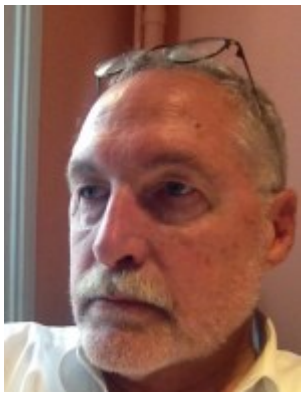
NSF DAY SPEAKERS
From NSF
October 13, 2016



Bill Badecker
SBE-Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences
Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Science (BCS)
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Bill Badecker received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from Indiana University and did post-doctoral research on acquired language deficits at Johns Hopkins University. His research interests center on how humans acquire and process natural language, using methods from formal and experimental linguistics, cognitive neuroscience and computational modeling. He is a program director for NSF's Linguistics Program; he also serves on the management team for Resource Implementation for Data Intensive Research (RIDIR) in the SBE sciences and has been a member of NSF's CAREER Coordinating Committee.

Prakash G. Balan
ENG – Engineering
Industrial Innovation and Partnerships-IIP
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Prakash Balan joined the Small Business Innovation Research Program at NSF in 2011 as a program director leading the Chemical and Environmental Technology funding focus. He is also the lead program director for the GOALI (Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with industry) program fostering industrial collaborations with academia. He has over 20 years of experience in industrial research, technology development and commercialization of break-through technologies. His patented technology currently is in commercial use in waste-water treatment impacting roughly 5 percent of U.S. wastewater flows. Prakash holds 12 U.S. patents. He received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the Pennsylvania State University.

Michelle Bushey
MPS—Mathematical and Physical Sciences
Division of Chemistry (CHE)
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Michelle Bushey earned a BA from Oberlin College and then joined the Peace Corps in Kenya. Obtaining a Ph.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill, she spent her 25 year academic career at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas where she was involved with raising over $3M in grants and awards and105 high school and undergraduate students worked in her lab. Her recent research includes fundamental studies of polymeric stationary phases used in capillary separations, and the application of analytical chemistry to cultural heritage issues. Her work in this area has taken her to the San Antonio Museum of Art and the Alamo. She joined NSF in 2014.

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Anne Doyle
BFA – Budget, Finance and Award Management
Division of Institution and Award Support (DIAS)
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Anne Doyle is a senior policy analyst who is primarily responsible for coordinating the review and approval of funding opportunity documents and certain other documents issued by NSF. Anne is responsible for reviewing each document to ensure compliance with NSF's policies and procedures, as well as applicable administrative, financial and legal requirements. She is also the executive secretary of the Director's Review Board (DRB), an internal committee drawn from senior NSF management and chaired by the NSF deputy director. The DRB serves as the Director's forum for reviewing recommendations to the National Science Board on a variety of critical NSF awards and actions.

Paul Morris
OIA – Office of Integrative Activities
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Paul Morris completed a Ph.D. in Physics at the University of Oxford, working in the area of satellite instrument design and data processing. After completing a UK research council fellowship at The Queen's College Oxford, he accepted a position at the National Science Foundation as a program officer in the Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Division. His background in computational science and big-data has been utilized at NSF to develop a set of innovative data-mining, text-analytics and machine-learning tools that are used within the Foundation for R&D portfolio analysis. These tools and techniques are currently being shared with other federal agencies to better understand the federal research investment.

Arcady Mushegian
BIO—Biological Sciences
Division of Molecular and Cellular Bioscience (MCB)
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Arcady Mushegian received a Ph.D. degree in molecular virology and turned to genome informatics more than 20 years ago. After working in biotechnology industry and in a non-profit research institution, he came to NSF in 2012, and currently coordinates the Genetic Mechanisms program.

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Mangala Sharma
Office of International Science and Engineering
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Mangala Sharma is an astronomer and program director who develops, strengthens, and manages international collaborative opportunities for U.S. researchers and students with India, South Africa, and other countries. Previously, she was the lead for NSF's spectrum management efforts.Prior to being recruited to NSF, she was at the U.S. Department of State, helping to advance international cooperation on outer space issues, including space weather, asteroid impact hazards, and space exploration. She received her Ph.D. in India, and her research focused on galaxies in clusters and the million-degree hot plasma that surrounds them. She is very interested in sharing science with the public, and especially inspiring girls to do science.

Daniel Thornhill
GEO – Geosciences
Division of Ocean Sciences (OCE)
cread@nsf.gov

Dan Thornhill is is a rotating program officer in the Biological Oceanography Program within the Division of Ocean Sciences. His research focuses on coral reefs, benthic ecology, symbiosis, population genetics, molecular biology, and conservation biology and handles proposals on these topics for the program. Prior to serving as a program officer at NSF, he worked as a conservation scientist at Defenders of Wildlife and as an assistant professor at Bowdoin College.

Jermelina Tupas
EHR—Education and Human Resources
Human Resources Development (HRD) Division
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Jermelina Tupas is the deputy division Director for HRD. She has also served as the EHR deputy assistant director. In addition to NSF, she has worked in two other federal agencies: the National Institutes of Health (as a program director at the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, Division of Minority Opportunities in Research) and at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (as Division Director for Community and Education at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture). Prior to joining the U.S. federal government, she also held a faculty position at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM). She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology, a Master of Science degree in Microbiology, and a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology.

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Ed Walker
CISE—Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering
Advanced Cyberinfrastructure (OIC)
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Ed Walker received his Ph.D. in computer science from the University of York , and his B.Eng. (First Class Honors) in Microelectronic Systems Engineering from the University of Manchester. Before coming to NSF, he was an assistant professor at Whitworth University in Spokane, WA. Prior to this, he was a researcher with the Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) at the University of Texas at Austin, where he designed and developed distributed software components for the TeraGrid project, which was then the world's largest distributed computing platform for computational science. Before TACC he was a senior member of technical staff at Platform Computing Corp (now part of IBM).

Lisa-Joy Zgorski
OLPA – Director's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs
External Affairs
lisajoy@nsf.gov

Lisa-Joy Zgorski is a public affairs specialist and NSF Days lead. Since joining NSF in 2007, she has worked on behalf of offices and directorates throughout the foundation and the National Science Board. Her beats have included NSF's International office, SBE, CISE, Physics and Astronomy. Lisa-Joy served as a legislative aide for U.S. Rep. Barbara Kennelly (CT); press secretary for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and (then-gubernatorial candidate) Gov. Dan Malloy of Connecticut, and as a public affairs specialist in the press offices of U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, the Office of Management and Budget and The Century Foundation. She holds an M.P.P. from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government; an A.B. from Mount Holyoke College; and certificates in policy studies from Dartmouth College and the Charles University Law Faculty in Prague.

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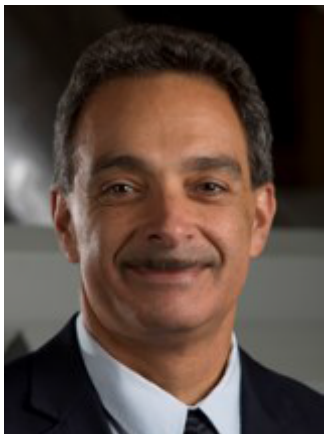

Habib Joseph Dagher
Executive Director, Advanced Structures and Composites Center
Director DeepCwind Consortium
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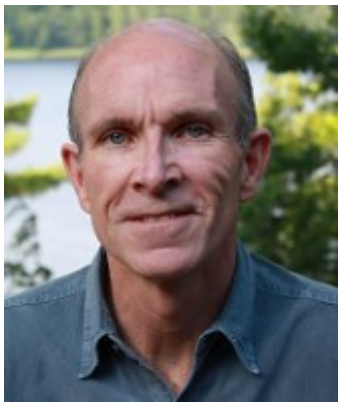
Habib Dagher is the founding executive director of the Advanced Structures & Composites Center. This NSF-funded research center has over 180 personnel and is a world leader in the development of low-cost, high-performance engineered materials for construction. The Center has worked with over 500 clients world-wide, and has received top national and international awards for its research. Dagher is the author of over 100 publications, holds 25 patents with 8 additional patents pending, and has received numerous awards including the 2015 White House Transportation Champion of Change; and the American Society of Civil Engineers Charles Pankow Innovation Award. He testified before the US Senate on offshore wind energy and led a team that developed the first grid-connected offshore wind turbine in the US and the first floating turbine in the world made out of concrete and composite materials.



David Hart
Director, Senator George Mitchell Center for Sustainable Solutions
Professor, School of Biology and Ecology
University of Maine
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David Hart's first NSF grant, for $1960.00, supported his Ph.D. research in ecology at the University of California, Davis. In the last seven years, he and his colleagues have been awarded three NSF EPSCoR grants totaling $32 million to support stakeholder-engaged, solutions-driven, interdisciplinary research, including their current $6M grant on The Future of Dams. As director of UMaine's Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Sustainability Solutions, David has also had the pleasure of working with > 150 faculty and > 400 students representing the natural and social sciences, engineering, arts and humanities from 18 universities and colleges across New England.

Carol Kim
Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School
University of Maine
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Carol Kim, having received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biological Chemistry and Philosophy from Wellesley College and her Ph.D. in Microbiology from Cornell University; joined the University of Maine faculty in 1998 in the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Molecular Biology. Under her leadership, the Successful Aging for Independent Living (Project SAIL) has become a major multi-disciplinary aging research initiative conducted in close partnership with community agencies, organizations, businesses, and older adults.

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Paul Andrew Mayewski
Director/Professor, Climate Change Institute
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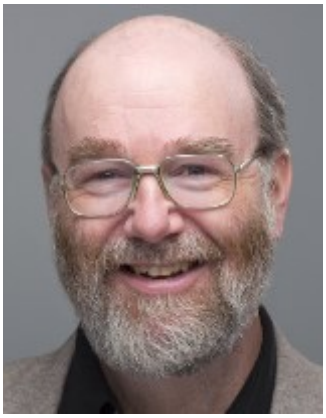
Paul Mayewski is the Distinguished Professor in the Schools of Earth and Climate Sciences, Marine Sciences, Policy and International Affairs, and Business. He has led more than 55 expeditions to some of the most remote polar and high altitude reaches of the planet. He has over 400 scientific publications and numerous honors, including the internationally awarded Inaugural Medal for Excellence in Antarctic Research. He has founded and been the leader of major international climate change research programs in Antarctica, Greenland and Asia and is the author of two popular books. He appears regularly in media and was featured in a documentary series, "Years of Living Dangerously," that won an Emmy in 2014.



Bruce Segee
Henry R. and Grace V Butler Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Director, Advanced Computing Group for the University of Maine System
University of Maine

Bruce Segee teaches a variety of classes related to industrial control, instrumentation, microcontroller system design, and fuzzy logic systems. Through the Advanced Computing Group, he supports research computing with High Performance (parallel) computing, cloud storage and virtual machines in the cloud across a breadth of research areas ranging from forestry to astrophysics. He serves on boards for the Maine Technology Institute, the Northeast Research and Education Network, as well as the Old Town, Orono Fiber LLC and the Old Town Economic Development LLC. His research interests include cyberinfrastructure, high performance visualization and STEM education. In the past 10 years, he has been PI or co-PI on approximately $7 million in NSF funding, $3 million in NIH funding, and numerous industry-funded projects