SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

AUDREY DENNEY
SENIOR LEARNING DESIGNER, VIVAYIC, INC.

Audrey Denney has been working with Vivayic since 2011, full time since 2015. She manages projects and accounts, as well as crafting experiential learning experiences for groups like the World Bank, the American Farm Bureau, and the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association. Audrey earned her BS and MS in Agricultural Education at California State University, Chico. She has a passion for education and taught agriculture at California State University, Chico for six years. She has done long-term development work overseas on two occasions working with small holder farmers in Latin America and West Africa. Audrey serves as the vice-president of the board of directors for Cristosal, an organization that works to advance human rights in Central America.

MAX DUBUISSON
DIRECTOR OF POLICY, CLIMATE ACTION RESERVE

As Director of Policy for the Climate Action Reserve, Max helps shape the direction of the Reserve’s Policy and technical activities. He oversees the development of new emissions reduction project protocols, as well as the maintenance and interpretation of existing protocols. He also assists with technical work on the Reserve’s climate finance ratings program, as well as various contracts and grants, and participates in several external stakeholder and advisory groups. His areas of particular focus include grassland, livestock methane, landfill gas, ozone depleting substances, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. Max has supported the growth, functioning, and integrity of the offset project protocols and registry since 2008, serving in both Policy and Business Development roles. He received a Master of Environmental Science and Management from the Bren School at UC Santa Barbara, and a B.S. in Biology from Davidson College in North Carolina.

KAREN HAUGEN-KOZYRA
PRESIDENT, VIRESCO SOLUTIONS

Karen has over 25 years of experience leading ecosystem goods and service policy and program development, as well as building tools and infrastructure for environmental assets, most concretely in carbon credit trading. Over the course of her career, Karen has provided strategic policy and program development input to Alberta’s Bioenergy Framework, National Greenhouse Gas/Climate Change Policy, Nutrient Management Programming, Environmental Farm Plan, BMP Manuals, Agricultural Policy Frameworks, including Growing Forward 2 Environmental programs (BMP stewardship program v1.0 in 2003-2008). To support these initiatives, Karen has coordinated research and studies of
environmental mitigation opportunities for agriculture in air, water, soil and biodiversity. During her tenure with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, she developed the infrastructure and protocols necessary to support carbon credit trading in Alberta (2007-2009). Karen and her firm help companies navigate the nexus between lowering their carbon footprint and developing an overall sustainability strategy.

STEVE JOHN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AGRICULTURAL WATERSHED INSTITUTE

Steve John is the co-founder and executive director of the Agricultural Watershed Institute, a nonprofit organization established in 2003. AWI’s mission is to conduct research and educational programs on practices and policies that improve water quality, maintain or restore ecosystem health, and conserve land and water resources in agricultural watersheds. A major focus of AWI’s recent work is on perennial biomass crops for co-production of agricultural goods and environmental services including water quality, soil health, wildlife habitat, and climate mitigation/adaptation. Prior to AWI’s formation, Mr. John was an environmental consultant specializing in water quality planning. From 1987 to 1995, he served on the Decatur (Illinois) City Council. He serves on the steering committees of Green Land Blue Waters and the Midwest Conservation Biomass Alliance. He has a BA in Sociology from the University of Notre Dame.

MADHU KHANNA
ACES DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR IN ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS
DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE ADMISSIONS, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSUMER ECONOMICS
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Madhu Khanna is the ACES Distinguished Professor of Environmental Economics in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is the Associate Director for Education and Outreach at the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment at Illinois. Khanna received her Ph.D. in 1995 from the University of California-Berkeley. Her research focuses on environmental policy analysis and incentives for adoption of environmentally friendly technologies in the agricultural and energy sectors. She also analyzes the motivations and effectiveness of socially responsible corporate practices. Her current work is examining the economics, land use, climate mitigation and water quality implications of renewable energy policies. She has co-edited two volumes of the Handbook of Bioenergy Economics and Policy. She is a Fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association, a University of Illinois Scholar, and a Leopold Leadership Fellow of the Woods Institute at Stanford University. She has received the Paul A. Funk Recognition Award and the Spitze Land-Grant Professional Career Excellence Award from the College of ACES, University of Illinois. She serves on the Science Advisory Board of the U.S. EPA and the Board of Directors of the AAEA as well as on the editorial boards of several leading journals.

DOUG KUEKER
CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF LEARNING SOLUTIONS, VIVAYIC, INC.

Doug is the steward of Vivayic’s Learning Solution Model™, which defines Vivayic’s unique approach to helping organizations use learning as a key strategy to advance their mission. In this role, he provides leadership to Vivayic’s team as they work to apply their knowledge of learning and development to help build other’s capacity to good in the world. Since starting Vivayic in 2006, Doug has designed and implemented numerous learning solutions. Our experiences range from helping several Fortune 100 companies and global NGOs striving to ensure a safe and sustainable food supply to consulting with numerous state agencies and educator groups trying to make classrooms and educational systems more relevant and engaging. Doug earned his undergraduate degree in Agricultural Education from the University of Missouri. He holds a MS Ed from Purdue University in Educational Psychology and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in Information Sciences and Learning Technologies from the University of Missouri. He lives in Lake Ozark, MO.
ERICA META SMITH
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL FORESTER #2977, TERRA GLOBAL

Erica Meta Smith, M.F., RPF # 2977, Forest Carbon Field Development Specialist, Joined Terra Global Capital in 2009. Erica provides technical field skills, on-ground carbon quantification expertise, and specializes in field measurement techniques. Erica is working with farmers to pilot low-emission rice projects in California, and with ranchers in the West to pilot GHG Rangeland Protocol. Erica has provided technical advice to the Climate Action Reserve protocols on natural resource management. Before working with Terra Global Capital Erica worked in the natural resource policy field and for the USDA-NRCS in Davis California and territories in the Pacific. Erica received her undergraduate in forestry and Master of Forestry from University of California-Berkeley in 2005 and 2007. Her master's work reviewed, supported, and made recommendations for California Climate Action Registry's natural resource protocols and their implications on the ecology, society and carbon markets of California. Erica is a Certified Ecologist through the Ecological Society of America and a Registered Professional Forester in the State of California.

DEBBIE REED
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, C-AGG

Based in Washington, DC, Debbie manages and provides leadership and development for C-AGG activities and meetings. Her extensive policy expertise in agriculture, climate change and natural resources serve to guide and inform C-AGGs work in the US and abroad. Debbie’s past positions in the US legislative and administrative branches and work in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) continue to support and inform C-AGG’s policy and program development and stakeholder engagement and outreach. Debbie currently serves on the Board of Directors of Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture, and co-chairs their greenhouse gas metric and soil carbon metric sub-committees. Debbie is also the President/Director of DRD Associates LLC, providing technical, policy and strategic support to a range of organizations in the areas of sustainable food and agriculture, including incentive-based and market-based ecosystem services and climate change mitigation opportunities. Debbie’s previous positions include serving in the White House Council on Environmental Quality as the Director of Legislative Affairs and Agricultural Policy; in the U.S. Senate, as a Senior Staff on natural resource and agricultural issues for U.S. Senator Robert Kerrey of Nebraska; and numerous leadership roles at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), including a special assistant to the Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education and Economics (REE), and special assistant to the Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Her work at USDA included serving on multiple Bi-national Commissions on Agricultural Science and Technology; and as the USDA Executive Secretariat for the US Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Prior to that, Debbie worked for the Washington, DC Women, Infants, and Children’s (WIC) Supplemental Feeding Program; and for various non-profit organizations dedicated to promoting human nutrition research, policies and programs in support of human health. She has an MS in human nutrition and communications from Boston University. Debbie can be reached at dreed@drdassociates.org

CHARLES (CHUCK) W. RICE
UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR
MARY L. VANIER UNIVERSITY PROFESSORSHIP
CHAIR, BOARD ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES, NATIONAL ACADEMIES OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND MEDICINE

Charles (Chuck) Rice is a University Distinguished Professor and holds the Vanier University Professorship at Kansas State University. He teaches courses and conducts research on soil carbon and nitrogen, microbial ecology, and climate change impacts on agriculture. He has advised over 40 graduate students and 10 post-doctors and has over 200 publications. Dr. Rice has served in numerous capacities with professional societies including President of the Soil Science Society of America in 2011. Internationally, he served on the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to author a report on Climate Change in 2007 and 2014 and was among scientists recognized when that work won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. In 2017, he received the “International” awards from the Soil Science Society of America and the American Society of Agronomy and was named the Hugh Hammond Bennett Awardee from the Soil and
Water Conservation Society which recognizes exceptional service and national and international accomplishments in the conservation of soil, water, and natural resources.

Dr. Rice serves on the Board of Trustees for CIAT, the International Tropical Agriculture Research Center based in Cali, Colombia. He also chairs the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the U.S. National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine.

MINDY SELMAN
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS ANALYST, OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MARKETS, USDA

Mindy Selman is a senior environmental markets analyst with USDA’s Office of Environmental Markets (OEM), and a specialist in water quality trading. At OEM she is involved with helping to develop nationwide tools that can be used to estimate on-farm pollution reductions, as well as tools for registering and tracking credits. Prior to joining OEM, Ms. Selman worked at the World Resources Institute (WRI) where she specialized in market-based mechanisms for improving water quality. She worked extensively in the Chesapeake Bay on water quality trading issues as well as leading the development of NutrientNet and the Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Tracking Tool, which are web-based tools for estimating nonpoint source credits. In addition, Ms. Selman led the development of a Chesapeake Bay-wide water quality trading registry. Ms. Selman is the author of several publications on water quality trading and was also a contributing author to the National Network’s publication, “Building a Water Quality Trading Program: Options and Considerations.”

STEVEN SHAFER
CHIEF SCIENTIFIC OFFICER, SOIL HEALTH INSTITUTE

Dr. Steven Shafer was named the first Chief Scientific Officer (CSO) of the Soil Health Institute (www.soilhealthinstitute.org), effective May 2, 2016. The Institute’s mission is to safeguard and enhance the vitality and productivity of the soil. Launched in 2015, the Institute is an evolution of the Soil Renaissance, which was established in 2013 by the Noble Foundation and Farm Foundation to advance soil health and make it the cornerstone of land use management decisions. As CSO, Dr. Shafer is responsible for developing and establishing the scientific direction, strategy and implementation plan for Institute research programs and establishing the research priorities for the Institute. His duties include leading the scientific research and coordinating projects carried out at various institutions that advance soil health science and result in useful and reportable results. Dr. Shafer joined the Soil Health Institute after a career spanning more than 32 years in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). In his last position, he served as Associate Administrator for National Programs in the Agricultural Research Service (ARS). Dr. Shafer received the Senior Executive Service Meritorious Presidential Rank Award in 2011 and the USDA Secretary’s Honor Award in 2012 and 2014. He received B.S. Agr. and M.S. degrees from The Ohio State University and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University, all in plant pathology, with research emphasis on soil microbiology and chemistry. He is a native of Marion, Ohio.