mayor for neighborhood and economic development. As First Deputy Mayor, Frank's responsibilities included oversight of a wide range of city departments and offices, including the Department of Housing and Community Development; the Office of Employment Development; the Planning, Public Works and Transportation departments; and the Baltimore Development Corporation.

Before moving to City Hall, he was executive vice president of the BDC for six years, involved in attracting and retaining businesses, redevelopment, commercial revitalization, and urban design and planning, among other issues. Frank helped found and remains involved with three well-established non-profit organizations dedicated to promoting Baltimore as a place live,
improving the visitor experience within the world famous Inner Harbor, restoring the historic and cultural heart of Baltimore, Mount Vernon Place.

Frank has a bachelor’s degree in urban economics from Rutgers University and a master’s degree in city planning from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Ellen Janes
Executive Director
Central Baltimore Partnership

Ellen Janes began her career in Baltimore at the Neighborhood Design Center, where she served as Executive Director from 1989 to 1995. During her tenure, she tripled the size of the organization and managed over 100 projects a year – Projects that ranged from transforming vacant lots into new playgrounds, to creating community and commercial district master plans.

She next served as the first Assistant Secretary for Neighborhood Revitalization in the history of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development under Governor Parris Glendenning. Under Janes’ leadership, a series of innovations in Maryland redevelopment was introduced, including the Neighborhood BusinessWorks loan program, the Community Investment Tax Credit and the Community Legacy grant program.

In 2003, Ms Janes joined the legendary Senator Barbara Mikulski’s office, where she supervised a staff of 20 in 5 regional offices with responsibility for instate: project, legislative and constituent service and outreach activity. She did that until 2008, when she moved over to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond’s Baltimore Branch. Among her achievements there were Redefining Rust Belt, a two-year series of video conference discussions involving community leaders from Baltimore, Cleveland, Detroit, and Philadelphia that she conceived and directed; and the Maryland Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Roundtable – which she launched in partnership with the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the National Opportunity Finance Network. Since the advent of the CDFI Roundtable, just over two years ago, CDFI lending and program activity in Baltimore has more than tripled.

Ms. Janes outstanding work was recognized by 1,000 Friends of Maryland in 2014 when she was declared a Smart Growth Hero. Also in 2014, she was the recipient of the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission’s Leadership and Service Award for exemplary community development efforts. In 2009, she received the Citizens Planning and Housing Association’s prestigious Frances Morton Froelicher Civic Statesmanship Award.
Penelope McPhee  
President and Director  
The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation

As president of The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation, Penelope McPhee directs the Foundation’s strategic focus on fostering opportunities for children and youth and enhancing the quality of life in Atlanta and beyond. One of the largest family foundations in the region, Blank Foundation has made grants of nearly $300 million since its inception. Penny joined the Foundation in 2004 after serving as the Vice President and Chief Program Officer at the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation in Miami.

Penny began her career as a journalist and had a distinguished career as an author and television producer. Her television programs won five Emmys, as well as other prestigious broadcasting awards.

Penny has an M.A. from the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University, and graduated with honors from Wellesley College. She and her husband Raymond have one daughter and one granddaughter.
Frank Fernandez
Vice President of Community Development
The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation

Frank joined the Foundation in February 2014 to lead and implement the Westside Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, a program designed to contribute to the transformational revitalization and redevelopment of Vine City, English Avenue, Castleberry Hill and other adjacent neighborhoods.

A recognized leader on housing, transportation and economic development issues, Frank served for eight years as the Executive Director of Green Doors, a non-profit group devoted to transforming lives and neighborhoods for people in need in the Austin metro area. Frank has worked extensively to help create housing solutions across the income spectrum. He is the co-founder of HousingWorks, an Austin-based affordable housing advocacy coalition, and served as the chair of the Texas Supportive Housing Coalition. Frank also led the successful 2006 campaign to pass $55 million in municipal bonds to support affordable housing in Austin. Frank also actively engaged on transportation issues, serving on the Board of Capital Metro, Central Texas’ public transit agency. He served as the chair of the agency’s Finance & Audit Committee for four years, helping to raise the agency’s cash reserve from $9 million to $74 million during his tenure. Frank also co-founded and served as chair of the Alliance for Public Transportation, a non-profit group promoting progressive transit initiatives, and is a former board member of CAMPO, the Metropolitan Planning Organization for Central Texas. Prior to joining Green Doors in 2006, Frank served for five years as Deputy Director of PeopleFund, a community development financial institution. He previously worked as a public sector financial analyst for Salomon Smith Barney in New York City, structuring over $1 billion in financial transactions.

Frank's work has been honored in the Austin community. In 2005, he received the “Vision Award” from Liveable City for his work creating HousingWorks. More recently, Frank received the Non-Profit Leadership award from Austin Under 40, and was Ernst and Young’s 2012 Social Entrepreneur of the Year.
Frank, a Florida native, holds a B.A. in Philosophy from Harvard University and an M.P.A. from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas.

He and his wife, Tina are the parents of daughter Lucia and son Franky.

Elizabeth Sobel Blum
Senior Community Development Advisor
Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

Elizabeth Sobel Blum, senior community development advisor at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, leads the Dallas Fed’s work in “healthy communities”– those in which individuals and their communities are vibrant, thrive and show resilience.

Through research, publications, events and coalition-building, Sobel Blum helps advance discussion about creating and supporting healthy opportunities for all so that healthy becomes the norm. Sobel Blum’s areas of focus include health, housing, workforce development, small business and entrepreneurship and community development finance.

Sobel Blum serves on the board of directors of ChangeLab Solutions and the Community Advisory Board of the University of North Texas Health Science Center’s (UNTHSC) Center for Community Health. In May 2014 she completed the STAR Fellowship Program; the Steps Toward Academic Research (STAR) Fellowship Program is run by the UNTHSC’s Texas Center for Health Disparities, a National Institutes of Health-designated Center for Excellence. She earned a BA from Northwestern University, an MA from American University and an MBA from the University of Texas at Dallas.
Keith Wardrip joined the CDS&E Department of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia in 2011 and has served as the community development research manager since 2013. In this role, he has the dual responsibilities of supervising the work of the department's research analysts and contributing to the development of its research agenda. His work focuses primarily on employment and economic inclusion, as well as funding to support community and economic development. Before joining the Philadelphia Fed, Wardrip spent six years in Washington, D.C., conducting affordable housing research at the Center for Housing Policy and the National Low Income Housing Coalition. He has an M.A. in geography, with an emphasis in urban studies and affordable housing, from the University of Colorado and a B.A. in geography from the University of Kentucky.
Monica Chavez-Silva
AVP for Community Enhancement
Grinnell College

Monica Chavez-Silva has led Grinnell College’s Community Enhancement & Engagement efforts since Grinnell College established the office in 2000. In this role, Monica leads the office’s strategic and operational activities including collaborating with college and community leadership, directing the college’s local grant-making activities, and stewarding programs, policies, and partnerships to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in Grinnell. Prior to Grinnell College, Monica served as consumer research specialist and brand strategist at Leo Burnett Chicago, including a gap year in South America to establish a research office for Leo Burnett in Santiago, Chile. At home in Iowa, Monica serves on the Board of the Iowa Council of Foundations and volunteers as a local Harvard alumni interviewer.
Christensen was named interim Chancellor of UNO on Sept. 12, 2006, and was named Chancellor on May 8, 2007. However, his first interaction with the university dates back to the 1970s when he received a Master of Science in Special Education/Speech Pathology from UNO.

Like many UNO graduates, he was the first in his family to go to college. He is also the first UNO Chancellor to have earned a UNO degree.

Christensen began his tenure at the university in 1978 as a faculty member in the College of Education’s Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders. He subsequently served as chair of the department, dean of the College of Education, as well as Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs.

During his career, Christensen has presented at dozens of conferences and published a number of articles and professional reports focused on education, community engagement, and related topics. His work has taken him around the world, to Austria, Belgium, China, Denmark, and Switzerland, just to name a few.

Christensen lead the University of Nebraska at Omaha in achieving its three overarching goals as part of its Strategic Plan – to be student-centered, academically excellent, and engaged with the community. This includes serving the metropolitan university mission to have strong academic values and significant relationships with the community that transforms and improves lives.

Education
Nancy Cantor
Chancellor
Rutgers University-Newark

Nancy Cantor is Chancellor of Rutgers University–Newark, a diverse, urban, public research university. A distinguished leader in higher education, she is recognized nationally and internationally as an advocate for re-emphasizing the public mission of colleges and universities, both public and private, viewing them not as traditional “ivory towers,” but as anchor institutions that collaborate with partners from all sectors of the economy to fulfill higher education’s promise as an engine of discovery, innovation, and social mobility.

Having led a highly inclusive and democratic strategic visioning process at Rutgers University–Newark in her inaugural year, she is now leading implementation of the institution’s first strategic plan, which is designed to leverage the university’s many strengths, particularly its exceptional diversity, tradition of high-impact research, and role as an anchor institution in Greater Newark.

Prior to her current position, Cantor was Chancellor and President of Syracuse University, where she led multi-faceted initiatives that built on the university’s historical strengths, pursuing cross-sector collaborations in the City of Syracuse that simultaneously enriched scholarship and
education, spurring transformation of that older industrial city. These local engagements in areas such as environmental sustainability; art, technology, and design; neighborhood and cultural entrepreneurship; and urban school reform demonstrated the impact and importance of engaged scholarship and the inter-connectedness of the pressing issues of our world. The breadth, depth, and success of these efforts earned Chancellor Cantor one of higher education’s highest honors, the Carnegie Corporation Academic Leadership Award, in 2008. They also earned Syracuse the distinction of being among the first institutions to earn the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's classification as a university committed to Community Engagement and annual distinction on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Chancellor Cantor lectures and writes extensively on the role of universities as anchor institutions in their communities, along with other crucial issues in higher education such as rewarding public scholarship, sustainability, liberal education and the creative campus, the status of women in the academy, and racial justice and diversity. Her thought is informed by broad leadership experience at all levels within public and private universities. She has brought these combined experiences and domains of expertise to bear on her work as co-chair of the American Commonwealth Partnership’s Presidents Council, a member of the Steering Committee of the Anchor Institutions Task Force, and as a sought after advisor on urban economic and community development.

Prior to her appointment at Syracuse, Cantor served as chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Michigan, after having served as dean of Michigan’s Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies and vice provost for academic affairs; professor of psychology and senior research scientist at the Institute for Social Research at Michigan; and chair of the department of psychology at Princeton University.

While at Michigan, she was closely involved in the university’s defense of affirmative action in the cases Grutter and Gratz, decided by the Supreme Court in 2003. A leading voice on inclusion, diversity, and full participation, she speaks and writes frequently on these issues. She has served as Principal Investigator on a National Science Foundation ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant, and on national bodies including The Century Foundation Task Force on Preventing Community Colleges from Becoming Separate and Unequal, the National Research Council Advisory Committee for the Office of Scientific and Engineering Personnel and as co-chair of its Committee on Women in Science and Engineering, the Congressional Commission on Military Training and Gender Related Issues, and the Steering Committee of the Ford Foundation project Building Knowledge for Social Justice. She currently is a member of the National Science Foundation Committee on Equal Opportunity in Science and Engineering, the International Fellows Program Advisory Council of the Ford Foundation, the advisory group of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences Lincoln Project on Excellence and Access in Public Higher Education, and the Aspen Institute Task Force on College Opportunity for High
Achievers. She is the co-editor with Earl Lewis of the *Our Compelling Interests* book series for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

In her role as a social psychologist, Chancellor Cantor is recognized for her scholarly contributions to the understanding of how individuals perceive and think about their social worlds, pursue personal goals, and how they regulate their behavior to adapt to life's most challenging social environments.

An author of numerous books, chapters, and scientific journal articles, Chancellor Cantor holds an A.B. from Sarah Lawrence College and a Ph.D. in Psychology from Stanford University. Her academic and leadership work has been supported by the National Science Foundation, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Ewing Marion Kaufmann Foundation, and Carnegie Corporation of New York, among many others.

Cantor is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the National Academy of Medicine of the National Academies. Among the boards of which Cantor currently is a member are the American Institutes for Research, the New York Academy of Sciences, and the Newark Trust for Education and the Newark Alliance. Cantor co-edits with Earl Lewis, the *Our Compelling Interests* book series for the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. She has been honored with numerous awards, including the Robert Zemsky Medal for Innovation in Higher Education, the Distinguished Scientific Award for an Early Career Contribution to Psychology from the American Psychological Association, the Woman of Achievement Award from the Anti-Defamation League, the Making a Difference for Women Award from the National Council for Research on Women, the Reginald Wilson Diversity Leadership Award from the American Council on Education, and the Frank W. Hale, Jr. Diversity Leadership Award from the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education.
Tai Cooper
Chief of Policy
City of Newark, NJ

At just 34, Tai Cooper has more than a decades experience in senior positions in federal, state and municipal government, from senior aide to a U.S. senator, chief of staff to a mayor, spokesperson and senior policy adviser to then-mayoral candidate Ras J. Baraka, and now chief policy adviser to Baraka, current mayor of Newark, New Jerseys largest city.

A Newark native, Cooper has much to feel good about under her watch as the mayors chief policy adviser and the city's liaison to the Project on Municipal Innovation, a Living Cities initiative to improve the economic lot of the urban poor. One event stands above all others to date. This past year both the president of the United States and the first lady came to the city of Newark to highlight the work that we are doing regarding re-entry into the community for the previously incarcerated and criminal justice reform, she says with pride. The Mayors Office of Reentry assists ex-offenders with vocational, educational and job training to become productive members of the community. Working with the Newark Philanthropic Liaison, Cooper leveraged more than $6 million from public and private sources to support projects central to the mayors vision, and she is the I am driven by purpose. I love the city of Newark, she proclaims.

Cooper earned bachelors degrees in urban studies and African studies at The Bloustein School at Rutgers University, and a masters in urban planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University. Hailed a trailblazer, visionary and woman of power, she is a founding steering committee member for the Ready to Run Center for American Women in Politics; a member of the Womens Political Caucus of New Jersey, Newark NAACP; the New Leadership Council; and the NYU and Rutgers alumni associations.
Mary Wardell Ghirarduzzi
Vice Provost & Chief Diversity Officer, University of San Francisco
President, San Francisco Public Library Commission

Recognized as a 2017 Most Influential Woman by the San Francisco Business Times, Dr. Mary J. Wardell has served as the inaugural chief diversity officer of the University of San Francisco since 2011, and during that time she has made notable advancement to the campus climate for equity and inclusion at San Francisco’s first institution of higher education. During Dr. Wardell’s tenure at USF the campus has moved up to the 2nd most ethnically diverse university in the nation, named the 2nd best law school in nation for Latino students to succeed, and was named the number one non-HBCU university in the nation for undergraduate African American student success.

Appointed by Mayor Edwin Lee to serve as the President of the San Francisco Library Commission stewarding a budget of $124M for a system of 28 libraries, Mary has impacted the futures of thousands of college students as well as hundreds of thousands of residents through access to resources and educational pathways at one of the Bay Areas’ most celebrated anchor institutions. She also serves on the executive boards of the Urban Libraries Council in Washington, D.C and the San Francisco Interfaith Council.

Prior to her CDO role at USF, Mary served as the USF Associate Vice President and Dean of Students leading and supporting campus-wide student services, including behavioral intervention and crisis response; she was the chief student affairs officer at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles, and the Assistant Dean of Students at the California State University, San Marcos.

Vice Provost Wardell has a bachelor’s in communication from the University of the Pacific, a masters’ in counseling and social justice education from San Diego State University and a doctorate in education from Pepperdine University.
Sheryl Davis
Executive Director
San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Sheryl Evans Davis is the Executive Director of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission (HRC). Director Davis previously served as Commissioner between 2011 and 2016, including a tenure as Vice Chair of the Commission.

Prior to joining the HRC, Director Davis was Executive Director of Collective Impact, a community-based organization in the Western Addition neighborhood of San Francisco. As Executive Director, she oversaw Mo’MAGIC, Magic Zone, and the Ella Hill Hutch Community Center. Mo’MAGIC, a collaborative of non-profit organizations, addresses challenges facing low-income children, youth and families in the areas of economic development, community health, and violence prevention. Magic Zone provides education and wraparound services to K-12 students and transitional aged youth. The Ella Hill Hutch Community Center provides community-building services and workforce development opportunities to neighborhood residents. During her tenure at Collective Impact, Director Davis forged private and public sector partnerships to provide critical health and social services to historically underserved communities across San Francisco.

Director Davis has also served on the SFPD Fair & Impartial Policing and Community Policing Advisory Committees, Fillmore Community Benefits District, and Redevelopment Agency’s Western Addition Citizen Advisory Committee. She holds a BA degree from San Francisco State University and Master’s in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco.
Dwayne Proctor
Senior Advisor to the President
Director, Achieving Health Equity Portfolio
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Dwayne Proctor, PhD, senior adviser to the President and director, believes that the Foundation's vision for building a Culture of Health presents a unique opportunity to achieve health equity by advancing and promoting innovative systems changes related to the social determinants of health.

Proctor came to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in 2002 as a senior communications and program officer, providing strategic guidance and resources for several child health and risk-prevention initiatives like the Nurse-Family Partnership, Free to Grow, Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol-Free, Partnership for a Drug-Free America and the National Campaign to Prevent Teenage Pregnancy. In 2005, Proctor was tapped to lead RWJF’s national strategies to reverse the rise in childhood obesity rates. In this role, he worked with his colleagues to: (1) promote effective changes to public policies and industry practices; (2) test and demonstrate innovative community and school-based environmental changes; and (3) use both “grassroots” and “treetops” advocacy approaches to educate leaders on their roles in preventing childhood obesity. Proctor is known for his strategic collaborations, having worked on several cross-sector initiatives (e.g., Partnership for a Healthier America, the evaluation of the Healthy Weight Commitment Foundation, ChildObesity 180) and national programs that focused on decreasing childhood obesity disparities gaps (e.g., Healthy Schools Program; Salud America; Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities; Communities Creating Healthy Environments; National Policy and Legal Action Network; and Voices for Healthy Kids). In 2014, as multiple municipalities and states were reporting signs of progress in reversing the childhood obesity epidemic, Proctor was reassigned to direct RWJF’s work to eliminate health disparities.

Before coming to the Foundation, Proctor was an assistant professor at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine where he taught courses on health communication and marketing to multicultural populations. During his Fulbright Fellowship in Senegal, West Africa, his research team investigated how HIV/AIDS prevention messages raised awareness of AIDS as a national health problem. Proctor received his doctoral, master's and bachelor's degrees in
marketing and communication science from the University of Connecticut. He is the former chairman of the board of directors for the Association of Black Foundation Executives and currently is the chairman of the board of trustees for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Sylvia Bartley
Program Director
Medtronic Philanthropy

Dr. Sylvia Bartley is a Global Director in the Medical Education division for the Restorative Therapies Group at Medtronic’s PLC. She is responsible for creating strategies to support early career physicians using brain, spine, orthopedics, Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) and pelvic health therapies and products. A native of England, Sylvia is a true global citizen, having lived in 3 and worked in over 20 countries with neurosurgeons to increase patient access to Medtronic’s Neuromodulation therapies. Since moving to Minnesota in 2010, she has devoted much of her time to educational initiatives focused on closing the achievement gap for African American students in the Twin Cities and creating educational equity for all children. Sylvia holds leadership positions on the Board of Directors for the Harvest Network of School Charter Management Organization, the Twin Cities African American Leadership Forum and Achieve MPLS. Her service to the community has been recognized with a 2014 Bush Foundation Fellowship, and the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Business Journal's 2013 Diversity in Business Award for her outstanding contribution to education reform in the Twins Cities and her work at Medtronic.
Angela M. Mingo
Community Relations Director
Nationwide Children’s Hospital

Angela Mingo serves as the director of community relations for Nationwide Children’s Hospital. She is responsible for developing and managing strategic partnerships with external organizations.

Angela directs the community engagement efforts of the hospital and works closely with neighborhood and civic organizations. She has been instrumental in the implementation of the Healthy Neighborhoods Healthy Families initiative, a five prong approach to neighborhood revitalization efforts on the city’s Southside, led by Nationwide Children’s Hospital.

Angela served as community affairs director with Columbus City Council from 2000-2007. There, she worked with community leaders and local elected officials to support the clean indoor air ordinance and citywide affordable housing initiatives.

Angela currently serves on the United Way of Central Ohio Home Impact Council. She is a former mayoral appointed commissioner with the City of Columbus Community Relations Commission and served on the commission’s executive board.

Angela serves as a gubernatorial appointment to the Ohio Lottery Commission. She serves on the boards of the Greater Ohio Policy Center, Parsons Avenue Redevelopment Corporation, NeXT Basketball Foundation, Leadership Columbus, and Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing. She is a member of the Fifth Third Community Advisory Forum and the Columbus Office of Minority Health Advisory Committee. Angela is a graduate of the Leadership Columbus 2012 Class and participant in the Big Brother, Big Sisters mentoring program.

Angela earned bachelor’s degrees in Portuguese and international relations as well as her master’s of city and regional planning degree from The Ohio State University. Angela’s honors
include Columbus Business First Health Care Heroes Award, Greater Columbus Community Helping Hands Community Relations Ambassador Award, and recognition in Who’s Who in Black Columbus.

A native of Canton, Ohio, Angela is married to Clarence E. Mingo and is the proud mother of two lovely daughters.

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James E. Shmerling  
President & CEO  
Connecticut Children’s Medical Center

James E. Shmerling was named President and Chief Executive Officer at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center on October 1, 2015. For over three decades, Dr. Shmerling has served in management roles in children’s hospitals and is nationally recognized as a leader in issues concerning children’s health and wellness.

Prior to joining Connecticut Children’s, Dr. Shmerling spent the last eight years as the Chief Executive Officer of Children’s Hospital Colorado, one of the top ranked children’s hospitals in the nation. Before that, he was the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt from 2002 to 2007. He was the Senior Vice President of Methodist Healthcare and President of Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center from 1995 to 2002, and was Le Bonheur’s Chief Operating Officer from 1991 to 1995. He served as the Associate Director of Hospitals at Indiana University Hospitals and Administrator of the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children from 1987 to 1991. Dr. Shmerling’s career in children’s hospitals began in the Children’s Hospital of Alabama where he progressed in administrative responsibilities from 1979 to 1987, the last of which was as its Associate Administrator.

He earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Education from the University of Tennessee in 1976. In 1980, he was awarded a Master of Science Degree in Hospital and Health Administration from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He earned a Master of Business Administration from Samford University in 1984 and his Doctorate of Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1999.

Dr. Shmerling is a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE). He is an adjunct faculty member in the Hospital Administration programs, University of Alabama at Birmingham.
Additionally, Dr. Shmerling is active in several national healthcare organizations. Currently he serves as:

- Board member of the Children’s Hospital Group, Dublin, Ireland
- Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Children’s Hospital Association, Alexandria, VA
- Chair of the Child Health Patient Safety Organization, Inc., Overland Park, KS, a component entity of the Children’s Hospital Association
- Chair Elect on the Governing Council of the American Hospital Association’s Section for Maternal and Child Health, Washington, D.C.
- Past Board Chair of the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO), Denver, Colorado
- Board member of Virtual PICU Systems, LLC, Los Angeles, California

Dr. Shmerling is a native of Nashville, Tennessee.

David Perlstein  
President & CEO  
SBH Health System
Dr. Richard Guarasci is the 18th president of Wagner College, where he was previously the provost and senior vice president, responsible for academic and student affairs, admissions and support services, in addition to serving as the chief operating officer. He holds the rank of professor of political science and he teaches in the areas of democracy, citizenship and American diversity.

At Wagner, Dr. Guarasci founded the Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts, the four-year curriculum for all undergraduates, that draws together a substantive liberal arts core into a series of learning communities and experiential learning tutorials.

Dr. Guarasci was dean of the college and professor of political science at Hobart College from 1992 to 1997. Previously he served as dean and founding director of the First-Year Program at St. Lawrence University, a nationally celebrated model program of democratic living and learning required for all first-year students, which joined first-year housing with a two-semester schedule.

Dr. Guarasci is a co-author of “Democratic Education in the Age of Difference: Redefining Citizenship in Higher Education” (Jossey-Bass, 1997) and of numerous other publications, including three books, more than 20 articles and more than 50 conference presentations. He is a national leader in higher education with many speaking engagements throughout the United States. He is an active educational consultant for more than 20 universities and colleges. Time Magazine selected him as a National Undergraduate Educator and he received awards from the Sears Foundation, the Glitz Family Prize and many other citations including a day of recognition by proclamation of the City Council in Geneva, New York. The Staten Island Civic Association cited him for public service on Staten Island.
Dr. Guarasci is currently vice chairman of the Association of American Colleges and Universities board of directors, chairman and secretary of the board for Campus Compact, and president emeritus of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. He is a former chairman of the New American Colleges & Universities and the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation.

He is a fellow of the Society for Values in Higher Education and a Pew Foundation fellow with the Washington Center for Learning in building natural leadership in learning communities. He is a member of the faculty for the Asheville Institute and an advising board member for SVHE’s Models for Democracy Project.


Dr. Guarasci holds a bachelor of science degree from Fordham University. He earned his M.A. in economics and his Ph.D. in political science from Indiana University.

Paul Pribbenow
President
Augsburg University

Paul Pribbenow, the 10th president of Augsburg College, a private liberal arts college associated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and located in Minneapolis, is recognized as one of the country’s most engaging commentators and teachers on ethics, philanthropy, and American public life.
Since joining Augsburg in 2006, Pribbenow has enhanced the College’s role as an active community partner in its urban setting. By identifying and embracing initiatives that mutually benefit Augsburg and its neighbors, the College has achieved national recognition for its excellence in service learning, experiential education, and inclusion and equity.

During Pribbenow’s tenure, Augsburg has more than tripled the percent of students of color in the full undergraduate student body, growing to 33 percent in 2016. Augsburg also is the leader among Minnesota private colleges in enrolling first-generation students and students eligible for federal Pell grants. Pribbenow has convened equity and inclusion conversations with presidents, deans, and chief diversity officers of public and private higher education institutions across Minnesota and has earned statewide recognition for Augsburg’s leadership in campus equity work.

Pribbenow also is a leader among the 26 colleges and universities of the ELCA. He serves as board chair of the Lutheran Educational Conference of North American and has published and presented on the topic of the gifts shaping and supporting Lutheran higher education in the 21st century.

Pribbenow has led Augsburg College in the development of new mission and strategic vision statements that anchor the institution’s priorities and initiatives, shaping the college’s strategic plan, Augsburg2019. He has played key roles in cultivating donor relationships and successfully completed the largest capital campaign in the College’s history—the campaign for the Center for Science, Business, and Religion—a state-of-the-art interdisciplinary center housing designed to support active learning, urban placemaking and long-term sustainability.

Before coming to Augsburg, Pribbenow served as president of Rockford College in Rockford, Illinois. He also has served as research fellow for the Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College (Indiana); dean for College Advancement and secretary of the Board of Trustees at Wabash College; vice president of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago; and associate dean of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago.

Pribbenow holds a BA (1978) from Luther College (Iowa), and an MA (1979) and PhD (1993) in social ethics from the University of Chicago. He received the Distinguished Service Award at Luther College in 2008.

Pribbenow serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Campus Compact Board of Directors, the Oslo Center US Foundation Board of Directors, and the national advisory board for the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge. Locally, he is chair of the Central Corridor Anchor Partnership and serves on the Executive Committee of the Minnesota Private College Council.
Pribbenow received the Outstanding Fundraising Professional of the Year from Association of Fundraising Professionals-Minnesota (AFP) in 2015 and the William Burke Award for Presidential Leadership in Experiential Education from the National Society for Experiential Education (NSSE) in 2012. He was named a McCormick Presidential Civic Leader Fellow for 2003-04 and for 2005-06. And, under Pribbenow’s leadership, Augsburg College became the first higher education institution in Minnesota to earn the prestigious Presidential Award for Community Service, the highest honor possible for service work.

Pribbenow is the author of numerous articles on philanthropy, ethics, and not-for-profit management. He publishes an email newsletter titled “Notes for the Reflective Practitioner.”

Pribbenow lives in Minneapolis with his wife, Abigail Crampton Pribbenow, and their two children, Thomas and Maya.

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**Terri Lipman**

**Assistant Dean for Community Engagement**

**University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing**

Terri H. Lipman PhD, CRNP, FAAN, Assistant Dean for Community Engagement, is Professor of Nursing of Children, the Miriam Stirl Endowed Term Professor of Nutrition, and the associate director of the Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. A Penn Nursing alumna, she is a faculty member in the School’s Center for Health Equity Research, associated faculty in Penn’s Center for Public Health Initiatives, and a Distinguished Fellow in the Netter Center for Community Partnerships. Dr. Lipman is also a pediatric nurse practitioner in the Division of Endocrinology and Diabetes at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia where she maintains a clinical practice for children with diabetes and endocrine disorders.

Dr. Lipman is an internationally renowned clinical nurse scientist. Her research stems from issues arising from her clinical practice. Her major areas of research are the epidemiology of...
diabetes in children, pediatric growth disorders, and racial disparities in children with endocrine disorders. Since 1990, Dr. Lipman’s has maintained the Philadelphia Pediatric Diabetes Registry - a participating center in the World Health Organization Multinational Project for Childhood Diabetes- the DIAMOND (Diabetes Mondiale) Project, a consortium of 150 centers in 70 countries. It is the only such US registry still active.

Dr. Lipman has received numerous honors and awards including the inaugural recipient of the Norma M. Lang Distinguished Award for Scholarly Practice and Policy, the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, the Excellence in Nursing Research Award from the Society of Pediatric Nurses and Carolyn J. Langstadter Mentorship Award from the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Sue Polis
Director, Health and Wellness
National League of Cities

Sue Pechilio Polis is responsible for directing the health and wellness portfolio for the National League of Cities (NLC) as part of the Institute for Youth, Education and Families. The portfolio includes efforts to combat childhood obesity and build a culture of health through the strong engagement of mayors and city leaders. Prior to the National League of Cities, Mrs. Polis led the development and management of the Trust for America’s Health (TFAH) external relations and strategic partnership efforts in support of the organization’s public policy goals. She oversaw the development of the web-based Healthy Communities Navigator tool and multi-sector stakeholder efforts to improve community health. Prior to joining TFAH, Mrs. Polis worked at AARP on health and financial security-related issues with an emphasis on legislative advocacy campaigns, strategic planning and evaluation. Mrs. Polis was the first National Director of Grassroots Advocacy for the American Heart Association. She was responsible for the development and implementation of a five-year strategic plan that led to significant growth of the organization’s advocacy capacity in support of public policy objectives at the federal and state levels. Mrs. Polis background also includes consulting on health, environmental and tobacco-related issues campaigns and overseeing political programs for a life insurance industry trade association. Mrs. Polis began her career in New Jersey as a paralegal with the firm of Crummy, DeDeo, Dolan, Griffinger and Vecchione and is a graduate of Seton Hall University with a major in political science. She lives with her husband and two children in the Washington, DC area.