2nd Annual Appalachian Ohio
STATE OF THE REGION CONFERENCE

8:00-8:30  Networking, Registration

8:30-8:45  Welcome & Introductions
  Master of Ceremonies  
    John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

  Welcome Comments  
    Michael Finney, Associate Director for Operations, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

  Video: “What Lies Below” Video used with permission from OurOhio.org website, sponsored by the Ohio Farm Bureau

8:45-9:00  Opening Remarks  
  Mark Weinberg, Director, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University
  Dr. Roderick McDavis, President, Ohio University
  Jeannette Tamayo, Chicago Regional Director, US Economic Development Administration

9:00-9:30  Morning Keynote  
  Brendan O’Neill, Managing Director, IHS Public Sector Consulting

9:30-10:15  Education / Workforce Development Panel  
  Moderator  
    John Hemmings, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC)

  Panelists  
    Tim Snodgrass, Assistant Project Director of Energize Appalachian Ohio Grant, Zane State College
    Rhonda Reda, Executive Director of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) and the Ohio Oil and Gas Foundation

10:15-10:30  Morning Break

10:30-11:15  Community Impact Panel  
  Moderator  
    Misty Casto, Executive Director, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District

  Panelists  
    Sean Thomas, Director of Planning, Preservation and Development, Ohio Housing Finance Agency
    Glenn Enslen, Carroll County Director of Economic Development (Retired)
    Dale Arnold, Director of Energy, Utility and Local Government Policy, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

11:15-12:30  Keynote Speaker and Lunch  
  Introduction  
    Scott Miller, Director of Ohio University’s Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3) - Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

  Keynote Speaker  
    Scott Rotruck, Vice President, Corporate Development & State Government Relations, Chesapeake Energy Corporation
12:30-1:15  Capturing Local Wealth Panel
Moderator
Kathy M. Zook, Program Manager of Special Projects, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments
Panelists
Mary Anne Flournoy, Associate Director Emerita International Studies, Ohio University; Co-Founder of the Sugar Bush Foundation and the East Central Ohio Tech Angel Fund
Tom Parkinson, Partner, Woodland Venture Management
Cara Dingus Brook, President/CEO, Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO)

1:15-2:00  Jobs and Economic Development
Introduction
Stephen Golding, Vice President for Finance & Administration, Ohio University
Moderator
John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG)
Panelists
Jo Sexton, President, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Scott Miller, Director of Ohio University's Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3) - Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

2:00-2:15  Afternoon Break

2:15-3:00  Policy and Environmental Impact Panel
Moderator
Jeannette Wierzbicki, Grants Specialist, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)
Panelists
Jen Bowman, Environmental Project Manager, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University
Natalie Kruse, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University
Craig Butler, Assistant Policy Director - Environment, Energy and Agriculture, Office of Ohio Governor John Kasich
Kevin Crist, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director of Air Quality Center, Ohio University

3:00-3:30  Capstone Speaker
Introduction
Karen Fabiano, Assistant Chief of the Community Services Division, Ohio Development Services Agency
Capstone Speaker
Earl Gohl, Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission

3:30-4:00  Meeting Adjourned
John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio
Dale Arnold, Director of Energy, Utility and Local Government Policy, Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

Dale Arnold is Director of Energy, Utility and Local Government Policy for the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. Over the past two decades he has managed self-help energy aggregation groups, research and development projects on electric load profiling, energy efficiency, on-site generation, net metering, and interconnection projects, all focusing on agriculture. Mr. Arnold works with Farm Bureau leaders to create effective energy policy on local, state and national levels. He has authored papers advocating a Diversified Energy Portfolio using domestic oil and coal resources, nuclear and renewable technologies. Mr. Arnold is involved with regional and state working groups exploring how leasing, pipeline easements and infrastructure expansion will impact farmers and rural communities. He works with service agencies and organizations to best determine how Ohio’s shale play can provide resources for effective rural economic development.

Jen Bowman, Environmental Project Manager, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Jennifer Bowman is a Senior Project Manager at the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. She received her Master’s Degree in Environmental Geochemistry from Ohio University in the Department of Geological Sciences. She manages the water research conducted at the Voinovich School involving students, staff, and faculty in watershed research including chemical water quality data analysis and interpretation and report writing for various projects as part of the Appalachian Watershed Research Group at Ohio University. Ms. Bowman has 16 years of experience in acid mine drainage water quality characterization and restoration research.

Craig Butler, Assistant Policy Director - Environment, Energy and Agriculture, Office of Ohio Governor John Kasich

Craig Butler serves as the Assistant Policy Director for Energy, Agriculture and the Environment in Governor Kasich’s administration. His primary responsibilities include providing guidance and input to senior staff and Governor Kasich on energy, agricultural and environmental issues. Most recently, Mr. Butler has been very involved in Utica Shale development in Ohio and shaping the broad policy objectives in Ohio as they related to energy. He was instrumental in planning and developing the Ohio Energy Summit and key to the recently passed SB 315 which updated Ohio’s oil and gas regulations and set in place Ohio’s comprehensive energy policy. Mr. Butler is active in many environmental issues, providing senior guidance on a variety projects, from the recent passage of HB 294 and assisting Ohio EPA with discussions to revise Ohio solid waste management laws, to working with the Ohio EPA and key industry officials on proposed changes to water quality standards. Professionally, he is a dedicated public servant with over 22 years of public service, serving in technical positions, as government and industrial relations advisor, and in several senior management positions. Mr. Butler graduated from Mansfield University in Mansfield Pennsylvania with honors with a BA in Geography and Environmental Science. He also graduated from Ohio University with a Masters in Environmental Science.
Misty Casto, Executive Director, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District

Misty Casto has served as the Executive Director of the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District/Area Agency on Aging PSA 8 since August 2007. She has served with the organization since 1990. Ms. Casto actively serves with The Development District Association of Appalachia, representing 13 states and their local development districts as its first Vice President and Training Committee Chair. She is also an active member representing the region for The National Association of Development Organizations. Ms. Casto works with The Ohio Association of Regional Councils and The Ohio Economic Development Association. She is also a member of The Economic Roundtable and The Executive Order of the Ohio Commodores. Ms. Casto was named Co-Executive Director to Boyer Simcox in April 2007. She was promoted to Assistant Executive Director in 2004 and served as the Development Director for three years prior to that. Ms. Casto holds an Associate’s Degree in Accounting from Washington State Community College and a Bachelor’s Degree in Organizational Management from Ohio Valley University.

Kevin Crist, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director of Air Quality Center, Ohio University

Dr. Kevin Crist directs Ohio University’s Center for Air Quality in the Russ College of Engineering. The center includes a consortium of researchers that collect air pollution data for use by colleagues in the field and state and federal policy makers. Researchers also conduct studies on air pollution’s effect on public health. The center is the first broad-based effort to scientifically monitor and measure the emissions generated in the Ohio River Valley region. In the years following the center’s creation, three research areas at the university have created separate resource bases in the environmental arena: a) clean coal technologies; b) air quality modeling and assessment; and c) water quality modeling, assessment, monitoring, characterization and remediation.

Dr. Crist is also a Faculty Fellow and serves on the senior leadership committee for the Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. He has served as Environmental Manager and Environmental Engineering Consultant for the Quaker Oats Company. He is also a principal for the university’s Consortium for Energy Economics and the Environment (CE3).
Cara Dingus Brook, President/CEO, Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO)

Cara Dingus Brook has served as President and CEO of the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio since 2007. During her tenure, the Foundation has doubled its assets and tripled its annual grant-making, while expanding its service as a convener. Convening activities have included incubation of the Ohio Appalachian Business Council (OABC), a private sector voice for economic competitiveness and quality-of-life within Appalachian Ohio, and the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG), a platform for collaboration among economic developers, business and JobsOhio advancing job and wealth creation.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Brook served as the Southeast Ohio District Representative for United States Senator George V. Voinovich, working closely with elected officials, community leaders and Senator Voinovich’s Washington team to enhance quality of life in Appalachian Ohio. Before joining Senator Voinovich’s team, Ms. Brook served as the project manager for Appalachian Ohio Giving, a multi-sector partnership with a mission to promote philanthropy as a community and economic development tool. Ms. Brook also served as a Program Assistant for the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and as an Intern for the Ohio Grantmakers Forum, a membership association comprised of Ohio’s private, corporate, family and community foundations. She is a graduate of Ohio University’s Honors Tutorial College, where she received a bachelor’s degree in English with an emphasis in creative writing. Ms. Brook also holds a master’s degree in public administration from Ohio University and is a graduate of the Jo Ann Davidson Leadership Institute.

Glenn Enslen, Carroll County Director of Economic Development (Retired)

Glenn Enslen has been the Economic Development Director for Carroll County in Ohio since 2011 and was responsible for all economic development activities in the county, which included working with the oil and gas industry and local businesses as the Utica Shale play rolled out. Carroll County is the front line of the shale boom in Ohio. Mr. Enslen also worked to increase county infrastructure, assist all local businesses, develop housing solutions, and was at the center of creating the county’s strategic plan. Before taking on Carroll County’s economic development needs, Mr. Enslen had a stellar record of accomplishment as the Deputy District Director for Congressman Zach Space (2007 to 2011). He was responsible for all of the economic development activities throughout the 18th Congressional District. Glenn also had a long tenure (1989 to 2006) with the Tri-County Community Action Agency where he served as the Director of Special Projects and Director of Employment and Training and Economic Development. Previously Glenn served as the Executive Director of the Jackson County Development Center and the Development Officer for Rio Grande College. He earned a degree in Business Administration from Rio Grande. Mr. Enslen has a long and varied career of public service and is deeply experienced in the issues of economic development and job creation for Eastern and Southern Ohio.
Karen Fabiano, Assistant Chief of Community Services, Ohio Development Services Agency

Karen Fabiano holds a B.S. degree in Social Work and a M.S. degree in Social Work Administration from The Ohio State University. Since 1983, Ms. Fabiano has served in the Ohio Development Services Agency, formerly titled the Ohio Department of Development, in various positions. She worked in the Office of Housing and Community Partnerships until August 2011. Ms. Fabiano currently serves as Assistant Chief of the Community Services Division. The Division administers a variety of state and federally funded programs designed to build stronger, healthier communities throughout Ohio. The Division is comprised of the Offices of Community Assistance, Community Development, Energy, Redevelopment, and the Governor’s Office of Appalachia.

In addition to her current duties, Ms. Fabiano represents the Ohio Development Services Agency on the State Mitigation Team, which provides funds to communities participating in FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program. Ms. Fabiano serves as the Ex-Officio Member of the Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation.

Michael Finney, Associate Director for Operations, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Michael Finney oversees grants management, fiscal management, facilities, information technology and new project development activities for the Voinovich School. As a staff member since 1985, Mr. Finney has also designed and created computer mapping and geographic information systems (GIS), including the integration of large databases such as census data, environmental data and welfare data. He has taught workshops on the use of GIS and computer mapping, survey research and applied information management as well. Mr. Finney holds a bachelor’s degree in Geography and a master’s degree in Environmental Sciences, both from Ohio University.

Mary Anne Flournoy, Associate Director Emerita International Studies, Ohio University; Co-Founder of the Sugar Bush Foundation and the East Central Ohio Tech Angel Fund

Mary Anne Flournoy is a native Texan who has lived on a beautiful tree farm in Athens for the past 41 years with her husband, Don. She is the co-founder (along with her husband) and president of the Sugar Bush Foundation, a supporting organization of the Ohio University Foundation that is dedicated to improving the quality of life in Appalachian Ohio through equal partnerships between Ohio University and community non-profits. Their gifts have included start-up monies for Shagbark Seed and Mills (now employing six persons), Zero Waste Initiative covering Athens and Hocking Counties, and Live Healthy Appalachia. She is a founding member of the East Central Ohio Tech Angel Fund which is a private equity fund supporting start-up technology companies in the region which might provide local jobs. She is also a founding donor for the Athens Foundation Women’s Fund and a member of Women in Philanthropy.
John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

After an early career as a university teacher, Mr. Glazer became the long-standing President and CEO of Little Professor Book Centers, Inc., the largest organization of independent bookstores in the U.S. He took the franchising company through several rounds of angel financing, achieving successful exits for investors before acquiring the company in 2001. Mr. Glazer served for six years on the Executive Committee of the Book Industry Study Group in New York. He was also founder and CEO of four other startup companies: two lesson-rich failures, one modest exit, and another still operating in Ann Arbor, Germany, and South Africa. He serves as President of New Work Enterprises, Director for Johannesburg-based Lift Africa Technologies, and as board member for several technology startup companies and community non-profits. Mr. Glazer has organized a number of technology-based economic development projects in the U.S. and internationally. He has worked with inventors and entrepreneurs to start up enterprises, finance them, and execute the operational systems that help them succeed. Currently, Mr. Glazer is the Director of TechGROWTH Ohio, the Third-Frontier Entrepreneurial Signature Program in Southeast Ohio and housed at the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. TechGROWTH helps early-stage technology companies acquire resources to accelerate commercialization. He has an ABD PhD and Master's degree in Philosophy from the University of Michigan.

Earl Gohl, Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission

Earl Gohl was unanimously confirmed as federal co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) by the U.S. Senate on March 10, 2010. In his Senate confirmation hearing, Mr. Gohl stated that his objective as ARC federal co-chair would be to ensure that each federal dollar expended by the Commission was “an investment in the economic future of Appalachian families that will generate a return for American taxpayers.” He is the eleventh federal co-chair to be appointed since the Commission was established by an act of Congress in 1965.

Mr. Gohl came to ARC with 20 years of experience in Pennsylvania state and local government. He held a variety of positions from 1975 to 1995, including deputy secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs. As deputy secretary, Mr. Gohl awarded and administered $100 million annually in housing and community development programs benefiting communities within the Appalachian Region. He also managed several initiatives to strengthen the capacity of rural local governments to meet economic challenges. Mr. Gohl served as a special assistant, and then as an associate assistant secretary, at the U.S. Department of Labor from 1996 to 2001, and then was the director of government relations/deputy director for the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration until 2009. Mr. Gohl holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rider College (now Rider University) in New Jersey and a Master of Public Administration degree from Pennsylvania State University.

Stephen Golding, Vice President for Finance & Administration, Ohio University

Stephen Golding is the Vice President for Finance and Administration at Ohio University and has been with the university since 2010. Prior to coming to OU, Mr. Golding had extensive experience in higher education, having served in top finance positions at Cornell University, the University of Colorado System, and the University of Pennsylvania. He most recently worked as senior consultant to the president at Cornell University and managing partner of the higher education consulting agency the 1782 Group, LLP.
John Hemmings, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC)

John Hemmings is the Executive Director (August 2008 to Present) of the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC), and has been with OVRDC since 1991. The OVRDC, located in Waverly, Ohio, is a public regional planning commission that coordinates federal, state, and local economic and community development resources to encourage development in twelve southern Ohio counties: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton. OVRDC serves as a Local Development District (LDD) for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and as an Economic Development District (EDD) for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). In this capacity OVRDC prioritizes development needs and sets priorities for projects to be funded by ARC and EDA. Established in 1967, OVRDC has a 44-year history of fostering economic development and job creation in the region.

Mr. Hemmings is a native of Scioto County, Ohio and lives there with his wife, Crystal, and his son, Jonathan. Majoring in Business Economics, John graduated summa cum laude from Ohio University in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Natalie Kruse, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Dr. Natalie Kruse is an assistant professor of Environmental Studies in the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. She earned her doctorate in hydro-geochemical engineering as a British Marshall scholar at Newcastle University and has completed projects for the UK Coal Authority, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the US Department of Energy and Coal India. Dr. Kruse is an expert in mine drainage characterization and abatement and post-industrial water pollution.

Dr. Roderick McDavis, President, Ohio University

Upon graduating from Ohio University in 1970, Roderick J. McDavis made many significant gains and professional achievements in higher education. He served in numerous higher education leadership positions and was granted many outstanding awards before becoming Ohio University’s 20th president in 2004. Since his inauguration President McDavis has developed and implemented the university’s comprehensive strategic plan and led the university in a nationwide pledge for climate neutrality. He also established the Urban Scholar and Appalachian Scholar programs, the Interlink Alliance partnership, and a conflict free commitment, among other initiatives.

Throughout his distinguished career, he has been the recipient of numerous prestigious honors and awards from businesses, professional organizations, and academic universities. Most recently, he was named a 2012 recipient of the University of Arkansas’ Silas Hunt Legacy Award, which recognizes African Americans for their significant achievements or contributions to the community, the state, and the nation.
Scott Miller, Director of Ohio University’s Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3) - Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Scott Miller is director of Ohio University’s Consortium for Energy, Economics and the Environment (CE3) at the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs which puts theory into practice through projects that benefit the state and the nation. The programs that Mr. Miller oversees include research into environmental monitoring and remediation of highly-disturbed lands and waters; air quality monitoring, modeling and forecasting; GIS and Web-enabled data management; as well as energy and environmental policy and energy-related economic development. He works with many stakeholders to shape and implement programs that elevate and enhance Ohio University’s research; serves on numerous local and statewide public and private boards to improve the natural environment of the region and accelerate the deployment of energy technology; and acts as a liaison to connect state and federal agencies and local stakeholders to the university’s resources to improve the quality of life of all Ohioans. Mr. Miller was recently named a National Energy Executive with the US Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden Colorado and is the immediate past board chair for the University Clean Energy Alliance of Ohio.

John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG)

John Molinaro, President and CEO of the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG), has 35 years of experience working with communities, organizations and leaders to improve the prosperity of communities and regions and the economic success of families – especially in rural areas. APEG is a recently formed business-led partnership focused on regional economic development in 25 counties in southeast Ohio. In partnership with JobsOhio and a wide range of communities and organizations, APEG works to build the prosperity of southeast Ohio’s businesses, communities and people.

Mr. Molinaro has consulted with numerous communities and organizations about how to rebuild local and regional economies and how to create locally-controlled philanthropic assets. He has developed sessions and presented at many national and regional events on topics such as rural wealth creation and retention, community and economic development, workforce development, community philanthropy and family economic success. He has developed curriculum and training in these topical areas, and has regularly worked with groups to develop Theories of Change to help them plan and evaluate complex initiatives. Mr. Molinaro has served as a policy fellow at the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, and as a multi-term appointee to the Minnesota Governor’s Workforce Development Council. He holds certifications in Economic Development Finance and Housing Development Finance from the National Development Council and a Master’s Degree is in Community and Regional Planning. John has also participated in advanced studies in theology, leadership and policy.
Brendan O’Neill, Managing Director, IHS Public Sector Consulting

Brendan O’Neill is a Managing Director in the IHS Consulting Group. Mr. O’Neill oversees the State & Local Government and Trade Associations segments of the IHS Consulting business. In addition to his project execution efforts, he is responsible for developing client and strategic partner relationships and executive management of client engagements. Mr. O’Neill has specialized in assisting clients with their market sizing and forecasting, economic and policy impact analysis, economic development initiatives and supply chain cost containment efforts. With over 15 years of experience in market and policy research, Mr. O’Neill’s has expanded the firm’s business by engaging clients in a wide range of industry sectors and through multiple product and capability launches.

Prior to joining IHS Consulting, Mr. O’Neill served in various Business Development roles at Global Insight, World Markets Research Centre and Forrester Research. Mr. O’Neill’s policy experience stems from his work in Massachusetts and New York state legislatures. Mr. O’Neill holds a BA degree in Political Science from Syracuse University and graduate studies at Suffolk University.

Tom Parkinson, Partner, Woodland Venture Management

Thomas E. Parkinson is a Partner with Woodland Venture Management, which operates two regionally-focused venture capital funds. Additionally, he is a partner in both Hopewell Ventures, a $110 million fund targeting the Midwestern United States and Adena Ventures, a $36 million fund investing in central Appalachia. Together, Hopewell and Adena have invested in 23 companies over the past twelve years, more than half of which have been located in under-served or low-income areas. Mr. Parkinson has led, managed or co-managed 10 investments for the two funds. Previously, he was the Executive Director of the Evanston Business Investment Corporation, where he invested in more than 20 high-tech startup companies. He was also the Chief Financial Officer for the leading high-tech business incubator in the Chicago area.

Mr. Parkinson currently teaches a Lean Startup Innovation Lab at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management and a startup business accelerator program at Ohio University. He has also taught courses in entrepreneurial finance and venture capital at Kellogg, the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of the West Indies and the Czechoslovak Management Center. He is a mentor and a member of the National Advisory Committee for Pipeline, an entrepreneurial fellowship program based in Kansas City, Kansas. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Economics from Northwestern and an MBA from Kellogg with a specialization in Urban Economic Development.

Rhonda Reda, Executive Director of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) and the Ohio Oil and Gas Foundation

Rhonda Reda serves as executive director of the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Program (OOGEEP) and the Ohio Oil and Gas Energy Education Foundation. Prior to assuming this full time position in December 2007, Ms. Reda served as vice president of internal affairs and public information for the Ohio Oil and Gas Association for more than a decade. She has also worked for several oil and gas companies including CGAS Exploration, Inc., Philip Brown Oil Well Services, Inc., and Halwell/Energy Omega, Inc. Collectively, Ms. Reda has more than 20 years of experience in the crude oil and natural gas industry.
Scott Rotruck, Vice President, Corporate Development & State Government Relations, Chesapeake Energy Corporation

Scott Rotruck is Vice President of Corporate Development and Government Relations for Chesapeake Energy Corporation. He is a 1977 graduate of West Virginia University (WVU), a 1986 MBA graduate of Frostburg State University, in Frostburg, Maryland, a 1987 Graduate of the Norfolk Southern Management Training Program and completed Phase I and Phase II of the Economic Development Institute based at the University of Oklahoma. Mr. Rotruck is also a Kauffman Foundation Entrepreneurship Instructor with the Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Rotruck spent ten years in railroad operations between CSX in Cumberland, MD, and with Norfolk Southern Corporation in the Midwest and Hampton Roads, VA. He worked fifteen years in the coal industry, at the state and federal levels, in regulatory, government and public relations with Maryland Coal, Inc., Anker Energy Corporation and CONSOL/CNX.

Mr. Rotruck has spent seven years in the natural gas industry beginning with Chesapeake Energy Corporation, as well as serving on the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Oil & Natural Gas Association (WVONGA) and Energize WV. Additionally, he currently serves on the WV Marcellus to Manufacturing Task Force and the WV NGV Task Force, both as an Appointee of West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin. He also serves on the Executive Board of the Ohio Oil & Gas Association (OOGA) and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Rotruck is a founding executive committee member of The Power of 32, a regional community and economic development initiative, including 32 counties collectively in Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio.

Jo Sexton, President, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce

Jo Sexton has served as President of the Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce since January, 2010. She has over 30 years of experience in business management, product development, marketing, and strategic planning. Ms. Sexton began the Guernsey County Energy Coalition two years ago, which meets monthly and provides the venue for educating chamber members and the community about the Utica Shale and subsequent drilling activities and business development. The Coalition focuses on opportunities for economic development, and grew to over 200 members within the first 6 months.

Although she was born in Newark, Ohio, she was raised in Connecticut and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from North Carolina Wesleyan College. She and her husband Dan have lived in Georgia, western and eastern Pennsylvania, upstate New York, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, and North Carolina. They are now in their native Ohio to stay.
Tim Snodgrass, Assistant Project Director of Energize Appalachian Ohio Grant, Zane State College

Tim Snodgrass is the Director of Energize Appalachian Ohio, a community based job training program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. The three year grant, which expires on June 30, 2013, serves dislocated, unemployed, and under-employed workers seeking job training in energy related occupations. The job training programs created at Zane State College include courses in welding, energy maintenance, oil and gas engineering technology, energy efficiency, and hazardous material removal. Mr. Snodgrass has 25 years of experience in workforce education and training and has worked with such challenging and diverse populations as veterans, youth, economically disadvantaged, ex-offenders, and those in recovery.

Jeannette Tamayo, Chicago Regional Director, US Economic Development Administration

Jeannette P. Tamayo is the Regional Director of the Chicago Regional Office responsible for the program and delivery of economic development investments in the six state regions of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). In that capacity, Ms. Tamayo administers EDA's grant competitions in the Chicago region to fulfill EDA's mission to lead the federal economic development agenda for growth and success in the global economy. Ms. Tamayo originally joined the EDA in 2009 as Regional Counsel of the Chicago office.

Ms. Tamayo brings over 25 years of significant experience in law and management, having served in numerous legal, managerial and executive roles in state government and non-profit agencies. She served as General Counsel to the Chicago Crime Commission, Legal Counsel and Interim Administrator of the Illinois Gaming Board, Deputy Chief Counsel to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Administrator for Employment and Training programs for the former Illinois Department of Public Aid, and Counsel with the Illinois Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago. In addition, Ms. Tamayo has served on various national and local commission boards addressing topics from law to employment and training to community development. She continues to serve on non-profit boards and remains active in her community. Ms. Tamayo is a graduate of DePaul University College of Law, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Sean Thomas, Director of Planning, Preservation and Development, Ohio Housing Finance Agency

Sean W. Thomas began his career with the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) in 1993. Mr. Thomas was later named Director of Planning, Preservation and Development (PP&D), which handles the administration of financial incentives, including tax credits, loans and grants for the development of affordable housing. Mr. Thomas received a Bachelor of Arts in economics and political science from the University of Rochester. He has also earned certification from the National Development Council in Multifamily Housing Development Finance.
Mark Weinberg, Director, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Mark Weinberg is a Professor of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University specializing in the areas of organizational strategy and public sector value creation. He is the founding and current Director of Ohio University’s George V. Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. In 2002, he was named the Appalachian Regional Commission’s Whisman Scholar and served in that capacity for three years. Professor Weinberg received his undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Maryland and his doctorate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has taught a range of management courses including the capstone seminar in Public Administration, Public Budgeting, Financial Management, and Public Policy Analysis and published in these areas.

Jeannette Wierzbicki, Grants Specialist, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)

Ms. Jeannette M. Wierzbicki, P.E. is a Grants Specialist for the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA), a local development district that serves Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas Counties. She is a professional engineer, registered in the State of Ohio and has over 30 years of engineering experience in the field of public works. Ms. Wierzbicki has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Carnegie-Mellon University and has spent most of her career working with small and medium sized communities in eastern and southeastern Ohio focusing on improvements needed to make that community more competitive in today's economy and to improve the quality of life for the residents of that community.

Ms. Wierzbicki has successfully written grants and provided funding administrative services for several state and federal funding agencies and programs. She has the demonstrated ability to develop grant proposals that clearly state the need, objective, uniqueness, benefits, costs, and measurable outcomes for each project. As a Grants Specialist for OMEGA, Ms. Wierzbicki provides assistance to local governments and non-profits on the identification of viable financing strategies for needed improvements. Since joining OMEGA in July 2011, she has helped communities obtain over $1.4 million in grants for projects in OMEGA’s region. She is OMEGA’s representative for the Appalachian Energy Efficiency Initiative, the Small Community Environmental Infrastructure Group, and the Appalachian Environmental Strategy Work Group. She also serves as the liaison for the Ohio Public Works Commission Natural Resource Assistance Council for District 14.

Kathy M. Zook, Program Manager of Special Projects, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

Kathy Zook has served as the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments ARC Program Manager for the past five years. In addition, she has worked in public service for 16 years managing the 5310 Specialized Transportation Program and OhioRideshare in Northeast Ohio for Eastgate.