



Speaker Information

EVAN FACHER

Vice Chancellor, University of Pittsburgh

Vice Chancellor for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Director of the Innovation Institute at the University of Pittsburgh. In this role, Evan promotes the commercial and societal potential of faculty and student discoveries, and works with regional businesses to enhance the Pittsburgh regional innovation ecosystem. Most recently, Evan was President/CEO of SironRX Therapeutics, a private, clinical-stage company developing novel drug therapies. Prior to this, Evan worked in Bayer Healthcare's medical device division as General Manager of its Pittsburgh Interventional business. During this tenure Evan also served as Executive Director of Corporate Development overseeing company strategy and M&A. Evan started his career as Senior Manager Business Development at the biotechnology company Athersys, where he was a business development leader creating partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies

ELIZABETH FISHBACK

State and Local Affairs Lead, AI ARGO

Elizabeth Fishback brings nearly a decade of political and government relations experience to her position at ARGO AI. Working as deputy director for Senator Bob Casey, Elizabeth, focused on constituent services, economic development and technology issues. Additionally, Her experience as Deputy finance director for the Pennsylvania Democratic Party gives her unique insight in political relations. She is currently a member of Pittsburgh's Young American Leadership Program (YALP) Delegation through the Harvard business school.

RICH FITZGERALD

County Executive, Allegheny County

In 1999, he was elected to the inaugural County Council, representing District 11, which contained a mix of Pittsburgh neighborhoods and other municipalities. He spent 12 years on Council and was elected by his peers as President four times. In 2011, he ran and won the election to become the third County Executive. He officially took office on January 3, 2012, and he's currently in his second term.

Under Rich's leadership, Allegheny County has focused on job creation and economic development to great effect. Over the past few years, and for the first time since the end of the region's industrial era, the county is managing growth instead of decline. Last year, the region's unemployment rate reached its lowest level since the 1970s, and Glassdoor ranked the area as the best place in America to find a job. Since 2012, the county's median household income has risen at nearly double the rate than it has nationally. The region has become a leader in health care, finance, education, manufacturing, arts and culture, and emerging sectors such as robotics, artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, and clean energy. The diversity of opportunity as well as world-class colleges and universities have made the area a magnet for millennials, attracting more than 10,000 over the past five years – an increase of 38.6% that ranks fifth in the country. Last year, LendingTree ranked the area among the three most popular for millennial homebuyers, and CNBC named it best in the country for young people.

BILL FLANAGAN

Chief Corporate Relations Officer, Allegheny Conference on Community Development

Bill Flanagan serves as Chief Corporate Relations Officer for the Allegheny Conference on Community Development and its affiliated regional development organizations: The Pennsylvania Economy League of Greater Pittsburgh LLC, the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance and the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. In this role, Bill guides the development of regional and organizational messaging strategy and supervises Investor Relations activities, including membership development and programming, as well as fundraising.



TERRI GLUECK

Director of Community Development and Communication, Innovation Works

As Director of Community Development & Communications, Terri Glueck leads Innovation Works' communications efforts. Having joined Innovation Works in its own startup phase, Terri has helped build Innovation Works' brand as one of the nation's most active seed-stage investors and a global model for technology-based economic development.

With more than 25 years of marketing and communications experience in both the private and non-profit sectors, Terri shares her experience with dozens of technology startups to help them develop their communications strategies and messages. She works with regional and national media to create awareness of Pittsburgh's economic transformation and demonstrate the value of innovation and startups to the economy. Terri's efforts have resulted in coverage in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Newsweek, Entrepreneur, Inc., The Economist, CBS and NBC nightly news and many other business, news and trade media outlets.

E.J. HECKERT

Executive Director, UnitedHealthcare

As Executive Director and Market Leader for UnitedHealthcare in Western Pennsylvania, EJ Heckert is the Leader of UnitedHealthcare's Commercial Sales and Account Management teams in Pittsburgh. He is also responsible for developing strategies for increasing UnitedHealthcare's market share, sales, persistency, and visibility in western Pennsylvania. Prior to joining UnitedHealthcare, EJ was the cross-market regional director at Metropolitan Life Insurance Company where he led sales teams in western Pennsylvania, southeast Ohio and West Virginia that focused on selling and servicing businesses with up to 10,000 employees. EJ has more than 21 years of experience in the group insurance industry.

DAVID HUFFAKER

Chief Development Office, Port Authority of Allegheny County

Chief Development Officer David Huffaker joined Port Authority in September 2018 after 15 years at Sound Transit in Seattle. David oversees the Engineering and Technical Support functions, long range Planning, Scheduling, Contracted Services (ACCESS) and the Transit Oriented Communities and Sustainability Programs. During his time at Sound Transit, David progressed from financial analyst to deputy executive director of operations and support services. Prior to his tenure at Sound Transit, David held positions at Price Waterhouse in Chicago, the Port of Seattle and Microsoft. David received a Bachelor's degree in economics from Stanford University, a Master's degree from the University of Washington, and is a Certified Public Accountant.

KATHARINE KELLEMAN

CEO, Port Authority of Allegheny County

Katharine Kelleman has the pleasure to serve as chief executive officer of Port Authority of Allegheny County, the public transit system serving the Pittsburgh region.

She is responsible for the operations of a 700-vehicle bus fleet and an 80-vehicle light rail system, which provide service to a total of more than 220,000 riders a day. She also oversees Port Authority's capital and operating budgets; partners and builds relationships with regional stakeholders; and successfully develops and manages local and federally-funded projects that enhance and expand service across the Pittsburgh region.

Since joining Port Authority in 2018, Katharine has supported better communication with customers; advanced the development of a mobile fare payment application; championed the need for a long-range service plan; and fought to ensure stable, reliable and sustainable funding to support a growing system.



CONOR MCCARTHY

Deputy Mayor, City of Tacoma

Deputy Mayor McCarthy has supported important measures like increasing shelter bed capacity at Tacoma Rescue Mission and enacting tenant protections. Along with Pierce County Councilmember Derek Young, McCarthy proposed the Tacoma-Pierce Opioid Task Force, which brought together local stakeholders to present findings and solutions on the opioid epidemic in the county. McCarthy is a politically moderate voice in Tacoma.

J. KEVIN MCMAHON

President and CEO, Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a \$50 million private, nonprofit agency in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Trust, established in 1984, promotes the cultural and economic growth of downtown Pittsburgh through the development of a fourteen-block arts and entertainment center in downtown Pittsburgh—the Cultural District. He is its second President, following Carol Brown, who retired in 2000.

Prior to his current role he was a development officer from 1983 to 1992 for New School for Social Research in New York City and Executive Vice President of the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC from 1992 to 2001.

TOM MITCHELL

Dean, Department of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University

Tom M. Mitchell is the E. Fredkin University Professor at Carnegie Mellon University, where he founded the world's first Machine Learning Department. Mitchell's research lies in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and cognitive neuroscience. His current research includes developing machine learning approaches to natural language understanding by computers, as well as brain imaging studies of natural language understanding by humans.

Mitchell is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering, the American Association of Arts and Sciences, and is Past President of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence. In 2015 he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Dalhousie University for his contributions to machine learning and cognitive neuroscience, and in 2017 he received the 10-Year Outstanding Research Contributions Award from the Brain Informatics Conference for his research studying language processing in the human brain.

MAYOR BILL PEDUTO

Mayor, City of Pittsburgh

Bill Peduto was elected to the office of Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh in the General Election on November 5, 2013, and took office as Pittsburgh's 60th Mayor in January of 2014. Prior to taking office, he worked for 19 years on Pittsburgh City Council - seven years as a staffer then twelve years as a Member of Council. As a Councilman, Bill Peduto wrote the most comprehensive package of government reform legislation in Pittsburgh's history. He strengthened the Ethics Code, created the city's first Campaign Finance Limits, established Lobbyist Disclosure and Lobbyist Registration and ended No-Bid Contracts. As Mayor, Peduto continues to champion the protection and enhancement of Pittsburgh's new reputation - maintaining fiscal responsibility, establishing community based development plans, embracing innovative solutions and becoming a leader in green initiatives.





MATT SMITH

President, Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce

Matt Smith became president of the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, an affiliate of the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, in June 2015. The Chamber advocates at the local, state and federal levels to improve the economy and the quality of life for all who live, work and do business in the 10-county Pittsburgh region. Prior to joining the Chamber, Smith represented the 37th Senatorial District serving in the Pennsylvania State Senate. While in the Senate, Smith served as the minority chairman of the Banking and Insurance Committee and of the State Government Committee. He also served on the Aging and Youth Committee, Appropriations Committee, Judiciary Committee and Transportation Committee.

RICK STAFFORD

Former CEO, Allegheny Conference

Rick Stafford has been a Heinz College Distinguished Service Professor of Public Policy since 2006.

He directed the launch of Carnegie Mellon University's Traffic21 and Metro21 initiatives, the university's foray into the smart cities arena.

Prior to his Heinz appointment, Stafford served as Chief Executive Officer for the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. The Conference worked to undertake several major regional initiatives in the Pittsburgh region in public governance, regional economic development, education and workforce development, and civic reorganization. Prior to the Conference, much of his career had been dedicated to public service. He served as Secretary of Legislative Affairs in the cabinet of Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh during the governor's first term, and as chief of staff for the last 16 months of his second term. Stafford was Director of Research and Issues for the Thornburgh for Governor Committee and served as the Director of Transition between the administrations of Governor Milton Shapp and Governor Thornburgh. Previous to that position, he served as Special Assistant to the Executive Director of the Port Authority of Allegheny County.

Building on his professional governmental and civic experience, Stafford's research and teaching are focused on the intersection of elective politics and policy making, particularly at the state and local government level. He develops case studies to illustrate principles of what he defines as "engineering public policy change." Building on his experience in launching Traffic21 and Metro21, his current teaching is focused on the societal consequences of technological change and the public policy responses to those consequences.

Stafford has done extensive consulting in the private sector and public policy arena, as well as served on various governmental and community organizations. He currently serves on the Advisory Committee to The Dick Thornburgh Forum for Law and Public Policy at the University of Pittsburgh and the Natural Gas Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. As a partner in a family farm in southwestern Pennsylvania, Stafford is involved with several organizations related to food, environment, and agriculture.

Stafford is a recipient of Carnegie Mellon University's Alumni Merit Award and the Heinz College's Public Service Award, an inductee into the Hall of Fame of Junior Achievement of Southwest Pennsylvania and the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics Coleman Award for Civic Leadership.





JEREMY WALDRUP

President and CEO, Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership

Joining the Partnership in May 2011 as President and CEO, Mr. Waldrup is responsible for working with the Board of Directors, stakeholders and staff to create and implement a vision that ensures Downtown Pittsburgh remains a vibrant and innovative place to live, work and play.

In addition to leading the work of the PDP, Mr. Waldrup participated in the inaugural class of Lead Now, is a graduate of Leadership Pittsburgh Class XXXI and serves as chairman of the Board of Directors of Healthy Ride Bike Share Program. He has also been recognized as Bike Pittsburgh's Advocate of the Year, a recent Pittsburgh Business Times Fast Tracker, and member of Smart Business's Smart 50 – Class of 2015.

Prior to joining the PDP, Mr. Waldrup worked to support economic development initiatives with the City of New York serving as Assistant Commissioner of District Development for the Department of Small Business Services. In this role Jeremy was responsible for the oversight and capacity building of the City's 64 Business Improvement Districts and investing in commercial revitalization projects through an annual grant-making program to local economic development organizations.

Mr. Waldrup also worked in business support and community development having worked for the South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation and at Charlotte Center City Partners. Jeremy also worked in the private sector as a consultant for the downtown master plans of Schenectady, NY and his hometown of Asheville, NC. Mr. Waldrup received a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Colorado and a B.A. in Economics from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

JANE WERNER

Executive Director, Children's Museum of Pittsburgh

Jane Werner, Executive Director of the The Children's Museum of Pittsburgh, has often said, when interviewed, that working in her field requires a good sense of humor, a commitment to remaining open-minded, and an overall sense of optimism. Of course, in the world of children and learning, in general, all these qualities do apply on a daily basis and are what keeps she and her team innovative, gracious, and ready for anything.

