## **2019 BIOBASED STAKEHOLDERS' DIALOGUE SPEAKERS**



## **BETTE BRAND KEYNOTE SPEAKER** Administrator for rural business service, usda rural development

Bette Brand serves as the Administrator of the Rural Business-Cooperative Service. She came to USDA after 35 years with Farm Credit of the Virginias, where she most recently served as chief advocate for the agriculture industry and rural businesses, supporting producers at the state and national level and educating policymakers and consumers on agriculture. Prior to this, Brand served as Chief Sales Officer, overseeing the business development of a \$1.6 billion credit portfolio, managing a team of commercial agriculture and agribusiness lenders, and supervising FCV's marketing and branding. She has wide-ranging experience promoting rural communities, having served on the Virginia Agribusiness Council, the Virginia Horse Council, the Virginia Cooperative Council, and the Virginia Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

Since her arrival to USDA in January 2018, Brand has supported the mission of Rural America through a steadfast commitment in helping to improve the economy and quality of life, utilizing effective and efficient customer–focused priorities, with concise objectives increasing access to capital. She enjoys traveling across the country in her official capacity as Administrator to better understand the specific needs of America's diverse rural communities; having discussions with local lenders on best practices so more communities can benefit from the programs offered by Rural Development. Administrator Brand is focused on economic development, building partnerships, streamlining

cumbersome processes, and promoting a strong and vibrant American rural economy in 2019. Administrator Brand has a degree in Animal Science and an MBA from Virginia Tech. She and her husband David live in Roanoke, Virginia and have three grown sons.



DAVID ASIELLO OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (SUSTAINMENT)

Mr. Asiello currently provides technical and policy support to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Sustainment). David's areas of responsibility include overseeing DoD Environmental Technology Programs; leading development and implementation of the DoD Sustainability Plan; Integrating Sustainable Procurement Policy and maximizing the use of Green Products at DoD Installations; and integrating Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health considerations into Weapon Systems Acquisition Programs. David has been with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) since March 2000. Prior to coming to the Secretary of Defense Office, David held a variety of logistics, operations & maintenance, and environmental positions for the Chief of Naval Operations, and for the Commander, Naval Air Systems Command.

David received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aerospace Engineering from Auburn University 1986, his Master of Business Administration Degree from Marymount University in 1990,

and is a 2003 graduate of the National Defense University with a Master of Science Degree in National Resource Strategy and Senior Acquisition Certification from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In 2008, Mr. Asiello graduated from the Defense Leadership and Management Program and from the Federal Executive Institute.

David is married with three young children and lives in Alexandria, Virginia.



**BOBBY BERRIER** PRESIDENT AND CEO SIGNATURE FLOORING Bobby Berrier has been in the commercial fiber and carpet industry since 1989 when he first joined the DuPont Company in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Since that time, he has worked in various positions in manufacturing operations, sales, marketing and business leadership at DuPont and Mohawk Industries positions ranging from Vice President & General Manger – North America Commercial & Automotive Fibers with responsibility for commercial fiber to VP Research and Development to VP Plant Operations at companies like Tempur–Pedic, Foamex, and BioBased Technologies, a leading natural oil polyol produc– er. Bobby is currently the President & CEO at Signature Flooring in Dalton, Ga.

Bobby has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Tennessee. He enjoys spending time outside of work with his family, golfing, and enjoying the outdoors. Bobby currently lives in Marietta, Georgia at home with his wife Heather. Their two children, twins Lauren (19) and Harrison (19) are incoming freshmen at the University of Georgia where they are both studying Pre-Med with hopes to attend medical school in the future.



JAKOB BREDSGUARD CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, BIOSYNTHETIC TECHNOLOGIES Jakob is one of the founding members of Biosynthetic Technologies (BT) and currently serves as the company's Executive Vice President. He is named on over 30 patents and oversaw the development of the company's products and IP portfolio. He and his team originally focused on developing products that could offer the industry both environmental and performance benefits to make them attractive to those looking to improve product sustainability while not sacrificing product quality. Jakob helped raise millions of dollars for the company and closely managed due diligence. He now helps support corporate strategy and commercialization efforts. He's engaged in business development and often speaks at conferences to share latest company developments. He works with customers to support commercial sales. In that role, he supports formulation efforts and developed a synthetic motor oil containing bio-based product that was approved by the American Petroleum Institute. He now supports third-party development efforts by those looking to use Biosynthetic products in their formulations.

Jakob is a professional engineer with a license in chemical engineering. He sits on the advisory board for the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Department and is a member of the Leadership Council at the University of California Irvine. He has

served as an industry expert for the US Government to audit federal research and development efforts. He began his career at Jacobs Engineering where he specialized in energy efficiency and process improvement projects for the oil and gas industry. Jakob received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of California Irvine.

Jakob volunteers some of his free time to coach youth sports teams and looks to support families dealing with pediatric cancer.



## GEORGE HANDY PROGRAM MANAGER, NOBLIS

Mr. Handy has twenty-eight years of proven managerial, operational, and technical experience in sustainability, hazardous minimization, green products, recycling, pollution prevention, technology transfer, alternative fuels, sustainable technology development, environmental, and waste management for small business, industry, and government. Mr. Handy is a recognized subject matter expert in environmental and sustainable technology RDT&E programs for government and industry. Mr. Handy supported (OASD (S) and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in the development of innovative, sustainable technology demonstration programs that support the DoD mission and operational readiness. Mr. Handy managed the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and DLA Aviation Bio-based Motor Oil and Bio-based Grease Demonstrations in non-tactical vehicles and equipment (DoD, DHS, NASA and USPS). Mr. Handy also managed the 2008 Congressionally directed Green Product Evaluation and Implementation Pilot Program, demonstrating multiple sustainable products and technologies at DoD installations and the National Defense Center of Excellence (NDCEE) initiative, Sustainable Procurement for DoD Installations for the OASD(S). Mr. Handy managed multiple NDCEE tasks for Hazardous Minimization and Green Products Evaluations / Demonstrations, assessing the performance of sustainable technologies and products for the

DLA. He has supported DLA Aviation (2000 to present) in the development and management of sustainable product evaluations and demonstrations. Mr. Handy also managed the NDCEE and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP) Demonstration of Biodiesel Blends in Tactical Ground Vehicles. Mr. Handy supported the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Iowa State University (ISU) in the implementation of the USDA BioPreferred Program. George received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Florida in 1981.

George is married with two sons and lives in Aiken, SC.



**MORGAN MALM** GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Morgan Malm is a graduate student pursuing her PhD in Food Science at Purdue University. For the past three years, Malm has served as a Graduate Research Assistant after also serving as an Undergraduate Research Assistant. Prior to her role at Purdue, Malm worked at Cargill as both a Quality Assurance Intern and a Product Development Intern.

Most recently, Malm participated on winning Team Stroy in the 2019 Purdue University Student Soybean Product Innovation Competition. Funded by the Indiana Soybean Alliance, the team of three Purdue students tackled a major environmental concern by developing a biodegradable straw using a soy-based solution.



KEN MITCHELL Business development director Universal textiles technologies

Ken Mitchell has been in the polyurethane and rubber industry since 1989 when he made his first lab trial at Woodbridge Foam Fabricating in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Since that time, he has worked in various positions ranging from Flexible Polyurethane Pourline Manager to VP Research and Development to VP Plant Operations at companies like Tempur-Pedic, Foamex, and BioBased Technologies, a leading natural oil polyol producer. Ken is currently the Business Development Director at Universal Textile Technologies in Dalton, Ga.

Ken has a degree in Chemistry from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. He loves to spend time with his family, golf, boat and cook. He was a founding member of the Porker Stars BBQ team competing on the Kansa City BBQ Circuit. Any spare time after a long day is devoted to firing up new and fun recipes with friends and family. Ken currently lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee at home as the only male in the household with his wife Julie, their two daughters Sara (21) and Emma (18), 2 female dogs and a female cat. Sara is studying Physics and Mathematics at UTC and Emma is studying Psychology and playing for the Lady Lions Volleyball team at Bryan College in Dayton, Tn.



SUEANNE PFIFFERLING CONSULTANT, UNITED SOYBEAN BOARD

Sueanne Pfifferling has over 40 years of private and public sector experience in the environmental policy field. She serves as a consultant to the United Soybean Board (USB) on federal environmental and procurement issues related to the use of biobased products.

Ms. Pfifferling heads the consulting firm Pfifferling & Associates, LLC, which specializes in environmental regulatory and policy analysis and evaluation, and compliance management. Prior to forming her own consulting company in 2000, she was with Jellinek, Schwartz and Connolly, Inc., a Washington-DC based environmental consulting firm, where she was a Vice President and Principal. She has also served as the Chief Environmental Aide to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY) and was a Senior Policy Analyst for the Coalition of Northeastern Governors Policy Research Center. Ms. Pfifferling received a B.A. in History from Goucher College and a Masters in City and Regional Planning with distinction from Harvard University.



JANICE TARDIFF Supervisor of Advanced Polymer Material and Processes Research Group, Ford Motor Company

Janice Tardiff is the supervisor of advanced polymer material and processes research group at Ford Motor Company. She holds a Chemistry degree from Kalamazoo College and a Master's degree in Chemical Engineering from Michigan State University. She has been at Ford Motor Company for over 25 years, conducting project work focused primarily on developing and implementing advanced materials technologies into automotive systems. Current project work focuses on the incorporation of sustainable materials into rubber compounds, investigations into the use of advanced materials in polymer systems, and developing next generation "smart" materials. Her positions within Ford have varied from Research to Manufacturing, giving her experience in the development, implementation, and maintenance of new material technologies in the automotive industry.

In her free time Janice likes to enjoy the outdoors – hiking, boating, and skiing – as well testing out new recipes in her kitchen for family and friends.



**BOB WOLOSZYNEK** CHIEF ENGINEER, POLYMER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE GOODYEAR TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

Woloszynek joined Goodyear in 2007 as a Senior Research Chemist in the Polymer Technology Group. He spent the early years of his career serving as the Principal Investigator for the development of a new neodymium catalyst system and subsequent family of commercialized tire polymers that are used in Goodyear products globally. In 2012, he became the Principal Investi-gator on Goodyear's soybean oil project, where he leveraged the properties of soybean oil to develop a novel polymer currently used in a premium Goodyear product. He has authored proposals securing external funding from the United Soybean Board to support ongoing research activities. Goodyear's soybean oil technology has been implemented in multiple tire products since 2017, and research efforts to further leverage the technology are ongoing. He has also been Lead Engineer in the Global Material Science organization, supporting tire compound development and efforts to improve product consistency. In his current role, he leads a team of scientists and engineers tasked with developing new polymer technologies to support both Goodyear's tire and chemical operations businesses.

Woloszynek earned a B.S. in Chemistry from Baldwin-Wallace University in 2002 and a Ph.D. in Organometallic Chemistry from Case Western Reserve University in 2007.