



NSF DAY SPEAKERS

From NSF

May 18, 2016

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY



Kamau Bobb

CISE-Computer and Information Science and Engineering
Division of Computer Network Systems
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Kamau Bobb is a program officer on rotation from Georgia Tech where he serves as a liaison to the University System of Georgia (USG) and as the director of the USG system-wide STEM Initiative. Prior to joining the faculty at Georgia Tech, he was a science and technology policy analyst at SRI International where he conducted research on university strategic planning and STEM workforce issues in the United States and in the Middle East. He holds a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Policy from Georgia Tech and M.S. and B.S. degrees in mechanical engineering from the University of California Berkeley.



Dragana Brzakovic

Office of Integrated Activities
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Dragana Brzakovic oversees the Science and Technology Centers (STC): Integrative Partnership Program, for which she develops program policy, manages the competitions, and is involved in the oversight of active centers. Prior to working at NSF, Dragana held the position of professor of electrical engineering and computer science at Lehigh University, and associate professor of electrical engineering at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. During her academic career, her primary research interests were in the area of computer vision and image understanding. Dragana received her Ph.D. and ME degrees from the University of Florida, and her B.S. degree from the University of Belgrade, all in electrical engineering.



Franklin Carrero-Martinez

ISE – International Science and Engineering
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Franklin Carrero-Martinez, completed a Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, after which he joined the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) as an assistant professor of Biology and studied synapse formation and functional manipulation of brain connectivity in model organisms. He was an adjunct professor at the UPR Medical Sciences campus and visiting scholar at Duke University and MIT. In 2012, AAAS selected Franklin as the Roger Revelle Fellow in Global Stewardship, a fellowship in which he served a joint appointment between the National Academy of Sciences and the Office of the Science and Technology Adviser at the State Department. During the summer of 2014, he was the acting science counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City. He later joined NSF's international office where he covers science and engineering collaboration with Europe and Eurasian countries.



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Lura "Jody" Chase

EHR – Education and Human Resources

Human Resources Development (HRD)

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Jody Chase has been with NSF since 1992. Jody has worked directly with tribal colleges since 1994, when she managed the Rural Systemic Initiatives (RSI) Program. She has gained a great appreciation of the role tribal colleges play with broadening participation in STEM and sustaining economic development on reservations and surrounding communities. Since 2002, Jody has managed the Tribal Colleges and Universities Program (TCUP), which supports STEM capacity-building and instructional improvement in Tribal colleges, Alaska Native-serving, and Native Hawaiian-serving institutions of higher education. She holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Nevada Reno, and undergraduate and graduate degrees in organic chemistry from her home state of Mississippi. Jody's doctoral and post-doc work was on intermediary metabolism of contact sex pheromone in the German cockroach.



Colleen Fitzgerald

SBE – Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences

Behavioral Cognitive Science (BCS)

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Colleen Fitzgerald is the program director for Documenting Endangered Languages, a joint funding initiative between the NSF and the National Endowment for the Humanities. She is a rotator from the University of Texas at Arlington, where she is professor of linguistics and directs the Native American Languages Lab. Her work with Native American communities in documenting and revitalizing their languages is now in its third decade. Recent projects include co-directing the Oklahoma Breath of Life Workshop from 2011 to 2014, a collaboration with the Chickasaw Language Revitalization Program, and training in various venues focused on Native Americans and other citizen scientists. In 2014, she directed the Institute on Collaborative Research (CoLang 2014), a biennial international training venue for language documentation and revitalization that creates the next generation of scholars and citizen scientists focused on endangered languages.



David Haury

EHR – Education and Human Resources

Division of Research on Learning and Informal Settings

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David Haury is the lead program director for the Innovative Experiences for Students and Teachers (IEST) program. He is also associated with funding programs connected to the *National Robotics Initiative* and the *Computer Science For All* initiative. David is a professor emeritus at The Ohio State University, and his research has focused on teaching science through inquiry, with particular emphasis on teacher professional development and evolution education. When not working, David tries to hone his photography skills and goes for long rides on his motorcycle.



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Samantha Brewton Hunter

BFA – Budget, Finance and Award Management
Division of Institution and Award Support (DIAS)

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Samantha Hunter is a grants policy specialist in NSF's policy office where she is responsible for proposal and award policy review, analysis, interpretation and implementation. She collaborates on the development of the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide, which integrates NSF's Grant Proposal Guide and the Award and Administration Guide. Samantha conducts various outreach meetings for public and private sector research and grants administration officials. She also serves as webmaster for BFA, with particular focus on the Division of Institution and Award Support. For fun, Samantha is the cheerleading coach for Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.



Nadini Kannan

MPS – Mathematics and the Physical Sciences
Division of Mathematical Sciences

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Nadini Kannan is a program director in Statistics whose program responsibilities include Workforce (REU Sites), the DMS-NIGMS Initiative to Support Research at the Interface of the Biological and Mathematical Sciences, and the NSF-wide BIGDATA Initiative. She received a Ph.D. in Statistics from The Pennsylvania State University. Prior to joining NSF, Nadini spent 22 years at the University of Texas at San Antonio in a number of capacities, including chair of the Department of Management Science and Statistics.



Don Millard

ENG – Engineering
Engineering Education Centers (EEC)

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Don Millard, now EEC deputy division director, has been involved in many NSF programs including Advanced Technology Education (ATE), Math and Science Partnership (MSP), and Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (TUES) (and as program lead). He also served as a founder of both the EHR Core Research (ECR) and the I-Corps programs. Prior to coming to NSF, Don spent 27 years at RPI where he served in the Electrical, Computer, and Systems Department and directed a number of research centers, including the Center for Integrated Electronics and the Academy of Electronic Media. He is the creator of the Mobile Studio project, which enables students to perform experiments that use an oscilloscope, function generator, digital control, and some form of power supply (in a portable package) - and learn at anytime, anyplace. He holds a patent for the development of a laser-induced, plasma-based Non-Contact Electrical Pathway. Don has received numerous awards, including Professor of the Year on three occasions.



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Jennifer Wade
GEO – Geosciences
Earth Sciences Division (EAR)
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Jennifer Wade is a program director in the in the Petrology & Geochemistry program, and the GeoPRISMS program which is joint with Ocean Sciences. She got her B.S. from Boston College, took a year to explore New Mexico before moving to Michigan State for her M.S., then to Boston University for her Ph.D., which focused on the cycling of volatiles through subduction zones. She parlayed her analytical skills into a forensic geochemistry postdoc-then-job at the Library of Congress. But she missed volcanoes, and in late 2010, she was hired as a rotator at NSF, and in January of 2014, she was made permanent. When she is not managing science, she is volunteering for the Exposed DC photography organization, experimenting in the kitchen, or on a bicycle.



Alan Wilson
BIO—Biological Sciences
Environmental Biology (EB)
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Alan Wilson received his Ph.D. in Applied Biology from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2006. After spending a year as a research investigator at the University of Michigan, Alan joined the faculty in the School of Fisheries at Auburn University in 2007 where he is an associate professor. In addition to his academic life, Alan is currently near the end of a two-year detail at NSF where he helps manage the Population and Community Ecology program. Alan is broadly interested in understanding the ecology of freshwater ecosystems. His lab is currently studying how within- and among-species trait and genetic variation in phytoplankton and zooplankton influences the promotion and control of toxic cyanobacterial blooms. You can learn more about Alan's research at <http://wilsonlab.com/>.



Lisa-Joy Zgorski
OLPA – Director's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs
External Affairs
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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 Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, the Office of Management and Budget and The Century Foundation. She holds an M.P.P., Harvard Kennedy School of Government; a A.B., Mount Holyoke College; and certificates in policy studies from Dartmouth College and the Charles University Law Faculty in Prague.



NSF DAY SPEAKERS

LUNCH PANEL:

Lessons from the Field/Best Practices



Peter Bergholtz

Department of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences

North Dakota State University

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Peter W. Bergholtz is research faculty focusing on evolutionary ecology of microbes in NDSU's College of Agriculture, Food Systems and Natural Resources. He received his B.S. degree from the University of South Carolina and his Ph.D. from the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Michigan State University, where he studied in the Center for Microbial Ecology. He is an author of fifteen research articles and two textbook chapters. He is the fortunate recipient of an NSF CAREER grant focused on teaching and research about the role of passive dispersal in generation of biodiversity in microbial species.



James F. P. Cotter

Division of Science and Mathematics

University of Minnesota, Morris

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James F. P. Cotter is a Professor of Geology at the University of Minnesota, Morris where he began teaching in 1984. He has been active in both curriculum development and the establishment of a strong undergraduate research program. His field of expertise is Glacial Geology and his recent research has focused on comparisons of the (late Pleistocene) glacial deposits of Minnesota with the (late Paleozoic) glacial deposits of Brazil. He has published over 20 papers and 100 abstracts on the glacial geology. He was awarded the University of Minnesota, Research Award and is a member of the University of Minnesota Academy of Distinguished Teachers. In 2000, Cotter was awarded the PAESMEM Award, the nations highest award for mentoring. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. from Lehigh University.



Lisa Montplaisir

Division of Science and Mathematics

North Dakota State University

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Lisa Montplaisir is an associate professor and assistant chair of NDSU's Biological Sciences Department. Her work is in discipline-based education research. Basically, she is interested in studying undergraduate learning environments. Current projects in her lab group include faculty professional development where they are looking at pedagogical choices and assessment practices in 100 to 400 level courses across STEM disciplines. She is also deeply interested in future secondary science teachers and has been working with colleagues to recruit and support talented STEM majors into 7-12 science and math teaching careers. Both of these projects are NSF funded totaling \$4.6 million.



NSF DAY SPEAKERS

LUNCH PANEL

Lessons from the Field/Best Practices

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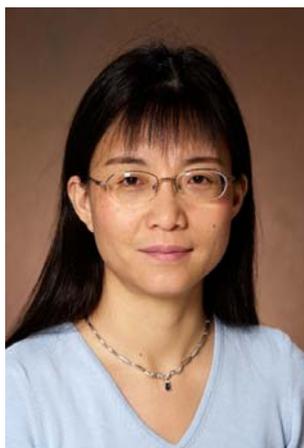


Erika Offerdahl

Department of Biological Science

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Erika Offerdahl is an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. During her time at NDSU, she has secured over \$3.4 million from NSF. Offerdahl has served as reviewer for the Division of Chemistry and the Directorate for Education and Human Resources for diverse proposals ranging from basic research to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship program.



Wenfang Sun

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

North Dakota State University

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Wenfang Sun received her B.S., Wuhan University, and Ph.D. in organic chemistry, the Institute of Photographic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences. She came to NDSU in 2007 and became the Walter F. and Verna Gehrts Professor in 2011. She has published 104 peer-reviewed journal papers and 23 conference full papers. She obtained over \$7m in grants from NSF, USDA and others, and received numerous awards, including NSF's CAREER Award. She organized or chaired more than 10 symposiums and presented 80 plus invited talks/seminars at conferences and universities. Currently, she serves on the editorial board of four international chemistry journals. Her research program covers the organic/organometallic nonlinear optical materials, organic/organometallic light emitting materials, photosensitizers for photodynamic therapy, and optical sensors.



NSF DAY SPEAKERS
From North Dakota
NDSU LEADERSHIP



Beth Ingram
Provost for Research
North Dakota State University
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Beth Ingram began her role as provost at North Dakota State University in July 2014. She received her B.S. (with honors and distinction) in Economics and Mathematics from the University of Iowa, and her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Minnesota. Her academic career began at Cornell University, where she was an assistant professor of Economics. Later she was at the University of Iowa and held the title of C. Woody Thompson Professor of Economics and Henry B. Tippie Professor. She also held a number of administrative positions at the University of Iowa: among these are director, Institute for Economic Research; chair, Department of Economics; associate dean for undergraduate programs; and associate provost for undergraduate education. Her record of university service (e.g., Task Force on Student Success, Experiential Learning Council, Gender Equity Task Force) is equally matched by her service to her profession (NSF panelist, external program reviewer) and her research interests and publications have focused, among other things, on Macroeconomics and Econometrics.



Kelly A. Rusch
Vice President for Research and Creative Activity
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Kelly Rusch was hired as vice president for research and creative activity at NDSU in June 2013. Her role is to foster, facilitate, coordinate and advance research and economic development at NDSU. In addition, she is the State Project Director for North Dakota EPSCoR. She earned her bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse and her master's and doctorate in civil engineering with an emphasis in environmental engineering at Louisiana State University. She joined NDSU from Louisiana State University, where she was on the Civil and Environmental Engineering faculty since 1993. She also served in numerous leadership roles, including associate dean for research and diversity in the College of Engineering, interim department chair of Construction Management and Industrial Engineering, co-chair of the Commission on the Status of Women and director of the Institute for Ecological Infrastructure Engineering.



NSF DAY SPEAKERS

From North Dakota

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP



CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP



The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp
U.S. Senate

U.S. Senator Heidi Heitkamp is North Dakota's first female Senator, in November of 2012. She serves on the following Senate Committees: Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee on Indian Affairs; Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; Homeland Security and Government Affairs; and Small Business and Entrepreneurship. As a former director of the one-of-a-kind Dakota Gasification synfuels plant, she has a long record of serving as a champion for North Dakota's energy jobs and industry. She continues those efforts in the Senate, working to responsibly to harness North Dakota's energy resources, promote the state's all-of-the-above energy plan, which she believes should serve as a model for the entire country, and lift the 40-year old ban on exporting U.S. crude oil. She previously served as North Dakota's Attorney General.

Participating via video recording.



The Honorable John Hoeven
U.S. Senate

John Hoeven became North Dakota's 22nd U.S. Senator in January of 2011, following ten years of service as the state's governor. He sits on the following Senate Committees: Appropriations; Energy and Natural Resources; and Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. He has been leading efforts to develop a comprehensive national energy plan similar to North Dakota's EmPower North Dakota, a comprehensive plan that encourages an all-of-the-above approach to development and includes both traditional and renewable resources. The senator's work includes serving as the leading advocate for approving the Keystone XL pipeline and advancing measures that will eliminate outdated and unnecessary regulations that prolong the approval process and discourage energy production.

Representing the Senator, Comm and Legislative Specialist Alex Finken.



The Honorable Kevin Cramer
U.S. House of Representatives

U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer is North Dakota's only member of the House of Representatives. He was elected in 2012 and serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and its subcommittees on Communications and Technology, Environment and the Economy, and Oversight and Investigations. He also serves as co-chairman of the Northern Border Caucus, which fosters continued growth in the relationship between the U.S. and Canada, and is a founding chair of the Congressional Kids' Safety Caucus. He who makes constituent outreach a top priority and describes interacting with the public as "the best part of public service," held more town halls in 2015 than any other Member of Congress. Cramer has had a distinguished career in public service which includes being elected chairman of the North Dakota Republican Party as the youngest member of the Republican National Committee in 1991.

Representing the Congressman, State Office Director Lisa Gibbens.