



PAEE Board Nominations

Development Director (1 applicant)

Name: Craig Lukatch

Title: President, Agency: Lacawac Sanctuary Environmental Education Center

Education and Training: BA Philosophy

Experience: Chair of the board of Indraloka Animal Sanctuary; Special Events Chair and board member of the NEPA Rainbow Alliance; Development Chair of PAEE; Executive in Residence Program of the Scranton Area Community Foundation.

Professional Accomplishments: 40 under 40 Award; Professional Development Committee of PAEE, Strategic Planning Committee of PAEE; Member of the Association of Nature Centers of America.

Hobbies: Hiking, cooking, musician (piano)

Membership Director (1 applicant)

Name: Julie Travaglini

Title: Senior Director of Education and Curriculum, Agency: Allegheny Land Trust

Education and Training: Bachelors of Biology and Masters in the Art of Teaching both from Muskingum University. PA Teaching License and Specialty Discipline Instructor License.

Experience: I have been in EE for more than a dozen years. I have worked at zoos, arboretums and outdoor classrooms prior to taking on my role at ALT in 2016. At ALT I write every piece of our curriculum from early childhood programs to Scouts and community programs and state accredited workshops for educators. During my career, I have provided programming for more than 75,000 people from all over the county. From sewing puppets to writing large grants, I feel my career encompasses all aspects of non profit EE work!

I consider myself a community leader and have volunteered for many organizations. I serve as an educator and category judge for the International Science and Engineering Fair, this year judging in the Earth and Space Intermediate Category. I serve or have served on the Board of Directors for numerous nonprofits including Science Tots (VP of the Board 2016-2021), Citizens for Land Stewardship (2017-present), Western PA Mushroom Club (Secretary and Identifier 2021-present) as well as PAEE (past SW Regional Director 2018-2019, current Membership Director 2019-present). I also currently volunteer for Green Teacher Magazine, reviewing resources and serving as a Regional Editor.

In graduate school I volunteered at Flying Horse Farms, a residential camp for children with serious or life threatening illnesses.

Professional Accomplishments: PAEE: In my past role as the SW Regional Director, I oversaw the creation and distribution of regional bins and monetary funds in order to increase member engagement with regional events. As Membership Director, our membership numbers have grown to where we needed to upgrade our management software! Our 2021 projections for membership growth were met by February! I have also created and chaired the Professional Development Committee, which is dedicated to bringing free monthly professional development opportunities to PAEE members. I have also worked with a small subset committee to create new membership types to include our business partners and friends of EE. I am the current 2021 conference cochair.

Other organizational affiliations: Association for Women in Science, National Science Teaching Association (Early Science Interest Forum, Elementary Extravaganza Moderator), National Association for the Education of Young Children (Informal Science Committee Member), Western PA Mushroom Club (Secretary and Identifier. Identifier means I know 150+ mushrooms haha)

Certifications: National Geographic Certified Educator, Certified in 10+ national curriculum (WET, WILD, WOW, etc.), Merit Badge Counselor, Specialty Discipline Instructor

Awards: 2018 The Incline Who's Next in Education Award, 2019 PAEE Outstanding Educator of the Year, 2019 Muskingum University Emerging Alumni Award

Presentations: I have presented workshops on the importance of nature in early childhood at conferences around the country. Some of these conferences include: PAEE, Trying Together, NSTA, NAEYC, StemCON, Elementary Extravaganza, We Conserve PA, ECE Summit, Natural Start Alliance and more.

Hobbies: I love to garden! My yard is a certified Backyard Habitat. I love reading mystery and horror books, watching true crime shows and reality tv. Looking for mushrooms, kayaking...lots of things!

Northcentral Region Director (1 applicant)

Name: Anne Clark

Title: Assistant Principal (LCS) & Executive director (HSLI), Agency: Lincoln Charter School & Hope Street learning lab

Education and Training: DHS Candidate, MEDL, M.Ed

Experience: I found it Hope Street learning lab eight years ago was the first of its kind outdoor learning lab in York Pennsylvania. We have had over 10,000 students learn about it agriculture, entrepreneurship, and civic duty.

Professional Accomplishments: School leader level II

Pi Lambda Theta

National leadership honors

Numerous other community awards.

Hobbies: I like spending time with my family.

Northeast Region Director (1 applicant)

Name: Stephanie Sherman

Title: Director of Education, Agency: Pocono Environmental Education Center

Education and Training: Master of Arts in Earth & Environmental Studies, concentration Enviro. Ed. from Montclair State University and Bachelor of Science in Conservation & Wildlife Management from Delaware Valley University.

Experience: 15 years of experience in environmental education. 4 years at Pocono Environmental Education as Director of Education and former Summer Camp Manager. 3 years' experience at the New Jersey School of Conservation as Graduate Assistant and Conservation Specialist. 10 years' experience (nonconsecutive) at Wildlands Conservancy as seasonal Naturalist, Environmental Education Intern, Program Aide and volunteer. 8 years of experience as ski instructor at Bear Creek Mountain Resort and 2 years at Mountain Creek. Additional teaching experience as Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Peer Tutor and Supplemental Instructor for 3 years at Delaware Valley University. Volunteer at Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy as Conservation Committee member and Stream Clean-Up Crew Leader for 3 years.

Professional Accomplishments: PAEE member. Graduate research in Environmental Education Centers of Northeast Pennsylvania (2016). Member of the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA) and Residential Environmental Learning Centers (RELCs). Affiliated with the "Parks for Every Classroom" initiative with the National Park Service. Certified Lifeguard/First Aid/CPR/AED. Certified Level 1 Instructor for American Canoe Association. AmeriCorps Alumni. Lifetime Girl Scout of America. Boy Scouts of America Merit Badge Counselor. Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity Alumni and Lifetime Member, former Chapter President, Secretary, and Membership Chair. Awarded "Outstanding Graduating Masters Student Award" by Montclair State University and "Departmental Achievement Award" for Animal Biotechnology & Conservation by Delaware Valley University.

Hobbies: Swimming, hiking, kayaking/canoeing down the Delaware River, alpine and cross country skiing, gardening, playing Dungeons & Dragons, watching movies, reading, drawing, bonding with my bearded dragon.

Northwest Region Director (1 applicant)

Name: Wendy Kedzierski

Title: Director, Agency: Creek Connections - Allegheny College

Education and Training: B.S. Biology from Penn State, M.S. Biology from Virginia Commonwealth University

Experience: With Creek Connections since 2005, prior to moving back to my hometown, I was in Richmond, Virginia where I moved for grad school. I was in environmental consulting first then wetland and stream permitting for the Commonwealth of Virginia before I moved to PA. I volunteer in my community frequently. I'm a daily litter picker upper. I have volunteered with the French Creek Valley Conservancy since my return to PA in 2005.

Professional Accomplishments: I'm a long time board member with the French Creek Valley Conservancy and am currently the Stewardship Committee chair. I am also an urban director on the board of the Crawford County Conservation District. I am involved in my community and am currently serving as treasurer for the campaign committees of three city council candidates running cooperatively. I have been the NW director on the PAEE board since 2019 and am active on committees.

Hobbies: Kayaking and hiking

Secretary (1 applicant)

Name: Sara Klingensmith

For the Position of: Secretary

Title: Environmental Educator, Agency: Powdermill Nature Reserve

Education and Training: University of Alaska Fairbanks: 2008-2013 BS in Wildlife Biology

Experience: Sara has worked as an environmental educator for The Outdoor Classroom and Allegheny Land Trust before moving on to a full time position at Powdermill Nature Reserve. She spends time volunteering for various events and programs at Beechwood Farms and the Audubon Society of Western PA.

Professional Accomplishments: Sara is a current PAEE member and has served on various committees for conference planning. She is also the photography chair for the Western PA Mushroom Club, organizing the yearly photo contest. She is certified in multiple curricula.

Hobbies: Photography, Extreme Workouts, Baking

Member at Large (5 applicants)

Name: Heather Drzal

Title: Director of School & Youth, Agency: Longwood Gardens

Education and Training: B.S in Biology from Delaware Valley University, M.Ed in Agricultural and Extension Education from Penn State, PA Teaching Certification for Agriculture and General Science K-12, Horticultural Therapy HTR

Experience: 4-H intern for 3 summers (2 years Berks county, 1 year Kansas State University), 1 year as Science In Motion Director / Mobile Educator at Lehigh Carbon Community College, 3 years as Agricultural educator and FFA advisor at Garden Spot High School

Professional Accomplishments: CASE curriculum certification, Project WET and Project Learning Tree certified - Current member of: PAEE (helped with conference scholarships for 3 years), Pa SEED Ecosystem leadership member, American Public Gardens Association - Former member of: National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE), Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Educators (PAAE) member and eastern region vice president, Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE)

Hobbies: Spending time with family and friends, being outside, gardening, reading, going to the beach, scrapbooking, planning events (I love party planning!)

Name: Julia Steiner

Title: Educator, Agency: Between employers at this time

Education and Training: Immaculata University - Postgraduate Certification – Special Education

West Chester University of Pennsylvania - Postgraduate Certification – Elementary Education

University of Delaware - B.S. – Agricultural Sciences

Experience: PROFESSIONAL:

Julia is an environmental education leader with over 10 years of formal and informal teaching experience. In her most current role, she directed pre-k through 12th grade natural history and team building programming at Brandywine Red Clay Alliance reaching over 9,000 students/year. Julia additionally oversaw summer camps and public programming. Previous roles include classroom teaching positions in both public, private and charter schools for students aged kindergarten through high school. Julia has additionally developed content for and led summer programs focused on environmental topics, cooking and yoga/mindfulness. She began her education career teaching English as a Second Language classes for adults. Julia additionally has extensive customer service experience through employment in retail sales. Her current side hustle offers gardening and sustainable lifestyle coaching and classes where she aims to be a resource by empowering individuals to find both joy and balance in habits aligning with their own definition of sustainable.

VOLUNTEER:

- Meditate Together / Mindful Leader - Wellness & Social Impact Organization - Group meditation facilitator
- Discovery Group / 21st Century Community Learning Centers - Academic Enrichment Program - Mentoring students attending high-poverty schools
- Kennett Public Library - Assist with creating and maintaining community seed library resources

Professional Accomplishments: CERTIFICATIONS:

- Current PA Elementary and Special Education Teaching Certifications
- CPR / First Aid / AED and Psychological First Aid Certification - American Red Cross
- Wilderness First Aid Certification - National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)
- Master Composter Certification - Chester County Solid Waste Authority
- Chester County Master Watershed Steward - Penn State Extension
- Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT) 200 hours

MEMBERSHIPS:

- PAEE, Pasa Sustainable Agriculture, Natural Lands, Longwood Gardens

RELEVANT OFFICES HELD/COMMITTEE WORK INVOLVEMENT

- Current PAEE Member-At-Large, Serving on Professional Development Committee, Annual Conferences: 2021 Virtual general support, 2020 Programs and Scholarship Committee, 2019 Conference Co-Chair, 2018 Registration and Scholarship Committees, 2017 Registration Committee

- Current:

- + Southern Chester County Opportunity Network (SCCON) - Kindergarten Readiness and Education Discovery WorkGroups to address gaps in family resources
- + The Brandywine Valley Educators Collaborative (BVEC) - Non-Formal Education Forum networking for education providers

- Past:

- + Brandywine Creek Water Trail Advisory Committee - Feasibility Study between Brandywine Conservancy and Chester County Planning Commission
- + Long Range Facilities Plan Focus Group - Unionville- Chadds Ford School District

Hobbies: Organic gardening, sustainability, holistic nutrition and cooking, travel, outdoor recreation (mountain biking, running, water sports, snowboarding, hiking), reading, yoga

Member at Large (con't)

Name: Justin Mansberger

Title: Water Resources Educator, Agency: PSU Extension

Education and Training: Finishing up a Masters of Environmental Science and Management this summer and also CBLP certified

Experience: I am a new Extension Educator but very interested in getting more involved with the organization and increasing my involvement in environmental education. I have some experience with volunteer organization and leadership because I run a group of volunteers who are interested in water conservation.

Professional Accomplishments: CBLP certified, PAEE member, NACAA member

Hobbies: hiking, biking, birding, home brewing, working with youth

Name: Emily Shosh

Title: Communications and Outreach Advisor / Educator, Agency: Potter County Conservation District

Education and Training: BA Music, BS Environmental Science (Mansfield University of PA - grad of 2016); MEd Environmental Education (grad of Fall 2021); PAEE Environmental Educator Program Cert (to be completed 2021); Certificate of Environmental Education, Antioch University of New England

Experience: volunteer work: Trout Unlimited Member and volunteer; Monarch Watch Volunteer; iNaturalist and eBird Citizen Science projects; Project Wingspan Regional Coordinator (with Pollinator Partnership); Native Fish Coalition member and outreach liaison; Upper Allegheny Watershed Association member. professional experience: former intern and Astronomy presenter at Cherry Spring State Park; former Astronomy Guide for Potter County Stargazing Tours; former Naturalist at Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Finland, MN; currently Communications and Outreach Advisor/Educator for Potter County Conservation District

Professional Accomplishments: 2020 MWEE Partnership Award Recipient, see other membership affiliations and titles in volunteer work above.

Hobbies: Hiking, fly fishing, backpacking/camping. singing, baking, gardening, phenology and wildflowers and plants, foraging, birding.

Name: Diane Christin Esser

Title: Member at Large, Agency: Butterflies For Kids / Address Earth Kids Program

Education and Training: Founder Non Profit Butterflies For Kids Children's Environmental Education Org. 1996 Founded - EIN 25-1770435 - Education: Penn State University Media Education

Experience: Founder Plant it Forward Community Tree Planting Initiative, Film maker "The Green Connection Documentary - Making a Change for Climate Change" - Founder, Butterflies For Kids Children's Environmental org. which performs at Discover Presque Isle Each Year. Creator of the workshop "Your Role in the Rain" - middle school watershed extreme weather event training workshop

Professional Accomplishments: Board of Director/Secretary Sierra Club.

Founder Plant it Forward Community Tree Planting Initiative, Film maker "The Green Connection Documentary - Making a Change for Climate Change" - Founder, Butterflies For Kids Children's Environmental org. which performs at Discover Presque Isle Each Year. Creator of the workshop "Your Role in the Rain" - middle school watershed extreme weather event training workshop

Hobbies: Filming for my YouTube Channel: Diane Christin, Nature hikes, Time with grand children creating nature scavenger hunts.