



2018 WTA FALL MEETING SPEAKERS

Kevin Connolly serves as Director in Microsoft's Airband Initiative – an organization that partners with start-ups and commercial organizations worldwide to help make Internet connectivity more accessible. Prior to joining Affordable Access Initiatives, Kevin was accountable for Microsoft's Windows commercial and public sector businesses across worldwide emerging markets; managed the Windows and Devices businesses across Sub-Saharan Africa for four years while based in Nairobi, Kenya; led business development initiatives focused on education and public health scenarios across Middle East & Africa region while based in Johannesburg, South Africa; and spent two years in Paris, France in Microsoft's Europe, Middle East, & Africa Headquarters. Before his overseas roles, Kevin served as a Group Product Manager in Redmond, Washington at Microsoft's corporate headquarters in the USA. He completed his Masters degree and PhD coursework in Political Science at the University of Wisconsin.

Kevin currently lives in Seattle, WA with his wife and children.

Armond Dawson serves as Partner Development Director for SecurityCoverage Inc., an Internet security software and managed services provider. SecurityCoverage is a leading developer of mobile and PC security software, password protection, and technical support services. During his tenure with SecurityCoverage, Mr. Dawson has worked with several device manufacturers, distributors and retailers empowering them to triage and repair hardware under warranty. In addition, he was instrumental in educating the operations team on the policies, procedures and inspection methods used by the OEM's to ensure device repair met quality expectations. In tandem role as VP of Customer Support Services, Mr. Dawson also led the sales and operational teams of SecurityCoverage which included the overseeing of the customer support teams for the firms leading Anti-virus/Spyware security software.

Bob DeBroux is Director of Federal Affairs and Public Policy at TDS Telecommunications Corp. (TDS). He joined TDS in 1992 as Manager of Regulatory Policy, was promoted to Director of Federal Affairs in 1999, and in his current position is responsible for overseeing the development of TDS Telecom's public policy as well as management of all federal advocacy, including regulatory and judicial proceedings.

Bob is active in telecommunications policy development and advocacy at both the state and federal level. He is a director on the WTA board, and is active on its regulatory and legislative committees. He also sits on the NTCA's Industry Committee. In 2017 he was appointed by FCC Chairman Pai to the Broadband

Deployment Advisory Committee, and is chair of its “Removing State and Local Regulatory Barriers” Workgroup.

Prior to TDS, Bob worked at NorLight, a regional fiber-optic long-distance company, where he held the positions of Manager of Business Development and Manager of Rates and Tariffs. Bob began his career in telecommunications as a regulator, serving four years at the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Bob holds both bachelor’s and a master’s degrees from the University of Wisconsin - Madison.

Jacqueline (Jackie) Bove is the lead relationship manager in CoBank’s Communications Division, Jackie manages a \$470 million portfolio of loans to rural telecommunications service providers throughout primarily Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Alaska and Hawaii. She is based in Denver, Colorado.

Prior to joining the Communications Division, Bove was managing director for CoBank’s Capital Markets Division, leading a team developing financing structures and syndication strategies to meet the expectations of borrowers and investors. With over 20 year of banking experience in leveraged finance and investment grade credit, her main focus was structuring and distributing syndicated debt.

Prior to joining COBANK in July 2003, she worked for ING Barings as a Vice President in the Utilities/Project Finance & Advisory group in New York and an Assistant V.P. in the Corporate Finance Division in Santiago, Chile.

Bove earned a master’s of business administration with an emphasis in finance from Thunderbird and a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Marquette University.

Gerard J. Duffy has been a Blooston, Mordkofsky, Dickens, Duffy & Prendergast partner since January 1, 1992. His areas of practice have focused upon rural telephone, commercial mobile radio, Internet and cable television issues.

Gerry was born and raised in Rochester, New York. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Villanova University and a Juris Doctor (with honors) degree from the George Washington University Law School. He also holds graduate degrees in economics from the University of Illinois, and in accounting from Virginia Tech.

Gerry is Regulatory Counsel for WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband. He and his wife Janette reside in not-so-rural Bethesda, Maryland, and are the proud parents of Maureen, Christopher, Daniel and Katie, and the even prouder grandparents of Colin, Julia, Chelsea and Hunter.

Frank Gallagher is Managing Partner and co-founder of Charlesmead Advisors. He has executed a wide range of financing and merger and acquisition assignments in his 20 years as an investment banker. In the wireline sector, representative buy-side advisory assignments include the representation of Ritter Communications in its acquisition of Millington Telephone and Cable Companies, and EATEL in its acquisition of Vision Communications. Representative sell-side transactions include the representation of FairPoint Communications in the sale of its Idaho operations to Blackfoot Communications.

In the internet infrastructure area, Frank has advised North State Communications in its acquisition of DataChambers, EATEL in its acquisition of Venyu Solutions, Inc., and TDS in its acquisition of VISI Inc..

In the wireless sector, Frank has advised Cellular One of Northeast Arizona in its purchase of 700 MHz spectrum from Lynch Corporation, and has also advised Sprint affiliates Northern PCS, Gulf Coast Wireless and Enterprise PCS in their respective sales to Sprint Nextel, and Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative in the sale of its wireless division to Alta Communications.

Prior to co-founding Charlesmead Advisors, Frank spent almost 15 years at Legg Mason and Stifel Nicolaus, where he headed the Telecommunications & Media Investment Banking Group. Prior to becoming an investment banker, Frank practiced mergers and acquisitions and securities law. He began his career at New York-based Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts where he was resident for three years in that firm's London office. Frank holds a B.A. degree from Georgetown University, where he graduated cum laude, and a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center.

Frank is a Registered Representative of and Securities Products are offered through BA Securities, LLC Member FINRA SIPC. Any testimonial or endorsement may not be representative of the experience of other customers and is no guarantee of future performance or success.

Evelyn Jerden is the Senior VP-Regulatory Dynamics of the LICT Corporation which owns 15 small, rural ILECs ranging from 600 to 6,000 access lines. Evelyn is a CPA who has worked on Rural Local Exchange Carrier issues since 1979. Evelyn began her telecommunications career with Ernst & Young's Telecommunications Group prior to joining Western New Mexico Telephone Company, a subsidiary of LICT, in 1992 as the Director of Revenue Requirements. She is a Subset 2 representative of the NECA Board of Directors and Co-Chair of the NECA Board Common Line/Traffic Sensitive Committee. She is a member of NECA's Cost Issues Task Group and Co-Chairperson of the Western Telecommunications Alliance's Public Policy Committee. She was a member of the Rural Task Force appointed by the Federal/State Joint Board on Universal Service to review the universal service support mechanisms for RLECs. Evelyn has participated on various RLEC industry associations' USF, separations, and intercarrier compensation committees. She has taught seminars and spoken at numerous conferences on these topics and has testified in front of state commissions.

Bill Johnson is GIS Director at the Universal Service Administrative Company. In this role he is leading the deployment of GIS capabilities across all of the business units at USAC as part of an enterprise initiative to use data and analytics for more effective program management. Prior to joining USAC in March, 2016, he was the Geographic Information Officer for the state of New York where he was responsible for coordinating the use and deployment of GIS across all agencies in the Executive Branch. Bill spent 31 years in the field of GIS at several agencies including the Department of Transportation, the Office of Cyber Security, the Division of Homeland Security, and the Office for Information Technology Services. He holds an M.A. in Geography from Michigan State University and is a certified GIS professional, GISP.

Commissioner Paul Kjellander rejoined the Idaho Public Utilities Commission in April 2011 following his service as administrator of the Office of Energy Resources (OER). Kjellander, who serves as Commission president, was appointed to his current six-year term by Idaho Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter.

Kjellander previously served on the Commission from January 1999 until October 2007. In 2007, Governor Otter appointed Kjellander to head up the newly created OER. During his 3.5 years at OER, Kjellander created an aggressive energy efficiency program funded through the federal stimulus act.

Kjellander was also elected to serve as a board member on the National Association of State Energy Officials.

Kjellander, a Republican, was elected to three terms (1994-1999) in the Idaho House of Representatives, where he served as a member of the House State Affairs, Judiciary and Rules, Ways and Means, Local Government and Transportation committees. During his last term in office, Kjellander was elected House Majority Caucus Chairman.

Kjellander has also served as director of Boise State University's College of Applied Technology Distance Learning, program head of broadcast technology, station manager of BSU Radio Network, director of the Special Projects Unit for BSU Radio, and BSU Radio's director of News and Public Affairs.

Kjellander's undergraduate degrees from Muskingum University (New Concord, Ohio) are in communications, psychology and art. He has a master's degree in telecommunications from Ohio University (Athens, Ohio).

As a member of the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners (NARUC), Kjellander has served on the Telecommunications, Consumer Affairs, and Electricity Committees. He also served as Chairman of the Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations. Kjellander is a member of the FCC's 706 Joint Board, a NARUC representative to the North American Numbering Council (NANC), and is an at-large member of the National Council on Electricity Policy (NCEP). Kjellander currently Chairs the NARUC Committee on Telecommunications.

Ken Kuchno is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University. In 1980 he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.

Mr. Kuchno started his career with the Rural Electrification Administration (now Rural Utilities Service) directly after graduating from Penn State in 1980 as an engineer in the North Central Area. In this position, he was responsible for reviewing system designs associated with the construction of telecommunication facilities for rural telephone companies. In addition, he was responsible for reviewing and approving plans and specifications and contracts for this construction.

In 1990 Mr. Kuchno was chosen to be a General Filed Representative for the Rural Utilities Service covering projects in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Hawaii, Guam, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Saipan and Marshall Islands. During the next seven years Mr. Kuchno traveled extensively assisting companies in a wide variety of activities from inspection of construction to the development of financial projections to support a loan application. His time in the field allowed him to experience first hand the day to day operations of a telecommunications company.

In 1997, Mr. Kuchno became the Engineering Branch Chief for the South West Area for the Rural Utilities Service. As Engineering Branch Chief, Mr. Kuchno was responsible for overseeing the engineering activities associated with the approval and monitoring of loans for a twelve state area and the Agencies Pacific Rim projects.

In 1999, Mr. Kuchno was selected for the position of Director, Eastern Area, Rural Utilities Service. He was responsible for administering the Agency's loan portfolio for all projects located east of the Mississippi River.

In 2003, Mr. Kuchno became the Director for the Rural Utilities Service's Broadband Division. Mr. Kuchno is responsible for the development of the processes and procedures associated with implementing the Rural Broadband Access Loan Program. Today he is responsible for a loan portfolio that exceeds \$1 billion for this program. In addition, Mr. Kuchno is responsible for administering the Community Connect Grant Program. This grant program provides funds to construct broadband facilities in communities that do not have access to broadband service.

In 2009, Mr. Kuchno was charged with administering the day to day operations of the Broadband Initiatives Program in addition to his duties as the Director of Broadband Division. Approximately \$3.5 billion have been awarded in this program.

In August 2013, In addition to his other duties, Mr. Kuchno was selected to lead the Rural Utilities Service's efforts in developing an on-line application system along with automated review, underwriting and advance of funds systems. These IT efforts will span across the Telecom/Broadband, Electric, and Water and Environmental Programs of the Rural Utilities service.

In July 2014 RUS underwent a major reorganization and Mr. Kuchno was chosen to become the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Policy and Outreach. In this role Mr. Kuchno will be responsible for a variety of duties. These duties will include outreach events to promote RUS' many programs, implementing and updating regulations, staying current with industry, responding to the FCC and many other activities.

Lewis Lee is co-founder and partner of Lee & Hayes specializing in IP counseling, IP portfolio development, and commercialization of IP. The firm has developed particular expertise in computer software and hardware, internet-related technologies, network software and hardware, telecommunication, cryptography, audio/video applications, microprocessors, semiconductor technologies, biomedical devices, aerospace, and business and financial methods.

Lee & Hayes recently received its fourth consecutive annual ranking by *Intellectual Asset Management Magazine* (IAM) as the #1 overall law firm for securing the highest quality patents. Lewis was also ranked as one of the top 1000 patent practitioners worldwide and one of the top 300 IP strategists worldwide by IAM.

Focusing his practice on building global IP portfolios, Lewis advises clients on worldwide IP strategies, and strategic and competitive analysis of IP assets. He is a frequent speaker on IP topics, both domestically and abroad. He recently spoke on IP and the internet at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and on Growing Exports and Global Relationships at the Technology Alliance Washington Innovation Summit in Seattle, WA.

Other speaking engagements include the Center for Advanced Study and Research on IP (CASRIP) at the University of Washington, and law schools of Beijing University (Peking University) and China University of Political Science and Law (CUPL). He has also spoken at various professional and university sponsored events in India, including the International Conference on IPR in Bangalore and the International Seminar of IP Litigation in Hyderabad. He is a past adjunct professor at Gonzaga University's School of Business. He has co-authored two books, *Intellectual Property for the Internet* in 1997 and *Managing Intellectual Property Rights* in 1993, as well as recent articles such as "Focus on Patent Quality, Not Quantity," *The*

National Law Journal, February 7, 2011, and “The Whys and Hows of Patent Landscaping,” *IP Value 2011: Building and enforcing intellectual property value – An international guide for the boardroom*, 81-84.

Aimee Meacham is the Chief of External Affairs and was instrumental in launching BroadbandUSA, which provides products and technical assistance for communities looking to expand their access and use of high-speed Internet. She was also responsible for policy, compliance and communications for approximately \$4 billion in Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grants programs. Before joining NTIA, she was a Special Projects Manager on a presidential campaign, where she was responsible for instituting a number of financial controls. In addition, she has more than a decade of transactional and regulatory legal experience in private practice. Ms. Meacham began her career as an intern in the FCC’s International Bureau and Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth’s Office. Ms. Meacham has a Juris Doctor from American University’s Washington College of Law and an LLM from Georgetown University Law Center.

Jannine Miller is honored to serve as Senior Advisor for Rural Infrastructure to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. She leads comprehensive, data-driven analysis to optimize effectiveness of infrastructure-related policies, programs, regulations, and budgets. Her responsibilities at USDA include supporting rural prosperity, developing new infrastructure investment options, enhancing rural broadband connectivity, and evaluating efficient transport of agriculture commodities.

Prior to her service at USDA, Ms. Miller was Director of the Center of Innovation for Logistics, a division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, where she led transportation infrastructure analysis to guide private-sector investment in the manufacturing, retail, and agriculture & food processing industries. Throughout her 20+ years of service in the public and private sectors, Ms. Miller has also served in management, finance, policy, and planning roles, such as:

- Senior Manager for Supply Chain Finance at The Home Depot
- Executive Director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority
- Transportation Policy Advisor to Governor Sonny Perdue
- Transportation Finance Specialist at Wilbur Smith Associates
- Senior Planner of Transportation Policy & Finance at the Atlanta Regional Commission
- Project Manager for NIH’s Hemo Study at Emory University

She holds a Master of Business Administration in Global Commerce from Georgia Tech, a Master of Public Administration from Georgia State University (concentration in Economic Development & Planning), and a Bachelor of Science degree in Community Nutrition.

She has been recognized by Georgia Trend as a Notable Georgian (2008, 2016, 2017) and as one of the state’s “Top 40 Under 40 - Best and Brightest.”

FCC Commissioner Michael O’Rielly was nominated for a seat on the Federal Communications Commission by President Barack Obama on August 1, 2013 and was confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate on October 29, 2013. He was sworn into office on November 4, 2013. On January 29, 2015, he was sworn into office for a new term, following his re-nomination by the President and confirmation by the United States Senate.

Prior to joining the agency Commissioner O’Rielly served as a Policy Advisor in the Office of the Senate Republican Whip, led by U.S. Senator John Cornyn, since January 2013. He worked in the Republican Whip’s Office since 2010, as an Advisor from 2010 to 2012 and Deputy Chief of Staff and Policy Director from 2012 to 2013 for U.S. Senator Jon Kyl.

He previously worked for the Republican Policy Committee in the U.S. Senate as a Policy Analyst for Banking, Technology, Transportation, Trade, and Commerce issues from 2009 to 2010. Prior to this, Commissioner O’Rielly worked in the Office of U.S. Senator John Sununu, as Legislative Director from 2007 to 2009, and Senior Legislative Assistant from 2003 to 2007. Before his tenure as a Senate staffer, he served as a Professional Staff Member on the Committee on Energy and Commerce in the United States House of Representatives from 1998 to 2003, and Telecommunications Policy Analyst from 1995 to 1998.

He began his career as a Legislative Assistant to U.S. Congressman Tom Bliley from 1994 to 1995. Commissioner O’Rielly received his B.A. from the University of Rochester.

Matt Reed is Director of Network Engineering for Great Plains Communications, the largest middle-mile and last mile provider in Nebraska. Matt manages the company’s 9,500+mile state and regional fiber network. Reed began his telecommunications career as an intern with Great Plains communications while attending Southeast Community and Mid-Plains Community College. After completing his education, he began working for the company full-time. Throughout his 20-year tenure, Reed has served in various operations and engineering roles within Great Plains Communications. Matt is a native of Arnold, but currently resides in Blair Nebraska with his wife and 5 children. He is an avid outdoorsman and enjoys archery hunting, fishing, camping and spending time with his family.

Don Samonte is currently the Vice President, Portfolio Management at the Rural Telephone Finance Cooperative (“RTFC”). He and his team are in charge of origination, underwriting, execution and monitoring of the RTFC portfolio of loans. Prior to his position at RTFC, Mr. Samonte spent nine years as a carrier based-fighter pilot in the U.S. Navy. Subsequent to his Navy career, he attended business school and then spent seven years as an investment banker for Deutsche Bank in New York City. Immediately prior to RTFC, Mr. Samonte was the Vice President and Head of Financial Planning and Analysis at New York Life Insurance Company. Mr. Samonte earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Naval Architecture from the U.S. Naval Academy and a Master of Business Administration from Georgetown University. He lives with his wife and son in northern Virginia.

Robert Schaeffer is the President and Senior Technologist at Technology Planners. His firm supplies engineering and operational support for tier 2 & 3 MVPD operators. Robert has worked in the video industry for the past 40. He is a lifetime member of the SCTE and IEEE.

Brian Tuley is a Strategic Account Manager with Security Coverage where he has been for over 5 years. He supports his Telco and Cable Partners with their sales, marketing, and operations with regard to SecurityCoverage products and services. He also works to foster new strategic partnerships within the Industry. He has been in telecommunications for over fifteen years and is active member with the WTA, OTA, MATSS, and NTCA.

Byron, his wife, and their son live in Cedar Rapids, IA. He enjoys family time, outdoor sports, and traveling. Byron attended the University of Northern Iowa where he studied Business Management and Communications.

Tim Weith is the Senior Manager of Product and Program Management at the Universal Service Administration Company. He is responsible for the overall management of the product and project portfolio for the High Cost division, along with implementing standards based product and project management practices and driving operational improvements. Tim has been with USAC since April, 2017 after spending over 22 years in the telecommunications industry including 20 years at Verizon Wireless. Tim holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Ohio State University.

Jason Williams is Chief Executive Officer for Blackfoot Communications in Missoula, MT. He is responsible for the overall strategy of Blackfoot, including its regulated and competitive affiliates, as well as Kadence, Blackfoot's wholly owned software development subsidiary. He was appointed to serve as Blackfoot's CEO in 2016 and prior to that served as Blackfoot's Vice President – General Counsel and Chief Operations Officer. Jason serves as a Director of VisionNet, Inc., Syringa Networks, Missoula Economic Partnership and the United Way of Missoula; serves as Secretary of US Telecom's Leadership Committee and is a Member of WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband's Public Policy Committee. He previously served as a Director of the Universal Service Administration Corporation and served on former FCC Chairman Kevin Martin's staff. Jason is an attorney with over 20 years of business and legal experience in the telecommunications and energy sectors.

Sherika Wynter is a Senior Product Manager in the High Cost department at the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC). Sherika is responsible for the Broadband HUBB portal, the system by which carriers report their location data back to USAC and the FCC. She joined the USAC team in February 2017 with a background in product and project management. Sherika holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and a M.A in Industrial Design from The University of the Arts.

Daryl Atley Zakov, Bennet & Bennet, assists on both commercial and regulatory matters. He has provided counsel to a diverse group of clients, including facilities-based wireless and wireline carriers, equipment manufacturers, cable companies, radio and TV broadcasters, public universities, MVNOs, MVNEs, M2M operators, and government and Tribal entities. In addition to advising clients on traditional matters within the telecommunications, cable, satellite, broadcasting, and wireless sectors — including step-by-step guidance on FCC auctions, FCC proceedings, and NTIA or USDA (RUS) funding programs — Daryl counsels clients on disruptive and emerging technologies, including cybersecurity preparation and resilience, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs, aka Drones), mobile internet applications, cloud-networking, SaaS, and the Internet of Things.

Prior to joining Bennet & Bennet in 2008, Daryl worked in various senior management positions within T-Mobile USA, Inc., including managing all of its roaming and carrier relations in North and South America and representing the company in Deutsche Telekom's wireless efforts in both Europe and Asia. After graduating from law school, Daryl worked for Cook Inlet VoiceStream PCS, a Designated Entity joint-venture building out first-generation GSM mobile networks across the United States. Daryl also serves as Assistant General Counsel to the Washington, DC-based Rural Wireless Association. When not assisting his clients, Daryl is a frequent guest lecturer at industry events.

Carl Zeutzius graduated from The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1987 with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. He has over 25 years' experience in the insurance industry and takes great pride in the service he provides to his clients and helping find solutions for their risk management needs.

Carl joined UNICO in 2005 as a Risk Advisor and has since received his CWCA (Certified Workers Compensation Advisor) designation. Currently Carl speaks across the country on how companies can improve their workers' compensation programs and has been published.

Carl has a son, Tanner and a daughter, Emma and they are members of St. Peter's Church. He is very involved in the community and has served on numerous boards of directors and chaired several fundraising events. Carl enjoys watching his children participate in sports and has coached youth baseball. He is an avid Green Bay Packer fan and still finds time to cheer for the Huskers as well as golf.

Daniel Zielaski serves USAC as its Director of Data Strategy & Insights. In this role Daniel works w/ the Federal Communications Commission, USAC leadership, and the USF community to craft USAC's enterprise data strategy. Prior to joining USAC in November, 2016, Daniel worked to connect America's schools and libraries to broadband as the Strategic Analytics Manager at EducationSuperHighway. As a data professional, Daniel focuses on increasing USAC's operational efficiency, program integrity, and the experience of USF stakeholders.