



Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators

Board Nominations Spring 2022

President Elect (one nomination)

Julie Travaglini

Julie has a bachelor's degree in biology and a masters in teaching. She has 15 plus years of experience as a licensed educator in the environmental education field. As a state licensed Specialty Discipline Instructor, she runs hands on interactive professional development workshops for educators to obtain continuing education credits both in Pennsylvania and across the country. She also serves as community leader, holding titled positions within four local and state organizations Board of Directors including PAEE's current Membership Director. She also has presented at many state, national and international conferences including STEMCon, NAEYC, NSTA, NAAEE and the Early Childhood Education Summit. Julie received a Who's Next in Education award in 2018, as well as 2019 awards from the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators and her collegiate alma mater Muskingum University. In her spare time, you can find Julie reading, kayaking, hiking and gardening.

Development Director (one nomination)

Michael Zewe

ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES M.S. Magna Cum Laude Point Park University

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES: SOCIAL SCIENCE B.A. Certificate in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Florida Atlantic University

Organizational Leadership M.A. Diversity and Inclusion Point Park University Graduation 2023

INDEPENDENT NONPROFIT CONSULTANT November 2021-Current

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN MANAGER, Jewish Association on Aging, May 2016-November 2019,

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR, Allegheny Land Trust, April 2017-Current

Certified Fund-Raising Executive (CFRE) 2020-2023, Guest Lecturer for Point Park University

Hobbies and other interests: Gardening, Beekeeping, Teaching, Camping, Advocacy Work

Treasurer (two nominations)

Pat McKinney

Ohio State 1982 BSc with Distinction in Environmental Interpretation

42 years of EE from Girl Scouts to the Schuylkill Conservation District. Plus, I've been PAEE treasurer for 21 years now. Numerous awards including PAEE "Outstanding Environmental Educator Award."

Hobbies and other interests: Bicycling, hiking, photography, art, gardening, travel and reading.

Craig Lukatch

BA of Arts in Philosophy

Worked for nonprofits in leadership positions for over 15 years and ran an environmental education center for over 9 years. Have been a volunteer for several boards including 2 years on PAEE's board of directors. Treasurer- Rainbow Alliance, Board Chair - Indraloka Animal Sanctuary, Development Director- PAEE

Hobbies and other interests: Hiking, anything outdoors, musician

Northcentral Region Director (one nomination)

Aislinn Benfield

Currently enrolled - PhD in sustainability education (Prescott College); MAT Bio Education (Miami U); MS Pharmacology(Thomas Jefferson U); MA Biological Anthropology (U of Pittsburgh) Currently pursuing volunteer work at Endless Mountains Heritage Region; Dragonfly Alumni Leader (Miami U); STEM Coach - 1 year; Middle and high school science teacher - 1 year cyber, 8 years brick-and-mortar Changemaker scholarship - Prescott College; Articles - Green Teacher; Presentation - Online Learning Consortium; High school lead for PBIS team, Grade level captain for 8th grade

Hobbies and other interests" Animal rescue, historic preservation

Southcentral Region Director (one nomination)

Tarrea Potter

- Outreach, education, relationship building with organizations, members, teacher and administrators in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Leading and planning teacher professional development summer courses for teachers
- Leading and planning formal and non-formal educator workshops and trainings
- Presentations for organizations about environmental literacy learning and teaching
- Managing and reporting on a Bay Watershed MWEE Implementation Grant with NOAA
- Supporting ongoing efforts to ensure students across the state are exposed to high-quality environmental literacy through revision of science academic standards
- Advocating for revisions to 2002 PA Science Standards; grassroots organizing to raise awareness and elevate voices in support of incorporating a 5th Domain in the proposed standards (to include EE and Ag)
- Volunteer-Friends of Rothrock State Forest-trail maintenance, clean ups
- Classroom teacher-multiple grades and subjects (Life Science, Biology, Chemistry, Pre Algebra/Algebra, Language Arts)
- Pennsylvania Enviro-thon Advisor, National Honor Society Advisor, Junior High Field Hockey Coach, High School Tennis Coach
- Member Pennsylvania Advisory Council for Environmental Education
- Member Pennsylvania Environmental Literacy Task Force-Leadership Team
- Member Pennsylvania Project Learning Tree State Board of Advisors
- Selected member of the PA Science Standard Revision Content Committee
- Member Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators (PAEE)
- Member Pennsylvania Science Teachers Association (PSTA)

- Member North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE)

Award: Outstanding Environmental Education Program Award (2020)

Formal Presentations: PAEE, Dive Deeper, PA Cold Water Conference

Hobbies and other interests: Camping, hiking, kayaking/canoeing, fishing, gardening, photography, reading, spending time with family and friends

Southeast Region Director (one nomination)

Heather Drzal

Director of School and Youth, Longwood Gardens

- Oversee PreK-12 Programs onsite and virtually
- Oversee family learning programs
- Oversee and develop Teacher Professional Development opportunities
- Develop new ideas for programs to help meet the Strategic Plan
- Oversee School and Youth Program Manager, School and Youth Associate, Distance Learning Manager, Engagement and Learning Associate, yearlong Intern, Part time educators

Agricultural Educator and FFA Advisor, Garden Spot High School

- Teaching 9th - 12th grade students in AP Environmental Science, Environmental Science, Horticulture, Ag Science 1 &2 and Food Science
- Advising, working with and chaperoning students in FFA activities
- Advising students on their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) projects and AET system

Science In Motion Director / Mobile Educator, Lehigh Carbon Community College

- Oversee the running of the Science in Motion grant including all administrative duties
- Compose labs for high school students to complete in the areas of biology, chemistry and environmental science
- Travel to schools to teach classes as a visiting teacher and also drop off equipment for teachers to use
- Provide teachers with professional development activities

Member of: American Public Gardens Association (APGA), PA Environmental Educators Association (PAEE), National Environmental Educators Association (NAAEE), Brandywine Valley Educators Forum (BVEF), National Science Teacher Association (NSTA), PA SEED

Southwest Region Director (two nominations)

Kristen Haas

Bachelor of Science, Education IUP 1999. PA Master Naturalist, 2018 Cohort

4 years of Volunteer Work for PA Master Naturalist that include creating and delivering environmental programs for organizations such as The Allegheny Land Trust, Boy Scouts of America, Northern Tier Library, Mt Lebanon Public Library, Pittsburgh City Parks, Fern Hollow Nature Center, and 4H Pennsylvania Master Naturalist

I am a nature nerd, and it my ultimate goal is to help others to get outdoors! Armchair Entomologist, Camping Expert - I teach camping 101 and campfire cooking programs - educational programs (I've done moths, butterflies, beetles, cicadas, and coyotes)

Susie Moffett

I worked at Fern Hollow Nature Center for 13 years, first as a Program Coordinator and then as Education Director until the fall of 2021. I also volunteered at Fern Hollow for 2 years as a Nature Guide before being hired on as a staff member. Before I entered the EE field, I was on a research team studying molecular epidemiology where I served as a Senior Statistician and helped to teach a number of graduate level courses. I have been a category judge for the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair for 12 years, a Girl Scout leader for 16 years and am a member of my local garden club where I have served as Conservation Chair several times.

PAEE member since 2016, PAEE DEI Committee member since 2021, NASP Certified Archery Instructor since 2015, PFBC Certified Fishing Skills Instructor since 2010, CPR and First Aid Certified since 2006

I am an active member of my church and have led initiatives to promote acceptance of LGBTQIA+ members in our denomination as well as racial awareness workshops. I currently serve on the Pittsburgh District Antiracism team of the United Methodist Church where I am working to develop a training program for local churches on race related issues.

In my free time I love to garden, hike and spend time outdoors.

Member at Large (one nomination)

Jennifer Schnakenberg

BS in Psychology, University of Pittsburgh 1995; BS in Biology (Evolution & Ecology track), University of Pittsburgh 1999; ongoing professional development including attendance at PAEE, NAAEE, and ANCA conferences; PQAS Certification Volunteer Naturalist, Beechwood Farms (Audubon Society of Western Pa), 1999-2002; Volunteer with Central New York Environmental Field Days (Syracuse, NY) 2004, 2005, 2007; Volunteer Naturalist, Baltimore Woods Nature Reserve (Marcellus, NY) 2007-2008; Guest Lecturer, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, 2007; Contract Educator, Frick Environmental Center, Pittsburgh Citiparks, 2010-2014; Education Partnership Coordinator, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, 2014-19; Assistant Director of Education, Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, 2019-present

PAEYC Un-Conference 2014, "Bringing the Outdoors In (and back out again): Nature Education in Winter" (with Will Tolliver); Wilderness Education Association, 2016, "Powerful Partnerships for Outdoor Learning (with Laura Micco, Environmental Charter School); NAAEE National Conference, 2016: "Simple Interactions Outdoors: A professional development approach to supporting child-adult interactions in EE programs" (poster); PAEE Conference 2017, "Simple Interactions Outdoors" (with Annie McNamara, University of Pittsburgh); PAEE Conference 2022, "Regional Collaboration Centering Racial Equity: River Cities EE Community of Learners" (with Camila Rivera-Tinsley and Amanda Schuster); PAEE Conference 2022, "Teaching with Real-World Data: Frick Environmental Center Dashboard (with Ellen Conrad)

Hobbies and other interests: Hiking, wildflowers, iNaturalist, gardening, baking, making nature-inspired jewelry