

# LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## LEGISLATIVE STAFF TRAINING

JANUARY 25, 2019



Institute for Public Policy  
and Social Research  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

# LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## About MSU's Legislative Leadership Program

MSU's Legislative Leadership Program invites new members of Michigan's House of Representatives and Michigan Senate to engage in interactive sessions with content experts, including university faculty and practitioners, in the brief time between election and their first legislative sessions.

At its 1994 inception, LLP was designed to create a forum and the resources to help newly elected legislators meet the challenges of serving in a state with term limits. The program was meant to help legislators forge links to university policy resources.

Since that time, LLP has evolved into a broadened opportunity to gain insights into concepts that affect statewide constituencies, into evidence-based information on emerging issues and into the art and science of governing in divided times, such as under state House co-speakerships.

At the same time, IPPSR has evolved as a hub for policy expertise, information and outreach, a center for survey research training and excellence and an opportunity for training for those who seek leadership through elected office or public service. The program is built upon a series of specially designed events, including presenters, researchers and facilitated discussions. Sessions are focused on topics of compelling interest, from the state's revenue stream, to its expenditures, K-12 education, demographics and innovations.

IPPSR is proud that LLP has hosted a majority of newly elected legislators from each party and draws support from the Legislature's highest officers. The program continues to build on MSU's long-standing tradition of providing leadership training to state and county officials, community leaders, and aspiring public officials.

The LLP is consistent with the policy and research education efforts conducted both on and off campus in support of state legislators, their staffs and their communities. It resides at IPPSR as companion to IPPSR's Public Policy and Education, the Michigan Political Leadership Program, the State of the State Survey and Office for Survey Research. LLP draws on the resources and leadership of each of these outstanding programs.

### **A New Opportunity: Legislative Staff Training**

A new opportunity was recognized in 2016, and by 2017 the very first LLP Legislative Staff Training program was introduced. It was built on the LLP model, adding expanded interactive elements, a new bipartisan partnership with Michigan's State House of Representative and Senate leaders. With the arrival of term limits, Michigan's Legislature allows for more turnover in legislating and in staffing. It also encourages more movement from staff to elected legislator.

To this new opportunity, career-building resources were added, along with more personalized attention through smaller roundtable discussions and closer event evaluations upon which new training components were built. State agency administrators and deputies were a greater part of the educational experience, giving legislative staff a well-rounded understanding of bottom-to-top state governance. Both programs remain cooperatively produced by IPPSR, MSU Extension and MSU's Office of the Vice President for Governmental Affairs.

This educational outreach allows IPPSR to meet its long-established educational missions bridging policy and practical applications of personal leadership, governing and economic growth. They also are in step with IPPSR's other enriching programs – including Public Policy Forums, Michigan Political Leadership Program, the Rosenthal Internship Awards, Office for Survey Research, State of the State Survey and the newest addition, the Michigan Policy Insiders Panel.

For more information about LLP and all other IPPSR programs, please contact Arnold Weinfeld, Interim Director, Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, 509 E. Circle Dr., Room 321, East Lansing, MI 48824. He can be reached by phone at (517) 355-6672 or by email at [weinfel8@msu.edu](mailto:weinfel8@msu.edu)

## Acknowledgments

IPPSR is proud of the many events and activities it undertakes throughout the year. They require exacting attention to detail, a strong desire to meet personal needs and an ability to answer the call to service and commitment.

Please join us in thanking those whose work may be behind the scenes, yet is still essential to LLP and other IPPSR operations: Administrative Assistant Iris Taylor Harper and Secretary Milly Shiraev, Information Technologist Jes Sprague, Communications Manager Cynthia Kyle and Staff Student Assistant Tatiana Maine-Brown. Katharine Cusick assisted.

The staffs at MSU's Office for Governmental Affairs and MSU Extension deserve great credit for their assistance. At the state Capitol, IPPSR is grateful for the assistance of Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, Senate Democratic Leader Jim Ananich, House Speaker Lee Chatfield and House Democratic Leader Christine Greig. Stacey Murray, professional development coordinator for the state House of Representatives, is vital to this effort.

# WRITING MICHIGAN'S BUDGET

## MARY ANN CLEARY

### DIRECTOR

HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Mary Ann Cleary is the Director of the Michigan House Fiscal Agency, a nonpartisan agency with the Michigan House of Representatives. Agency personnel provide confidential, nonpartisan assistance to the House of Appropriations Committee and all other members of the House on legislative fiscal matters.

She is one of three voting members of the Michigan Consensus Revenue Estimating Conference which, by law, determines the official economic and revenue forecast that serves as the basis for the state budget.

Prior to her appointment as Agency Director, Mary Ann was the Deputy Director of the House Fiscal Agency. She has been employed with the agency since 1990 and has more than 15 years of school finance experience. She received her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University's Eli Broad College of Business.

**Mary Ann Cleary**  
Director  
House Fiscal Agency

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## CHRISTOPHER HARKINS

### DIRECTOR

SENATE FISCAL AGENCY

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Chris Harkins is the new director of the Senate Fiscal Agency.

Harkins has been a senior policy advisor of government relations for Jackson National Life Insurance, worked in the House Policy Office for seven years and the Senate for two years before moving to the Department of Technology, Management and Budget.

He has a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Michigan State University and a Masters in Community and Economic Development from the Pennsylvania State University.

He serves on the Board of Directors for the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, as treasurer for the Youth Solutions Board of Directors and is chairman of the Board of Directors for Habitat for Humanity Capital Region.

**Christopher Harkins**  
Director  
Senate Fiscal Agency

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# WRITING MICHIGAN'S LAWS

## JENNIFER DETTLOFF

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Jennifer L. Dettloff was appointed Legislative Council Administrator on November 9, 2016 and also serves as the acting Legislative Service Bureau Director.

Prior to her appointment to the Legislative Council, she served as Legal Counsel for two Senate Majority Leaders. She had previously served legislators in both the House and Senate in numerous capacities. She is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and holds a bachelor of arts from James Madison College at Michigan State University in social relations and a juris doctor from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

**Jennifer Dettloff**  
Legislative Council  
Administrator  
Legislative Service Bureau

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## KEVIN STUDEBAKER

### DIRECTOR

LEGAL DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Kevin Studebaker began working as an attorney with the Legislative Service Bureau's Legal Division in 2004.

He was previously assistant director of the Legal Division. In that capacity he assisted in managing the law office that serves as legal counsel to the Michigan Legislature and drafts all legislation considered by the Michigan Legislature. In addition to his administrative responsibilities, he drafts legislation in the areas of campaign finance, energy, hunting and fishing, public utilities, telecommunications, and weapons.

He drafts all energy, hunting and fishing, public utilities, and weapons bills in the Michigan Legislature.

He received his bachelor's degree in environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University and his law degree from the University of Michigan Law School.

**Kevin Studebaker**  
Director  
Legal Division  
Legislative Service Bureau

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# MICHAEL CAMPANA

## DIRECTOR

RESEARCH SERVICES DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAU  
MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Michael Campana is Director of the Legislative Service Bureau's Research Services Division. The nonpartisan Research Services Division provides objective, timely, and confidential research and analysis to Michigan legislators and legislative staff, drafts policy and business resolutions, and maintains institutional knowledge and materials for the Legislature.

Campana started his career in 1999 with the Bureau as a science research analyst in the Science & Technology Division, specializing in water resources and agricultural issues. From 2003 to 2005, he worked as a coastal management specialist with the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center and Rhode Island SeaGrant, developing management plans for coastal waters.

In 2005, he returned to the Michigan Legislature as a research analyst in the Research Services Division and became director in 2014. Michael holds a bachelor's degree in botany from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in marine science from the College of William and Mary.

### Michael Campana

Director  
Research Services Division  
State of Michigan

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## LUNCHEON SPEAKER

# ARI ADLER

## MEDIA RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIST

Ari Adler is a communications professional in media relations, public relations and communications strategy.

His most recent work was in Governor Rick Snyder's offices. He joined Gov. Rick Snyder's office in 2015 as Special Projects Manager and was promoted to Director of Communications a year later.

Before his work for Governor Snyder, Ari served as press secretary and director of communications for Michigan Speaker of the House Jase Bolger. Earlier in his career, he managed media relations and social media for Delta Dental of Michigan, Ohio and Indiana as well as the Delta Dental Foundation.

An award-winning public and media relations professional, Ari also has served as communications director for the Michigan Department of Transportation, appointed to that position by Gov. John Engler. In addition, he has been a press secretary and deputy chief of staff for a Michigan Senate majority leader and was the director of public affairs for John Bailey & Associates, Public Relations.

Ari began his career as a journalist, working as a reporter and editor for several newspapers across Michigan.



### Ari Adler

Media  
Relations/Communications  
Strategist

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# SUPPORTING MICHIGAN'S LEGISLATURE

## MARGARET O'BRIEN

### SECRETARY

MICHIGAN SENATE

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Secretary of the Senate Margaret O'Brien was elected to her position in January 2019. As secretary to the legislative chamber, she is tasked with advising the Senate on questions relating to parliamentary law and procedure as well as overseeing the care and preservation of every bill and resolution introduced in the Senate.

Previously, she served as state senator of the 20th District, was Assistant President Pro Tempore and chaired the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security Committee. O'Brien also served two terms in the state House of Representatives from 2010-2014. She was unanimously selected both terms to the position of Associate Speaker Pro Tempore, and during her eight-year legislative tenure, frequently chaired Senate and House proceedings.

Secretary O'Brien is a life-long resident of Kalamazoo County and graduated from James Madison College at Michigan State University.

**Margaret O'Brien**  
Secretary  
Michigan Senate  
Michigan Legislature

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## RICH BROWN

### ASSISTANT CLERK

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

Rich Brown is a former broadcaster who moved into elected positions and from there to work in the Michigan House of Representatives.

A graduate from Wakefield High School; Brown attended Northern Michigan University and Brown Institute of Broadcasting in Minneapolis. He worked at WUUN Radio in Marquette, at WUPM Radio in Ironwood and as an instructor at Trans American School of Broadcasting. He moved from broadcast to print as a reporter for the Ironwood Daily Globe.

He was elected Gogebic County Clerk, served as the Register of Deeds and was elected to the Michigan House in 2000, 2002 and 2004. He served as the Clerk of the House of Representatives until 2011 when he named assistant clerk.

**Rich Brown**  
Assistant Clerk  
Michigan House of  
Representatives  
Michigan Legislature

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# ROUNDTABLES

## PUBLIC POLICY

### DAN OPSOMMER

LEGISLATIVE AIDE/POLICY

REP. JULIE BRIXIE

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dan Opsommer is legislative director to state Rep. Julie Brixie, and serves himself as a Meridian Township trustee, first elected in 2016. He's currently supervisor pro tem of Meridian Township and the Township's representative on the CATA and Meridian Land Preservation Advisory Boards.

Among his accomplishments, Dan lead the effort to pass the \$94 million East Lansing School Bond in 2017, which will rebuild five of East Lansing Public School's elementary schools and remodel the sixth.

Dan also lead the effort to implement a comprehensive plan to fully fund Meridian Township's pension and OPEB funds over the next 10 years, placing Meridian in the strongest financial health of any community in Michigan.

Dan previously served as the legislative director three other state representatives.

#### Dan Opsommer

Legislative Aide/Policy

Rep. Julie Brixie

Michigan House of  
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### NICK CAPONE

LEGISLATIVE AIDE/POLICY

REP. GRAHAM FILLER

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Nick Capone was born in Detroit and raised in Williamston, where he attended high school and played baseball for the Hornets. After high school, he attended Hillsdale College and graduated in 2012 with a BA in politics.

After college, Capone began working for state Sen. Rick Jones, first as an executive assistant/scheduler, then as constituent services director, and finally, as legislative director. With this election, Capone has taken a position with state Rep. Graham Filler as legislative director.

Capone has worked on the Judiciary, Health Policy, Regulatory Reform, Insurance, Energy and Technology and Families, Seniors and Human Services Committees. He is a volunteer with the Capitol Area Literacy Coalition.

#### Nick Capone

Legislative Aide/Policy

Rep. Graham Filler

Michigan House of  
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# SCHEDULING

## **MOLLY KORN**

CHIEF OF STAFF  
SEN. MALLORY MCMORROW  
MICHIGAN SENATE

Molly Korn is currently serving as chief of staff to state Sen. Mallory McMorrow from Michigan's 13th Senate District. Having served in the House of Representatives for six years, Korn has extensive experience in the Legislature.

Formerly in the office of House Democratic Leader Sam Singh, Korn started her career as a field organizer for his 2012 primary election and moved into constituent relations and eventually policy.

A lifelong Spartan fan, Molly attended Michigan State University where she graduated with a degree in Social Relations and Policy.

**Molly Korn**  
Chief of Staff  
Sen. Mallory McMorrow  
Michigan Senate

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## **ROBIN NAEYAERT**

LEGISLATIVE AIDE/POLICY  
REP. DAIRE RENDON  
MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Robin Naeyaert started in the Michigan Legislature in the late 1980s and is currently is working with her ninth Legislator. She has worked in the majority, in the minority and during a time of shared power.

She is the senior Republican House staffer, currently serving longer than any other Republican legislative staffer!

Robin served 14 years in the city of Mason where she was mayor pro tem and then mayor. She is now an Ingham County Commissioner.

**Robin Naeyaert**  
Legislative Aide/Policy  
Rep. Daire Rendon  
Michigan House of  
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# ORGANIZING THE LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

## ALLISON IVES

LEGISLATIVE AIDE/CONSTITUENT  
REP. JULIE ALEXANDER  
MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Allison Ives is a southwest Michigan native and graduate of Glen Oaks Community College with an Associate's Degree in General Studies. She is currently a legislative aide to state Rep. Julie Alexander. She gained her start in politics through 4-H at state and national levels.

This activity evolved an interest in the fundamentals of the legislature and how legislative offices can run efficiently to best serve their constituents.

**Allison Ives**  
Legislative Aide/Constituent  
Rep. Julie Alexander  
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## TONY BUFFA

LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR  
SEN. CURT VANDERWALL  
MICHIGAN SENATE

Tony Buffa has been working in the legislature since 2016 and has worked in both chambers. He is currently working in Sen. Curt VanderWall's office as legislative director.

He received a bachelor of science from Central Michigan University and a juris doctor from Michigan State University College of Law. While in school, Buffa completed a legal externship with state Rep. Klint Kesto.

After he completed the externship, Buffa was accepted to the inaugural class of the House Fellowship Program where he was assigned to the House Republican Policy Office. Following the House Fellowship, Tony accepted a position with state Rep. Curt VanderWall. He served there for two years until VanderWall was elected to the state Senate.

**Tony Buffa**  
Legislative Director  
Sen. Curt VanderWall  
Michigan Senate

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# CONDUCTING LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

## DIANE DONHAM

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN  
LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

Diane Donham is a reference and outreach librarian at the Library of Michigan, Michigan's state library. In her 16 years at the library, she has specialized in providing research assistance to legislative and state employees, utilizing the library's rich and varied collections.

Prior to her work with the Library of Michigan, her experience was in academic libraries, including the Michigan State University Library and the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics Library.

Donham started her library career at a time that allowed her to develop an appreciation of both print and electronic resources, and she enjoys employing both to tackle the research needs of patrons. She has a Master's of Library and Information Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Bachelor's Arts in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

**Diane Donham**  
Reference Librarian  
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## JANICE MURPHY

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN/ELECTRONIC RESOURCES COORDINATOR  
LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

Janice Murphy is a native of Sault Ste. Marie and has worked in the Monroe County Library System, the State Library of Iowa and the Library of Michigan.

She has been a government documents coordinator, as well as a reference librarian, responding to a wide variety of questions over the years.

She has a bachelor's degree from Lake Superior State University and a master's degree in library science from the University of Michigan.

**Janice Murphy**  
Reference Librarian/Electronic  
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## JANICE SELBERG

LAW LIBRARIAN  
LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

Janice Selberg has been a law reference librarian for the past seven years at the State Law Library, a division of the Library of Michigan.

Her previous experience was in two academic law libraries (21 years, including the position of Director and Assistant Professor of Law); the United Nations Development Programme in South Sudan, establishing the new government law library; General Motors Corporation Legal Staff Library, and Mead Data Central (now Lexis/Nexis).

She holds B.A. and J.D. degrees from Michigan State University, and a master's in library science from the University of Michigan. She is a member of the State Bar of Michigan.

**Janice Selberg**  
Law Librarian  
Library of Michigan

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# STAFF TRAINING PROGRAM COUNCIL

## **MATT GROSSMANN** *(ON SABBATICAL)*

*DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Matt Grossmann serves as the Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR.) A nationally known political scientist, he also holds a position as Associate Professor of Political Science at Michigan State University.

As an expert on American politics and government, his research spans national and state policymaking, election campaigns, interest groups, and political parties. His current work explores key differences between major political parties and economic inequality in policy influence.

His newest book, from Oxford University Press, is *Asymmetric Politics: Ideological Republicans and Group Interest Democrats*. He is the author of *Artists of the Possible: Governing Networks and American Policy Change Since 1945*, published by Oxford University Press in 2014 and *The Not-So-Special Interests: Interest Groups, Public Representation, and American Governance*, published by Stanford University Press in 2012.

He is author of numerous journal articles on such topics as policy change, political party networks, the legislative process and public opinion. His research appears in the *Journal of Politics*, *Policy Studies Journal*, *Perspectives on Politics*, *American Politics Research* and other outlets. He is also co-author of *Campaigns & Elections*, a textbook available through W. W. Norton, and editor of the volume *New Directions in Interest Group Politics*, from Routledge.

His roots are also deep in practical politics, especially in candidate training, policy and survey research. His experience includes work at the Rose Institute of State and Local Government, the Institute of Governmental Studies, the Center for Voting and Democracy and the Center for Democracy and Technology. He served as a fellow for the Sunlight Foundation and co-authored a book for use in campaign leadership institutes.

A member of MSU's faculty since 2007, he is founder and director of the Michigan Policy Network and served as liaison to MSU's Washington Semester.

He received his bachelor's degree from Claremont McKenna College, his master's in political science in 2002 and doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2007. He became IPPSR director in January 2016.



**Matt Grossmann**

Director

Institute for Public Policy and  
Social Research

Michigan State University

# **ARNOLD WEINFELD**

*INTERIM DIRECTOR*

*INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH*

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Arnold serves as the Interim Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) at Michigan State University as well as Director of Urban Policy Initiatives for University Outreach and Engagement.

At IPPSR, Weinfeld assists with the coordination of programs such as the Michigan Political Leadership Program, Legislative Leadership Programming, State of the State Survey and issue forums.

In his capacity at Outreach and Engagement, he works with the Center for Community and Economic Development as well as with other MSU faculty, local officials and community stakeholders to develop university-community partnerships.

Prior to joining UOE, Weinfeld served as CEO of the Prima Civitas Foundation, a community and economic development non-profit organization. He also has worked for the Michigan Municipal League in a number of key leadership positions.



**Arnold Weinfeld**

Interim Director

Institute for Public Policy  
and Social Research

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## **KATHLEEN WILBUR, PHD**

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENT AND EXTERNAL  
RELATIONS  
OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Kathleen Wilbur was named Executive Vice President for Government and External Relations on March 6, 2018, by MSU Interim President John Engler.

As Executive Vice President for Government and External Relations Wilbur oversees Advancement, Alumni Relations, Communications and Government Relations for MSU.

Wilbur has spent decades in higher education and state government, most recently serving as Vice President for Government and External Relations at Central Michigan University. She has also served as Interim President of CMU as well as Vice President for Development and External Relations. She was with CMU starting in 2002.

Prior to that, she worked in state government as Director of the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Director of the Michigan Department of Commerce, Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Commerce and Director of the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulation.

Wilbur is the only woman who has ever directed three different Michigan state departments. Earlier in her career, Wilbur served as Chief of Staff to State Senator William Sederburg, who chaired the Higher Education Appropriations Committee. She was elected to the MSU Board of Trustees in 1984 and served through 1990.

A member of the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, Wilbur received her Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education Administration, Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration and Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from MSU.

## **DAVID BERTRAM**

*ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR STATE AFFAIRS  
OFFICE FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

David Bertram joined MSU in October 2011 as Assistant Vice President for State Affairs. Prior to working at MSU, Bertram, spent nearly 15 years with the Michigan Township Association, serving as the legislative team leader from 2000-11.

Bertram served in Gov. John Engler's office in a number of positions, working as the governor's lobbyist in the Michigan Senate for three years. He also served on Senate Majority Leader John Engler's staff, gubernatorial campaign staff and on the Engler transition team in 1990. Bertram has a Bachelor of Science in political science from Lake Superior State University.

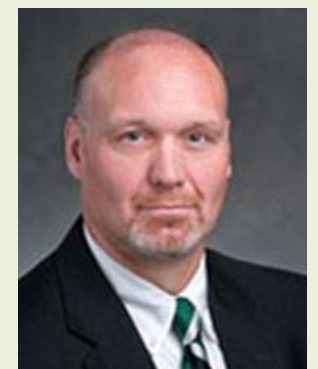


**Kathleen Wilbur, PhD**

Vice President for Government  
and External Relations

Office of Governmental Affairs

Michigan State University



**David Bertram**

Assistant Vice President for  
State Affairs

Office for Governmental Affairs

Michigan State University

## **JEFF DWYER**

*DIRECTOR*

*MSU EXTENSION*

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Jeff Dwyer is the Director of MSU Extension; Senior Associate Dean of Outreach and Engagement for the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources and the Interim Director of the Health & Nutrition Institute.

He was named director of Michigan State University (MSU) Extension on April 1, 2016, after serving as interim director from January 1 to March 31, 2016.

Before joining MSU, Dwyer was the founding director of the Institute on Aging and a tenured professor of medicine at the University of Florida from 1999 to 2003. He was the director of the Institute of Gerontology and professor of sociology at Wayne State University from 1993 to 1999.

Dwyer received a bachelor's degree in sociology from California Lutheran University in 1982 and a doctorate in sociology from the University of Florida in 1988. In 1992, he was selected as a Brookdale National Fellow and in 1997, he was elected a fellow of both the Gerontological Society of America and the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education.



**Jeff Dwyer**

Director

MSU Extension

Michigan State University

## **DRU MONTRI**

*DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS*

*COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE*

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Dru Montri took over her position at Michigan State University in January 2018 after managing the Michigan Farmers Market Association since its inception.

Her association responsibilities included overall leadership, long-term strategic planning, staff and volunteer management plus financial, membership, promotions and special events leadership.

She has served as executive secretary of the Michigan Meat Association and as a member of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.

She has a background in horticulture, earning a Bachelor's Degree from MSU, her Master's Degree from Penn State and a doctorate from MSU.



**Dru Montri**

Director of Governmental Affairs  
and Stakeholder Relations

Colleges of Agriculture and  
Natural Resources and  
Veterinary Medicine

## **ERIC SCORSONE, PH.D.**

*EXTENSION SPECIALIST*

*DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RESOURCE ECONOMICS*

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Dr. Eric Scorsone rejoined MSU in 2011 as a fixed-term Extension specialist, State and Local Government Program, in the Department of Agricultural, Food, And Resource Economics. He worked as senior Economist at the Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency in 2010 and returned to Michigan State University in 2011. He also worked at MSU from 2005 to 2010.

Prior to his work at MSU in 2005, Dr. Scorsone developed award winning extension programs as an Assistant Extension Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Kentucky in the areas of rural health economics and economic development. He also served as an Economist for the Colorado Governor's Office of State Planning and Budget and as a Senior Economist for the City of Aurora, Colorado.

He received his Ph.D. from Colorado State University. He received his Master's degree from Michigan State University and a B.B.A. from Loyola University of Chicago.

He has published in *State and Local Government Review*, *Growth and Change*, *Journal of Appalachian Studies*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Journal of Federal Studies*, *Public Money and Management*, and *International Review of Administrative Sciences*.



**Eric Scorsone, Ph.D.**

Extension Specialist

Department of Agricultural,  
Food and Resource Economics

## **ERIC WALCOTT**

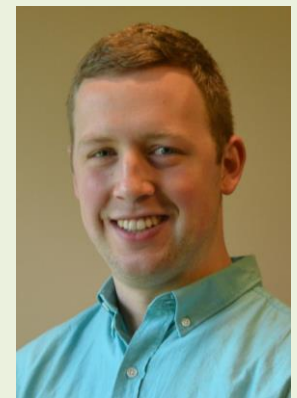
*STATE SPECIALIST, MSU EXTENSION*

*MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Eric Walcott is a State Specialist with MSU Extension's Government and Public Policy programs. He works with faculty on campus and educators throughout the state to develop and implement educational programs related to state and local government.

Walcott's work focuses primarily on good governance, civic engagement, and fiscal sustainability, seeking to build capacity of state and local government officials as well as educate Michigan residents on issues related to state and local government and encourage their informed participation.

Walcott previously worked in the Michigan House of Representatives, and holds a Master's of Public Policy degree from Michigan State University.



**Eric Walcott**

State Specialist

Extension Center for Local  
Government Finance and Policy

Michigan State University



## **STACEY MURRAY**

*PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR  
MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

Stacey Murray serves as the Professional Development Coordinator for the Michigan House of Representatives. She is responsible for continuing education of staff members, professional development, hiring assistance in member offices and implementation of the Michigan House of Representatives Legislative Fellowship Program.

Murray served as a staff member in the Michigan House of Representatives and the Michigan Senate for more than 20 years in several capacities. Her responsibilities have ranged from legislative director, floor director in the state Senate, fundraising and campaigns. Stacey also served as a lobbyist for the Michigan Townships Association.

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Professional Development  
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### **CYNTHIA KYLE**

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Cynthia Kyle is communications manager at Michigan State University's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. Operationally, she helps to craft marketing communications, assists with brand management, strategic planning and visual communications, oversees media relations and implements the Institute's web, internet and social network educational strategies in traditional and digital formats.

She has written for magazines, newsletters, newspapers, radio and online publications. She has taught journalism at Ohio State University, Wayne State University and Michigan State University.

She is a founding member of the revitalized Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame, and past president of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.



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Tatiana Maine-Brown is a student assistant working in all operations of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. She is a second-year, pre-med student with an interest in women's health and environmental policy and has returned to work with IPPSR for her second academic year.



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