

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Allison Mouch

Allison Mouch joined the Montana Department of Commerce in March 2012 as Planning Bureau Chief for the Community Development Division. Allison has worked in the public, private and non-profit sector, spanning several states including Ohio and Virginia, prior to moving to Montana in 2008. She is an AICP certified professional planner and an active member of the American Planning Association, sits on the Montana Association of Planners Board of Directors, and was recently appointed the Professional Development Officer for APA's West Central Chapter.

Allison holds a bachelor's degree in architecture from Miami University (OH) and a Masters of Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. During her time in the mid-Atlantic, Allison worked as a land planner for a private developer specializing in equestrian community and trail design. She also worked for the Institute for Environmental Negotiation helping to facilitate collaboration between local governments, community leaders, business organizations and key stakeholders on environmental policy and planning decisions. After completing her graduate degree, Allison spent four years working as a planner in Flathead County, focusing primarily on long range planning and the recent Growth Policy update.

Andy Hait

Andrew W. Hait serves as the Data Product and Data User Liaison in the Economic Planning and Coordination Division at the U.S. Census Bureau. With over 26 years of service at the Bureau, Andy oversees the data products and tools and coordinates data user training for the Economic Census and the Census Bureau's other economic survey programs. He also is the lead geographic specialist in the Economic Programs directorate. Andy holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Syracuse University and has a Masters Certificate in Project Management from George Washington University.

Barb Wagner

Barbara Wagner is the Chief Economist with the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, providing research and information on Montana's labor market to policy makers, media, and the public. Her research includes diverse topics such as green jobs, the job retention of newly hired workers, business survival rates, the aging workforce, and the economic impact of restoration. Her previous work experience includes research positions with the U.S. Senate, the Montana Department of Revenue, and the University of Minnesota. Barbara's published research on the healthiness of school meals won the Outstanding RAE Article award from the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, and she has also won regional awards for her labor market publications. She holds a BA with honors in economics and political science from the College of Saint Benedict/ St. John's University in Minnesota, and an MS in Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota. A Montana native, Barbara also served as a founder and officer of the Helena Young Professionals, serves as a board member on the Employee Investment Advisory Board for the state retirement systems, and has previously served as Race Chair for the Montana Race for the Cure. She has also formed an informal lunch group with other economists in the state to improve communication and productivity across agencies

Dan Lloyd

Dan Lloyd was appointed by Governor Bullock to serve as a business development specialist in the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Prior to joining the Governor's staff, Dan worked for the Montana Department of Commerce as an energy development specialist. Dan earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Notre Dame in 2006 and is a certified Economic Development Finance Professional by the National Development Council.

Dustin de Yong

As a third generation Montanan, Dustin brings his passion for the state to his position as Business Development Specialist Industrial Development Program at the Montana Department of Commerce. His business experience allows him to work with, and for, both the public and private sectors as an economic developer.

Jim Castagneri

Jim has worked for the Denver office of the U.S. Census Bureau since 1985. His obtained his bachelor's degree in Geography from the University of Colorado in Boulder in 1984. Jim specializes in GIS application and Enterprise GIS solutions.

Joe Ramler

Joe Ramler is the Senior Economist for the Census & Economic Information Center (CEIC) at the Montana Department of Commerce where he's been for over 3 years. Prior to working for the Department, Joe headed up novel economic research bringing together private and public wildlife officials and cattle producing constituencies around Montana – this work is published in the American Journal of Agricultural Economics (Volume 96 Issue 3 April 2014).

Joe holds a master's of economics and an undergraduate degree in economics and political science from the University of Montana, Missoula. During his time away from the office, Joe enjoys the luxuries of Montana's great outdoors while fishing, hunting, boating, and skiing.

Justin Keller

Justin Keller serves as the Section Chief, Customer & Respondent Outreach, at the U.S. Census Bureau.

Lonie Stimac

Lonie manages the Office of Trade & International Relations for the Department of Commerce. The office is responsible for assisting Montana businesses market and sell their products at home and around the globe. Some of the programs include "Export Montana", "Made in Montana", STEP, the State Trade Export Promotion Grant, as well as other Business to Business Technical marketing initiatives. She is also the state's chief protocol and diplomatic officer for the Governor's Office.

Mary Craigle

Mary is the Bureau Chief for the Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC) at the Montana Department of Commerce. She has been working in economics and research for more than 31 years. Her career includes several research manager positions with the state and heading her own market research company for fifteen years.

Mary holds a Master's Degree in Quantitative Analysis from the University of Missouri and several undergraduate degrees from the University of Montana. Along with work, her current roles include serving as Vice Chair for the US Census Bureau's State Data Center Steering Board and Secretary and board member for the Montana Community Foundation and Montana Women's Foundation.

Omari Wooden

Mr. Omari Wooden joined the U. S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division in 1997 and is currently the Foreign Trade Division's Senior Foreign Trade Advisor. Mr. Wooden's primary responsibility is to oversee the outreach and marketing related to the trade statistics, Foreign Trade Regulations (FTR), and the Automated Export System. Mr. Wooden helps educate U.S. businesses on how to use the official trade statistics to expand in the global marketplace. He provides and coordinates training to the trade community on a wide range of topics, from interpreting the FTR to utilizing USA Trade Online, the official online source for U.S. merchandise trade statistics.

Mr. Wooden has been recognized numerous times for his outstanding work with the export trade community. Most recently, Mr. Wooden received a team Silver Medal Award for Leadership from the Department of Commerce for his work on the revision and implementation of the current FTR.

Mr. Wooden received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Master of Science degree in Management from the University of Maryland. In addition, he has received a Master's Certificate in Project Management from the George Washington University School of Business.

Paul Reyes

Paul Reyes began his career at the U.S. Census Bureau developing education materials for the U.S. Census Bureau's Census In Schools program that promoted the 2010 Census and Census Bureau products. His professional journey at the U.S. Census Bureau has brought Paul to the Governments Division where works in the Outreach and Education Branch raising awareness about the statistics available about state and local governments.

Roger Hopkins

Roger Hopkins has a degree in journalism from the University of Montana and has been a newspaper reporter, truck driver, television news anchor, sole proprietor, mayor, melon packer, city manager, and public information officer for the U.S. Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C. He's currently the Deputy District Director for the SBA Montana District Office. He started his SBA career in 1998 in Las Vegas, moving through the Washington, D.C. headquarters office and the Seattle District Office before moving back to Montana in November 2012.

Tom Kaiserski

Tom Kaiserski is the Program Manager of the Industry Development Program (IDP) which conducts analysis of targeted industry sectors and prepares and delivers written materials and oral communications of IDP's findings to Department of Commerce leadership, other state agencies and partner organizations as well as businesses. The goal of this work is to provide strategic information to market and promote Montana's business attributes so as to attract investment, create good paying jobs and increase tax base.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Kaiserski worked as a Senior Economic Development Specialist with the Montana Governor's Office of Economic Development where he concentrated on energy development.

Mr. Kaiserski has a bachelor's degree in earth science from Montana State University in Bozeman. He also worked for seven years as the Economic Development Coordinator for the Beartooth RC&D and worked as a Country Planner in Montana for more than ten years.