



NEW Leadership® Virginia Speaker Biographies

NEW Leadership Virginia Co-Directors

Dr. Bonnie Stabile

Bonnie Stabile is Associate Professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University, where she founded and directs the Gender and Policy (GAP) Center. Professor Stabile teaches courses on policy analysis, program evaluation, ethics, and gender at master's and undergraduate levels. She was the 2019 recipient of the Schar School's Teaching Award and in 2024 received the Dean's Service Award. Professor Stabile served as Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs between 2021 and 2024 and, during her 17-year tenure at the Schar School, also served as MPP and MPA program director.



Her book, *Women, Power and Rape Culture: The Politics and Policy of Underrepresentation*, co-authored by now Dr. Aubrey Grant was published by Praeger in 2022 and in paperback by Bloomsbury Academic Publishing in 2024. Other publications include articles in peer-reviewed journals including *Public Integrity*; the *Journal of Public Affairs Education*; *Sexuality, Gender and Policy*; *Rhetoric Review*; and *Politics and the Life Sciences*. She writes for *Ms. Magazine* and serves on the *Ms. Committee of Scholars*.

Professor Stabile was Editor-in-Chief of *World Medical & Health Policy*, an academic journal published by Wiley, from 2019 - 2020, and served in Deputy and Co-Editor roles since 2011. Her government work experience includes acting as Installation Coordinator of a U.S. Army post in Amberg, Germany, and as Program Analyst for the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. From 1989-1993 she was Program Coordinator of the Senior Managers in Government Program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Jill Deering

Jill Deering is the senior assistant dean of student and academic affairs at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, bringing two decades of leadership experience to the mission of higher education. Currently, she manages the undergraduate and graduate academic services and career development teams in the Schar School. She is experienced in leading programs and services to recruit and retain students and foster student academic and professional achievement.



After working in the federal government, Jill launched her higher education career at Dickinson College directing freshman transition programs. She moved to George Mason University in 2003 to focus her work on students who share her passion for public affairs and public service. Jill earned her Bachelor of Arts in government and politics from George Mason University and her Master of Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is a graduate of the Leadership Arlington program.

NEW Leadership Virginia Faculty-in-Residence

Delegate Charniele Herring

Charniele Herring was elected to the Virginia General Assembly in 2009 and chosen as Majority Leader of the House of Delegates in 2020. She was the first woman and the first African American to serve as Majority Leader of the House of Delegates and as Chair of Courts of Justice. Delegate Herring also previously served as Chair of the Virginia State Crime Commission and on the Committee on District Courts. She currently serves as Chair of the House Democratic Caucus.



Born into a military family, Charniele moved often as a child before landing permanently in Northern Virginia. She and her mother became homeless while Charniele was a teenager and stayed in a shelter while attending West Springfield High School during the day and her mother searched for work. The experience of being homeless shaped Charniele's character and taught her the values of hard work, resilience and looking out for those people society often overlooks. Thanks to the STEP Program that allows students from disadvantaged backgrounds the opportunity to prove they are capable of college level work, Charniele was able to attend

George Mason University, where she earned a degree in Economics. She later earned a JD from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law. After law school, Charniele worked at the oldest African-American owned firm in Greater Washington before opening up her own firm in Northern Virginia. She currently works as General Counsel to Admin and Logistics, Inc, a government contracting firm.

Building upon a rich history of community service, Charniele has brought her strong leadership and ability to work in a bipartisan manner to the General Assembly. She patroned legislation to give small businesses a competitive advantage in the state's procurement process and is a longstanding champion for education, receiving numerous awards from the Virginia Education Association. Herring also sponsored a bill establishing the first-ever sexual and domestic violence prevention fund in Virginia, for which she was honored with the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance's HOPE Award.

Shea Holman

Shea Holman is counsel and chief operating officer at the Purple Method, an organization dedicated to addressing and preventing workplace sexual misconduct. Shea is also an adjunct professor of legal studies at the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, where she teaches judicial process and civil rights law. She is a board member for the Gender and Policy Center and an editorial board member of the Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality and Anti-Discrimination Law blog.



Previously, Shea served as the executive director of the Purple Campaign, where she oversaw various advocacy efforts to make workplace harassment a priority on the legislative agenda in the corporate sector and in the courts. She also served as the policy director at the Purple Method, working on the development and deployment of custom anti-harassment training.

Shea received her law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School where she earned Concentration Honors in Labor and Employment Law and was the president of the Women's Law Student Association. Her prior work experience also includes the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Minnesota Conflict Resolution Center. She has experience representing employees in both the private and government sectors and has worked as a training consultant for Bright Compass, an HR consulting firm.

Aubrey Grant

Aubrey Grant, PhD, is a founding member and Program Manager for Practice and Research at the Community Sponsorship Hub. With a Doctorate in Public Policy from the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University, a Master of Public Policy from American University's School of Public Affairs, and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Aubrey combines academic rigor with practical expertise.



Aubrey's career began as a case manager in Greensboro, North Carolina, where she supported refugees in rebuilding their lives and integrating into their new communities. Passionate about bridging research and practice, Aubrey is dedicated to enhancing policies and practices that support underrepresented and vulnerable populations, aiming to create sustainable impacts through informed approaches.

Monday, June 9, 2025

11-12 pm: Leadership Presentation and Small Group Discussion

Anne Holton

Anne Holton is a professor in the School of Policy and Government and in the College of Education and Human Development at George Mason University. She is also a Senior Fellow at EdPolicyForward, the Center for Education Policy, at George Mason University. She is a lifelong advocate for children and families in Virginia



With a Bachelor of Arts from Princeton and a Harvard law degree, Holton has worked as a legal aid lawyer serving low-income families, a juvenile and domestic relations district court judge, a child welfare reformer, and Virginia's Secretary of Education.

She helped integrate the inner-city schools of Richmond as a child when her father was Virginia's governor in the early 1970s. As Virginia's First Lady when her husband was governor from 2006 to 2010, Holton championed foster care system reform. As Virginia's Secretary of Education from 2014 to 2016, she worked to increase Virginia's investment in public education, to promote innovation and the joy of teaching and learning in our schools, and to ensure every student has a successful pathway to the future, especially those in high-poverty communities.

Her life's work has focused on children and families at the margin, and the crucial role education must play in helping young people escape poverty. Holton served as Interim

President of George Mason University from 2019 to 2020 and currently serves on the Virginia Board of Education.

1-3 pm: Action Project Issue Panel: Data Center Sitting

Juli Bolthouse

Julie Bolthouse is the Director of Land Use with Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC), a locally based, donor supported 501(c)(3) nonprofit and an accredited land trust. She manages local field staff who work in the environmental non-profit's nine county region that includes Clarke, Loudoun, Rappahannock, Fauquier, Culpeper, Orange, Madison, Greene, and Albemarle counties in Virginia.



As the Director of Land Use, Julie coordinates the organization's advocacy on state and local policies to promote smart growth and climate action while conserving and preserving the natural resources, local food system, history, and beauty of the Virginia Piedmont. A professional advocate for sustainability through thoughtful land use decisions, Julie has been with PEC for 13 years and holds a B.S. in Fisheries Science with a minor in Watershed Management, a master's degree in urban and regional planning, and a second master's degree in natural resources all from Virginia Tech. She is a lifelong resident of Virginia and grew up in Northern Virginia where she now lives with her family.

Supervisor Juli Briskman

Supervisor Juli Briskman was elected to represent the Algonkian District on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors in 2019 and reelected in 2023. She was elected by her fellow board members to serve as vice chair in 2024. She serves on the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors' Finance and Government Operations and Economic Development Committee and the Joint Board and School Board Committee. She also represents Loudoun on the Potomac Watershed Roundtable, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, and the Virginia Association of Counties. She is one of the Board's representatives on the Loudoun County Family Services Board too.



Supervisor Briskman began her career in journalism and communications. During her career, she served overseas with the U.S. Department of State and worked as a contractor for federal agencies. Supervisor Briskman has also worked in the educational field, helping families explore pre-K options, admissions, and childcare. In addition to her professional pursuits, Supervisor Briskman has been an active community volunteer in many educational, recreational, and community groups, including the Loudoun County Public Schools, the Algonkian Running Club, the River Crest Riptide Swim Team, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Galilee United Methodist Church. Supervisor Briskman holds a master's degree in

business administration from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's degree in journalism from Ohio State University.

Elena Schlossberg

Born in Washington DC, Elena Schlossberg moved to Fairfax Virginia at the age of 4. She holds a BA in Psychology and an MA in School Counseling from Marymount University. While her educational background is in the social sciences, having moved to the Rural Crescent in Prince William County in 2002, her activism has revolved around smart growth policy and conservation. She learned the important role land use decisions play in sustainability and quality of life for all residents in Prince William County.



Elena is a well-known community activist and conservationist and established the Coalition to Protect Prince William County, a 501(c)4 in December 2014. For nearly a decade, The Coalition has been instrumental in bringing to light concerns about the data center industry, such as power demand and land use. An InsideNOVA article about Elena stated that she is “usually leading the charge on the moral, ethical, or environmental battles the [Prince William County] community faces.” She took up the fight against draconian immigration policy targeting undocumented immigrants, took on Dominion Energy over power lines, and in 2021 participated in a protest to address the treatment of detained immigrant children.

Darren Shumate

With a BS in Architectural Engineering from Kansas State, Daren is an Electrical Engineer licensed in over twenty states with three-and-a-half decades of experience in the MEP engineering. Daren founded Shumate Engineering, an MEP engineering firm with a specialty in data center design, 2020. Since then the firm has grown into a 20-person firm with three offices. In his 25 years of designing data centers, Daren has led the design of 100s of MegaWatts and millions of square feet of data centers from Loudoun County to Texas to Utah. From January 2023 through February 2024, Mr. Shumate served as a Fairfax County Planning Commissioner representing Mason District. As Commissioner, Mr. Shumate ardently advocated for smart zoning and planning for data centers having been instrumental in the approval of a 72MW data center currently in development in Chantilly.



Kate Smiley

Since the start of her professional career, Kate Smiley has worked in the government and public relations sector at every level in capacities ranging from lobbying to campaigning to working in the federal and state legislature.

Kate began her career representing federal services contractors for a large trade association in Arlington, Virginia, a role in which she both led political action committee fundraising and directly lobbied members of Congress on complex defense and intelligence matters. She later expanded her issue portfolio as a legislative aide on Capitol Hill, focusing on healthcare, education, and veterans' issues. Kate served as Chief of Staff to House Democratic Caucus Chairman Rip Sullivan. She also managed his campaign activities, including fundraising and communications during his time as campaign chair in 2019.



Most recently, Kate lobbied state and local governments for clients ranging from small nonprofit organizations to large publicly traded corporations as the assistant vice president at McGuireWoods Consulting, located in Richmond, Virginia. In this capacity, she created and executed strategic lobbying plans, bolstered her strong, bipartisan network of relationships with Virginia lawmakers, developed bill and amendment language, and published political and elections analysis. Kate graduated from Georgetown University with degrees in Government, History, and Philosophy.

Brian Winterhalter

Brian Winterhalter is an experienced commercial real estate attorney with a particular focus on and history of success in land use and zoning matters throughout Northern Virginia. He represents major developers and national, regional and local companies in all facets of land use, including noteworthy transit-oriented, mixed-use projects – office, hotel, residential and integrated retail and urban infill residential projects, as well as major data center projects and related fiber optic conduit facilities throughout the Ashburn area of Loudoun County.

Brian counsels on all aspects of the land use, planning, zoning and development processes. He is well known for succinctly and persuasively presenting complicated developments to state and local governing authorities throughout Northern Virginia, including Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William Counties and the cities and towns within this region, along with the local planning, transportation, and environmental staffs, planning commissions, elected officials and interested citizens organizations.



3:30-5 pm: Policy Communication: Preparing Press Releases, Press Conferences, and Testimony

Kiara Pesante Haughton

Named one of the 100 most influential Black Americans by EBONY Magazine, Kiara Pesante Haughton is a political strategist, public relations executive, and justice advocate with 15 years of experience specializing in campaigning in the South, strategic communications, crisis management, public affairs, and partnerships.



She is the Vice President of Campaigns and Communications at the National Women's Law Center, leading the press and media relations strategy, storytelling, digital and social media, strategic partnerships, coalitions, influence campaigns, and special events work for the Law Center and the National Women's Law Center Action Fund. Previously, she was the Chief of Communications and Advancement at Dēmos, the pioneering democracy think tank focused on racial justice. In that role, she oversaw the organization's narrative change, marketing, brand-building, and fundraising strategies as one of five executive leaders.

Previously, she was Senior Vice President in the Issue Advocacy practice at BerlinRosen, leading work at the intersection of electoral politics, racial justice, and culture. While there, she partnered with campaigns, top political organizations, and national nonprofits to tell the stories of people and families to spark changes in the systems that hurt too many. Among these were Sister Song, Movement for Black Lives, Higher Heights for America, National Partnership for Women and Families, March of Dimes, and many others.

A dedicated servant leader, Pesante Haughton is a founding Board Member of the Arika Trim Foundation, an organization inspired by the life and legacy of her mentee who tragically died one week after an emergency c-section. The Arika Trim Foundation supports Black mothers through pregnancy, birth, and postpartum with access to doula care and connection to community resources. She is an Ambassador for the Greater DC Diaper Bank, a volunteer leadership position to collect diapers, wipes, formula, feminine hygiene products, and other necessary mother-baby items for families throughout the DC, Maryland and Virginia region that need them most. She has been an active volunteer tutor with literacy intervention program Reading Partners DC, a supporter of food and resource access center Martha's Table, and of Thrive DC, a direct-services support organization for unhoused community members. She previously served for over three years as a Commissioner for the Board of Real Estate Appraisers for the District of Columbia, and as a Director on the Board of The Hill Preschool, the oldest continually operating early learning institution on Capitol Hill in DC. She is a proud Mother Member of Jack and Jill of America, Inc, where she currently serves on the executive board as the Editor of the Nation's Capital Chapter.

6:45-8 pm: How to Get Involved in Public Service Careers: Panel and Discussion

Rebecca Dooley

Rebecca Dooley is the communications director for the Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services in D.C. In 2018, she began her career in public service serving as a policy fellow in the Office of the Governor in Virginia. Shortly after, she started as a social media and digital communication coordinator for the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services. She quickly moved up the ranks to become the Senior Communications Officer for the department in 2023.



Dooley serves on the Gender and Policy Center's advisory board. Dooley earned her bachelor's degree in political science and government from George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government in 2018. She was awarded the inaugural Gender and Policy Leadership Award in 2018 for co-founding the George Mason University's Women's Leadership Conference in 2017 alongside alumna Danielle Melton. Dooley also cofounded and served as communications director for the Mason Model World Health Organization Conference, and she was the health policy director for the Roosevelt Institute as an undergraduate.

Shafuq Naseem

Shafuq Naseem serves as a health and safety advocate at the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees. In 2023, she earned her Bachelor of Arts in government and international politics at George Mason University. Her previous work experience includes the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the American Federation of Government Employees, the National Partnership for Women and Families, and the American Civil Liberties Union. At these organizations, she focused on numerous labor policy issues, such as paid leave and worker health and safety in various sectors.



During her undergraduate career, she was a research assistant through the Undergraduate Research Program at the Schar School of Policy and Government, where she researched laws addressing menstrual equity in the United States. She is a former Gender and Policy Center Leadership Award recipient, and she currently serves on the center's advisory board.

Lady Chioma Nwadike

Lady Chioma Nwadike is a community health specialist with the Fairfax County Health Department. In this role, she applies her scientific and medical skills to address health disparities and promote health equity in minority communities. Lady Nwadike has more than six years of leadership experience in various health-related roles with organizations such as the Institute for Public Health Innovation, the National Quality Forum, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America.



Lady Nwadike has also volunteered for many health organizations, including the Feminist Women's Health Center and the Center for Black Women's Wellness. She also possesses multiple certifications in youth mental health, naloxone administration, and victim advocacy.

Lady Nwadike received her master's degree in biophysics and physiology with a focus on integrative medicine and health sciences from Georgetown University and her bachelor's degree in biology from Spelman College.

Tuesday, June 10, 2025

9-10 am: The Legislative Process

Shea Holman

(Please see page 3 for biography).

10:15-11:45 am: Collaboration and Deal Making

Senator Russet Perry

Russet Perry is a practicing attorney and the current State Senator for Virginia's 31st District. Russet has lived and worked in Loudoun County since 2006, when she took a full time job at the Georgetown University Law Center to help fund her schooling. There, she focused on issues surrounding criminal justice, women, and minorities. She ultimately secured a spot in the Georgetown Law Domestic Violence Clinic where she represented indigent D.C. residents in D.C. Superior Court in mediation and in seeking protective orders from abusive relationships.



After graduating with her JD from Georgetown, Russet sought a career in public service and helping the most vulnerable among us as a prosecutor in the Loudoun County Commonwealth's Attorney's office. In her role as a prosecutor, she successfully prosecuted a host of heinous crimes, including domestic assault, stalking, elder abuse, rape, child exploitation, child abuse, felony assault and murder. While serving as a prosecutor, Russet was also intricately involved in setting up and serving on the Mental Health

and Drug Court Dockets in Loudoun County. She left her role as a prosecutor to serve her country as an Officer in the Central Intelligence Agency, where she received multiple awards for her work. While much of her work remains highly classified, Russet worked every day at the CIA to protect American citizens and our democracy.

In 2023, Russet was called to serve in a different capacity, and she made the decision to run for elected office. She ran one of the most-watched state races in the country, vowing to make sure that her children did not grow up with fewer rights than she did. She won, and now represents the people of Loudoun and Fauquier counties in Richmond.

3-4:30 pm: Networking Workshop: Making Connections

Rachel Stockdale

Rachel Stockdale is a dedicated Career Advisor with over four years of experience at George Mason University, specializing in empowering individuals to achieve their career objectives. She excels in career counseling, project management, and creating strategies to gain jobs and internships in various industries including science, sustainability, and government. Her areas of expertise include conducting personalized advising sessions and workshops on career development, developing collaborative partnerships with academic departments to tailor career resources, leading specialized career events like Science Careers Week and Government Careers Week, as well as expertise in resume writing, interview preparation, job search, and networking strategies.



6:45-8pm: EMPower: Women in Emergency Management and Traditionally Underrepresented Fields: Panel and Discussion

Courtney Arroyo

Courtney Arroyo is the Assistant Coordinator of Communications and Community Engagement in the Department of Emergency Management and Security (DEMS) of the Fairfax County Government. Courtney received her Master's in Communications at Monmouth University, and later earned an additional Master's in Public Administration at George Mason University.



Rhamsye Brown

Rhamsye Brown is an Emergency Management Specialist in the Office of Emergency Management at the District of Columbia Department of Human Services.

Vanessa Calaban

Vanessa Calaban (she/her) is a disaster risk reduction planner with the Maryland Department of Emergency Management, where her portfolio covers everything from disaster housing to food system resiliency to hazard mitigation planning to critical infrastructure protection. She has served in the State Emergency Operations Center for multiple incidents and events, including the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse, Tropical Storm Ida, the 2023 Gubernatorial Inauguration, a public water contamination crisis, and two cyber incidents.

Prior to her work at MDEM, Vanessa studied disaster communications and community preparedness initiatives while living in Taiwan. As an emergency manager, she is continually seeking opportunities to learn about and advocate for universal access throughout the disaster cycle.



Vanessa is a Maryland Professional Emergency Manager and holds a Master of Public Administration with an emergency management concentration from the University of Colorado; a Graduate Certificate in Women, Politics, and Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts; and a Bachelor of Music from Ithaca College. She enjoys hiking, gardening, meeting new dogs, and finding the perfect GIF for every situation.

Katie Simon

Katie Simon is an Emergency Preparedness Program Manager with the U.S. Senate Sergeant at Arms. In her current role, she works with Senators, Committees, and staff to develop, train, and exercise emergency plans and procedures, and supports security-sensitive incidents and events such as the State of the Union Address, Presidential Inaugurations, and ad hoc incident response. Prior to the Senate, Katie worked in Arlington County Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management, where she supported the County's COVID-19 emergency response work as Planning Section Chief among other responsibilities. Katie is an alumna of Saint Mary's University of Minnesota (BA, 2010), George Mason University Schar School (MPA, 2019), and the Naval Postgraduate School (Emergence, 2022). She lives in Washington, DC, enjoys planning her next trip, and wants to know what you're reading these days.



Grelia Steele

Grelia Steele is a Global Continuity and Crisis Manager at Guidehouse where she oversees the coordination, collaboration, and communication of global events that impact employee safety and business operations. By delivering strategic solutions across multiple business areas, she ensures seamless preparedness and response through the development and implementation of emergency protocols, resource coordination, delivery for executive leadership, and training development. Grelia has over 15 years of experience in emergency management and crisis communication, and has previously held emergency management roles in local government such as Arlington County, Prince William County, and Fairfax County.

**Hannah Winant**

Hannah Winant is a certified emergency manager and the deputy director for Arlington County Government's Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management. In this role, she provides strategic leadership and direction for Arlington County's emergency preparedness, emergency operations, and emergency volunteer management programs. Before serving as deputy director, Winant was a public affairs manager and a public health analyst for Arlington County's Department of Public Safety Communications and Emergency Management.



Winant received her Master of Science in International Health from the University of Leeds in the United Kingdom and her Bachelor of Arts in sociology, anthropology, Spanish, and psychology from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

9-10:30 am: Speaking Your Truth

Dr. Jatia Wrighten

Dr. Jatia Wrighten is an assistant professor of political science at Virginia Commonwealth University, where she conducts research on black women, state legislatures, and leadership, with an emphasis on intersectionality. Her current project examines the differences in leadership attainment that exists between black women, white women, black men, and white men in state legislatures and the factors that cause these differences. She created the novel theory, the heavy lifters theory, to explain the primary differences between black male and black female legislators as it relates to leadership in state legislatures.



She was awarded the Gender and Leadership Dissertation Award from the Gender and Policy Center for her work focusing on intersectionality and leadership. Dr. Wrighten earned her PhD from George Mason University, her Master of Arts from the University of Maryland, and her Bachelor of Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University.

1-2:30 pm: Power Tools

Gloria Feldt

Gloria Feldt is a nationally acclaimed expert on women, power, and leadership with expertise that comes from frontline leadership experience, a bestselling author, and in-demand keynote speaker.

Selected for Forbes 50 over 50, she is cofounder and president of Take The Lead, whose mission reflects her life's passion: to prepare, develop, inspire, and propel women to take their fair and equal share of leadership positions across all sectors by 2025 by providing breakthrough training, mentoring and coaching role modeling, and thought leadership. She is the bestselling author of five books. Her latest, *Intentioning: Sex, Power, Pandemics and How Women Will Take The Lead* shows how we can seize the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of massive disruption to build back stronger with women at the center of the recovery. Through the lens of women's stories, it delivers a fresh set of leadership tools, skills, and concepts that help all women reach their own highest intentions, purposefully creating new norms, while guiding institutions to break through the remaining barriers to gender and racial parity for everyone's good.



She is formerly president and CEO of the world's largest reproductive health and advocacy organization, Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Recognized as a Forbes 50 over 50 honoree in 2022, she was previously named by Vanity Fair one of "America's Top 200 Women Leaders, Legends, and Trailblazers," Glamour's "Woman of the Year," She Knows Media Inspiring Woman, Women's eNews 21 Leaders for the 21st Century, Women Economic Forum Circle of Light award, Texas Monthly's Texas 20, Martin Luther King Living the Dream Award, Diversity Leadership Alliance Diversity Leader Award, and Forbes 40 Over 40.

3-4:15 pm: Navigating the Workplace: An Interactive Discussion

Shea Holman

(Please see page 3 for biography).

6:45-8 pm: Recognition of "Women Who Mind the GAP" and Panel Discussion

Gloria Feldt

(Please see page 14 for biography).

Victoria A. Lipnic

Victoria A. Lipnic is a Partner at Resolution Economics. She leads the Company's Human Capital Strategy Group. The Human Capital Strategy Group combines the Company's expertise in data analytics and deep knowledge of regulatory requirements with an interdisciplinary approach to advise organizations on the full range of their human capital needs and reporting requirements including recruitment, selection, promotions, DEI&A, pay equity, and overall talent allocation.



Lipnic joined Resolution Economics in 2021. She has broad experience in the full range of human capital, labor and employment issues, especially from the regulatory enforcement perspective. Prior to joining the Company she served as Commissioner from 2010 to 2020 and Acting Chair from 2017 to 2019 of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. She was appointed to the EEOC by President Barack Obama and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate. At the EEOC she worked on policy, cases, and regulations under all of the statutes enforced by the Commission including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Equal Pay Act (EPA), the Pregnancy Discrimination Act (PDA) and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). While at the EEOC she participated in numerous agency regulatory initiatives including the final GINA regulations, the ADA, as amended, regulations, and the revisions to the EEO-1 form to include pay data reporting. She organized the agency's first public meeting on Big Data in Employment, created its Chief Data Officer position, oversaw development of the Office of Enterprise Data and Analytics and published a significant

report on age discrimination. She co-chaired the EEOC's Select Task Force on the Study of Harassment in the Workplace, and co-authored its seminal report, issued in 2016, before the #MeToo movement.

Prior to joining the EEOC, she practiced law with Seyfarth Shaw, LLP. She also served as the U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment Standards from 2002 to January 2009, a position she was appointed to by President George W. Bush. At the Department of Labor she oversaw regulatory development and enforcement for the Wage and Hour Division, the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP), the Office of Labor Management Standards and four national workers' compensation programs. This included oversight and enforcement of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, Executive Order 11246 and the Labor Management Reporting Disclosure Act.

Prior to her service as Assistant Secretary, Lipnic served as Workforce Policy Counsel to the Committee on Education and the Workforce in the U.S. House of Representatives. She was also in-house counsel for labor and employment with the U.S. Postal Service.

Rose Previte

Rose Previte is the proud owner of three Washington, D.C.-area restaurants: Compass Rose, the Michelin-starred Maydān, and Kirby Club. With more in D.C. and beyond on the way!

Last year, she ventured into the wine world and co-founded Go There Wines, a social impact wine company that uplifts the stories of winemakers changing the game (and making damn good wine while doing it) in their industry. Rose also has a cookbook, Maydān, that explores bold flavors, accessible, shareable recipes, and overlapping foodways, spanning from Lebanon to Morocco, from Oman to the Republic of Georgia.

She was raised in a food-loving Sicilian-Lebanese family in Ohio, and her first food job was in her mother's Middle Eastern catering business and restaurant. She later spent more than a decade working in bars and restaurants while pursuing a master's degree in Public Policy from George Mason University. Her connection to food and passion for hospitality runs deep.



Thursday, June 12, 2025

U.S. Capitol

Representative Jen Kiggans

Congresswoman Jen Kiggans has served as the U.S. Representative for Virginia's 2nd district, representing Virginia Beach, the Eastern Shore, part of Chesapeake and Southhampton, Isle of Wight, Suffolk, and Franklin City. She sits on the House Armed Services Committee, House Committee on Natural Resources, and House Committee on Veteran's Affairs.

Before beginning her service in the U.S. Navy, she taught English in public schools in Matsuyama, Japan. She served for ten years in the U.S. Navy, completing two deployments to the Persian Gulf as an H-46 and H-3 helicopter pilot. After serving in the U.S. Navy Rep. Kiggans, used her GI Bill benefits to go back to school and become a board-certified Adult-Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner.



Rep. Kiggans served three sessions in the Virginia State Senate, where she championed legislation to establish a Military Spouse Liaison and advocated for patients, families, and caregivers in long-term care facilities.

A graduate of Old Dominion University's Nursing School, and Vanderbilt University's Nurse Practitioner program, Rep. Kiggans has worked in several long-term care and nursing facilities, in Virginia Beach and Norfolk in addition to serving as a primary care provider for a small private practice in Virginia Beach. She has a private practice in Virginia Beach and is a recipient of the Boston University Scarlet Key Award for exceptional leadership.

Representative Don Beyer

Congressman Don Beyer is serving his fifth term at the U.S. Representative from Virginia's 8th district, representing Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, and parts of Fairfax County. He serves on Congress' Joint Economic Committee and the House Committee on Ways and Means. He is a member of the New Democratic Coalition's Climate Change Task Force and the Congressional Progressive Caucus. Rep. Beyer enrolled at George Mason University in fall 2022 to begin work towards a master's degree in computer science with a concentration in machine learning.



Rep. Beyer's public service began in 1986 when Governor Gerald Baliles appointed him to the Commonwealth Transportation Board, responsible for overseeing the Virginia Department of Transportation and allocating highway funding to specific projects. From 1990-1998, Rep. Beyer served as the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, and was Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein under

President Obama. As Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, his signature work included advocacy for Virginians with disabilities and ensuring protections for Virginia's most vulnerable populations as the Commonwealth reformed its welfare system in the mid-1990s. He was also Virginia's Democratic Nominee for Governor in 1997.

After leaving office, Rep. Beyer served in various leadership roles. He spent fourteen years as Chair of Jobs for Virginia Graduates, a successful high school dropout prevention program, and was active for a decade on the board of the D.C. campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. As chair of the Virginia Economic Recovery Commission, he helped pass pro-business reforms and was co-founder of the Northern Virginia Technology Council.

In 2009 President Obama nominated Rep. Beyers to serve as ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein. While ambassador, he advocated for stricter sanction to compel Iran to begin nuclear disarmament discussions. As Ambassador, Rep. Beyers was integral to US Department of Justice efforts to halt abuses of Swiss bank secrecy by wealthy Americans.

For four decades, Rep. Beyers helped build his family business in Northern Virginia following a summer job at the dealership in 1974. He sold the business in 2019. He is a graduate of Williams College and Gonzaga High School in Washington, DC. He was named a Presidential Scholar by President Lyndon Johnson.

Representative Jennifer McClellan

Congresswoman Jennifer McClellan has served as the U.S. representative for Virginia's 4th district since 2023. She sits on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. Rep. McClellan has served the greater Richmond area in elected office for nearly twenty years. She was first elected to the Virginia House of Delegates representing Richmond in 2005, and served in that post until was elected to the Virginia State Senate in 2017, where she succeeded A. Donal McEachin after his election to the U.S. House of Representatives. While in the Virginia State Senate, she also served as Vice Chair of the Virginia Legislative Black Caucus.



Throughout her eighteen sessions in the Virginia General Assembly, Rep. McClellan has passed over 370 pieces of legislation, including landmark bills to protect and expand voting rights, combat climate change, preserve reproductive health care, and enhance worker's protections and labor rights.

A lifelong Virginia native, Rep. McClellan was born in Petersburg to parents who served the community: Her father worked as a Professor at Virginia State University and her mother

worked as a counselor at VSU. Rep. McClellan attended Matoaca High School in Chesterfield County, where she was valedictorian. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Richmond and obtained her Juris Doctorate from the University of Virginia School of Law. Rep. McClellan lives in Richmond with her husband, David Mills, and their two children, Jackson and Samantha.

Friday, June 13, 2025

9-11 am: Action Project Presentations Mock Press Corps

Jessica Bates

Jessica Bates is the Director of Marketing at George Mason University for the Schar School of Policy and Government. She previously attended Virginia Tech where she received her Master's in English Literature.



Alex Bates

Alex Bates is a Co-founder of The Science Underground and the former Communications Director at the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) with expertise in the science, biomedical, engineering and technology communities. Alex is skilled in federal, startup and nonprofit organizations, strategic planning, online engagement, media relations, social media, website development, and multimedia. He is a science enthusiast most passionate about boosting the voices of historically marginalized communities. Alex has advanced degrees in astronomy, online journalism, with an undergraduate focus in physics and American literature.