

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

P R O G R A M

LEGISLATIVE STAFF TRAINING

MAY 6, 2022



Institute for Public Policy
and Social Research
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

BUDGET PRIMER AND FISCAL YEAR 2023... WHAT IT MEANS AND WHAT IS NEXT

Kathryn Summers

Director
Senate Fiscal Agency
Michigan

201 N. Washington Square
Suite 800-The Victor Center
Lansing, MI 48933

517-373-2768
ksummers@senate.mi.gov

KATHRYN SUMMERS

**DIRECTOR
SENATE FISCAL AGENCY
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Kathryn Summers has been with the Senate Fiscal Agency since 1999. In November of 2021, she was appointed the Director of this nonpartisan Agency within the Michigan Senate. Prior to this appointment, Summers spent 15 years as an Associate Director and nine years as a fiscal analyst. She spent nearly 25 years working on the

School Aid budget, and as Director, continues to work on Retirement issues.

Prior to working at the Senate Fiscal Agency, Summers worked two years at the House Fiscal Agency, assigned to the budgets for Community Colleges, Department of Education, and School Aid. Summers has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Michigan-Flint and a Master's Degree in Economics from Michigan State University, where she also worked as a graduate assistant.

KEVIN KOORSTRA

**DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOUSE FISCAL AGENCY
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

Kevin Koorstra is the Deputy Director for the House Fiscal Agency, a non-partisan agency within the Michigan House of Representatives. During his 14 years at the House Fiscal Agency, he has served as the Deputy Director since 2019, the Associate Director from 2017 to 2019, and a Senior Fiscal Analyst from 2008 to 2017.

Kevin Koorstra
Deputy Director
House Fiscal Agency
Michigan

124 North Capitol Avenue
House Office Building North
Tower, 4th Floor
Lansing, MI 48933

kkoorstra@house.mi.gov

He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Government from the University of Michigan and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Eastern Michigan University.

DIFFUSING DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Jaimie Hutchinson
Executive Director
Michigan State University
Work-Life Office

479 West Circle Drive
Linton Hall, Suite 116
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-353-1635
hutchj@msu.edu

JAIMIE HUTCHINSON

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY WORKLIFE OFFICE

Jaimie Hutchinson serves as the Executive Director of the WorkLife Office. The MSU WorkLife Office focuses on family care (child and elder), career transitions, relocation and community connections, workplace assistance, and research.

Throughout her career, she has worked for several educational, government, and non-profit organizations in California, Montana, Colorado, and Michigan. For more than 20 years, she has assisted both families and individuals and enjoys the chance to help people as they move through different phases of their personal and work lives.

Previously, she has worked at MSU with a dual appointment to James Madison College and the MSU Career Services Network. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Michigan State and went on to earn a Master's Degree in Community Counseling from the University of Northern Colorado and a post-master's certificate in school counseling from Eastern Michigan University.

NIKKI BROWN

DIRECTOR

SENATE MAJORITY POLICY OFFICE

MICHIGAN SENATE

Nikki Brown serves as the Director of the Senate Majority Policy Office within the Michigan Senate.

Previously, Brown was a deputy policy director for the Senate Majority.

She previously served as deputy budget director and a policy advisor in the office. Brown came to the Michigan Senate from the Michigan Municipal League in 2016.

She received her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Grand Valley State University.

Nikki Brown
Director
Senate Majority Policy Office
Michigan

201 Townsend Street
Lansing, MI 48933.

517-373-3330
nbrown@senate.mi.gov

Lisa Curtis
Deputy Director
Michigan House Business
Office

124 N. Capitol Avenue,
Lansing, MI 48909

(517) 373-6339
BusinessOffice@house.mi.gov

LISA CURTIS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
MICHIGAN HOUSE BUSINESS OFFICE

Lisa Curtis serves as the Deputy Director for the Michigan House Business Office. The Business Office is a non-partisan staff responsible for the overall administration and financial operations of the House of Representatives and the House Fiscal Agency (HFA), working under the authority of the Speaker of the House.

STATE AGENCY ROUNDTABLES

INSURANCE

RACHEL WINELAND

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE AGENCY

Rachel Wineland is Legislative Liaison for the Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) within the state Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity.

Rachel Wineland
Legislative Liaison
Michigan Unemployment
Insurance Agency

WinelandR@michigan.gov
517-582-1668

She has been with the UIA less than a year but has more than 11 years ago of service with the State of Michigan, with the bulk of those years spent in child welfare. Beginning as a Children's Protective Services caseworker, Wineland gained experience and knowledge in agency regulation. Prior to her arrival at UIA, she wrote and interpreted child welfare agency policy, assisted with audit response and remediation, and analyzed legislation impacting the system. She also has a strong background in communication and collaborations with internal and external partners, and she is passionate about assisting legislative offices with their questions regarding the UIA system.

The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) administers the unemployment insurance program that provides temporary financial assistance to individuals who become unemployed through no fault of their own. Benefits are paid through taxes on employers covered under the Michigan Employment Security Act.

The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) provides the connections, expertise and innovative solutions to drive continued business growth, build vibrant communities, create affordable housing, generate tourism and attract and retain key talent to fill Michigan's vast pipeline of opportunities.

HOUSING

MARK GARCIA

LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mark Garcia is the Legislative Liaison at the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). He also serves as a Community Affairs Liaison.

MSHDA provides financial and technical assistance through public and private partnerships to create and preserve safe and decent affordable housing, engage in community economic development activities, develop vibrant cities, towns and villages, and address homeless issues.

Prior to joining MSHDA in 2011, he served as a legislative aide to Sen. Dennis Olshove. Garcia earned his bachelors from Alma College in 1997.

Mark Garcia

Legislative Liaison
Michigan State
Housing Development Authority

735 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48912

garciam8@michigan.gov

TRANSPORTATION

Troy Hagon

Director and State
Transportation Commission
Advisor
Office of Governmental Affairs
Michigan Department of
Transportation

425 W. Ottawa St.
Lansing, MI 48933

517-335-1644
GallimoreJ@michigan.gov

TROY HAGON

DIRECTOR AND STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
ADVISOR

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Troy Hagon serves as the Director and state Transportation Advisor for the Office of Governmental Affairs within the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT).

The Office of Governmental Affairs represents MDOT's interests as new or amendatory legislation is developed or moving through the legislative process. The office also works directly with legislators' offices regarding state and local transportation constituent concerns.

MDOT is responsible for Michigan's nearly 10,000-mile state highway system, comprised of all M, I, and US-routes. It is the backbone of Michigan's 120,000-mile highway, road and street network.

STAFF TRAINING PROGRAM COUNCIL

MATT GROSSMANN

DIRECTOR

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

Matt Grossmann is [Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research \(IPPSR\)](#) and Professor of Political Science at Michigan State University.

His book, [Red State Blues: How the Conservative Revolution Stalled in the States](#), published in 2019, finds that while the Republican Party has gained substantial political control of state governments but has largely failed to enact policies that advance conservative goals.

His latest book, just published this summer is titled *How Social Science Got Better*. The work is the result of scores of personal interviews and survey research tracing developments delivering more accurate and profound social science discoveries.

Grossmann's the author of numerous books and articles and serves a Senior Fellow at the Niskanen Center in Washington, DC, host of [The Science of Politics Podcast](#) and a regular contributor to FiveThirtyEight's online political analysis.

He was named IPPSR Director in 2016. Under his leadership, Grossmann created a policy-relevant research search engine and the Correlates of State Policy online database (1,000 variables measured for all 50 states each year), designed a new online survey panel of political insiders, established a new training program for legislative staff, transformed an internship award into a leadership certification for legislative interns, and created an event series for training faculty to engage policymakers.

He received a bachelor's degree from Claremont McKenna College, a master's degree in political science in 2002 and doctorate from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2007.

He was named IPPSR Director in January 2016. IPPSR is a policy, leadership and research unit within MSU's College of Social Science, conducting more than \$1.5 million in grant- or contract-funded research and raising more than \$300,000 in donations annually.



Matt Grossmann
Director
Institute for Public Policy and
Social Research
Michigan State University

509 E. Circle Dr, Room 321
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-355-6672
grossm63@msu.edu

ARNOLD WEINFELD

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Arnold is Associate Director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) at Michigan State University as well as Director for Workforce and Economic Development Partnerships for the Office of Public Engagement and Scholarship within University Outreach and Engagement.

Prior to joining MSU, Arnold 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 where he served in a number of roles and co-founded the Michigan Sense of Place Council.

Arnold began his career with the Michigan House of Representatives where he worked as a legislative aide, policy analyst and policy director. He has served his own community as an elected member of the Waverly Community Schools Board of Education and is currently on his local planning commission.

He is also on the boards of local and statewide organizations such as the Michigan Sense of Place Council, Rural Partners of Michigan, Capital Area College Access Network. He is a graduate of Michigan State University's College of Social Science Multi-Disciplinary Program.



Arnold Weinfeld
Associate Director
Institute for Public Policy and
Social Research
Michigan State University

509 E. Circle Rd.
Room 321B
East Lansing, MI 48824

517 353-6672
Weinfel8@msu.edu

KATHLEEN M. WILBUR, PH.D.

*SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Kathleen Wilbur is Michigan State University's senior vice president for government relations. Wilbur served at Central Michigan University, is the only woman to direct three State of Michigan departments, and served on the MSU Board of Trustees.

Before her MSU appointment, Wilbur, who joined Central Michigan University in 2002, was vice president for government and external relations. She also served as interim president for one year and then was vice president for development and external relations.

Prior to that she was 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 was chief of staff to State Senator William Sederburg, who chaired the Senate Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee, among other assignments.

She was elected to the MSU Board of Trustees in 1984 and served unto 1991. Her peer reviewed journal publications and conference presentations focus on the role of institutional trustees and governing boards in higher education.

A 2007 inductee into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, Wilbur earned a doctorate in higher education administration, a Master's Degree in higher education administration, and Bachelor's Degree in journalism from MSU.



Kathleen Wilbur, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President
Government Relations
Michigan State University

426 Auditorium Road, Room
484
Lansing, MI 48824

517 353-9000
govrel@msu.edu

KATIE JOHN

*ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STATE RELATIONS
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Katie John serves as Michigan State University's Associate Vice President for State Relations. In her role, she represents MSU with stakeholders from state government including the executive office, legislature, and state agencies.

She brings more than 20 years of legislative experience, with a focus on higher education funding and policy. Prior to joining the MSU team, John served as the Associate Vice President of Government Affairs at Western Michigan University, holding that position since 2006. Prior to her work at WMU she held positions at the Senate Democratic Policy Office, Senate Democratic Communications staff, and the Office of Senate Minority Leader Bob Emerson. She earned a B.A. from Michigan State University and a Masters of Public Administration from Western Michigan University.



Katie John
Associate Vice President for
State Relations
Government Relations
Michigan State University

426 Auditorium Road, Rm 484
East Lansing MI 48824

517-353-9000
deboerk1@msu.edu

JEREMY REUTER

*DIRECTOR FOR STATEWIDE ADVOCACY
IMPACT AND ADVOCACY
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Jeremy Reuter serves as Michigan State University's director for statewide advocacy. He has 20 years of policy experience in a variety of organizations focused on improving educational outcomes for Michigan residents from early childhood through higher education.

He has served as chief executive officer of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation, director of funding and government relations for Learning Care Group, and special assistant/senior policy advisor at the Michigan Department of Education.

As director for statewide advocacy, Reuter is responsible for managing advocacy efforts and supporting relationships with advocates within and beyond the university. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Family and Community Services and his Master of Arts in Family Studies from Michigan State University.



Jeremy Reuter
Director for Statewide
Advocacy
Government Relations
Michigan State University

426 Auditorium Road, Rm 484
East Lansing MI 48824

517-353-9000
reuterje@msu.edu

PATRICK I. CUDNEY

*DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT AND STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS
MSU EXTENSION
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY*

Patrick I. Cudney was appointed the director of government and stakeholder relations for Michigan State University's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR), MSU AgBioResearch and MSU Extension on November 15, 2021.

Prior to this, Cudney served as associate director for operations of Michigan State University (MSU) Extension since September 1, 2014. He oversaw logistical and business operations, including supervising the field-based leadership team as well as providing leadership for the organizational development units of MSU Extension including budget planning and management, human resources, professional development, communications and marketing, program reporting and evaluation, diversity, technology and other essential program support.

Cudney also served as acting director of MSU Extension from March 2021 - May 2021.



Patrick I. Cudney
Director of Government and
Stakeholder Relations
MSU Extension
Michigan State University

446 W Circle Dr
East Lansing MI 48824

517-355-2308
cudney@msu.edu

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

446 W. Circle Drive
Room 160
East Lansing, MI 48824

517-353-9106
walcott3@msu.edu

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM STAFF

CYNTHIA KYLE

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

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 multiple 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 twice past president of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.



Cynthia Kyle
Communications Manager
Institute for Public Policy and
Social Research
Michigan State University

509 E. Circle Dr. Room 321B
East Lansing MI 48824

517 353-1731
kylec@msu.edu

TATIANA MAINE-BROWN

COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Tatiana Maine-Brown works as a communications assistant at the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research. She is pursuing a master's in human biology and graduated from Michigan State University with a human biology degree with a pre-med focus in the Honors College. She was a Charles Drew Scholar at MSU.

In the Honors College, she served as a peer mentor for the Honors Navigators Peer Mentorship Program acting as a guide for first-generation students, international students, and students of color in the College.

She's been a Dean's List honoree and is looking forward to pursuing a career in women's health.



Tatiana Maine-Brown
Communications Assistant
Institute for Public Policy and
Social Research
Michigan State University

509 E. Circle Dr. Room 321B
East Lansing MI 48824

517-355-6672

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 weinfeld8@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, Information Technologist Jes Sprague and Program Coordinator Katherine Cusick.

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 Jason Wentworth and House Democratic Leader Donna Lasinski. Stacey Murray, professional development coordinator for the state House of Representatives, is vital to this effort.