

Presenter Biographies

Keynote Speaker

Matt Dunne - Matt currently serves as the Manager of Community Affairs for Google, acting as a liaison between the company and communities around the world. He promotes productive partnerships between the private and public sectors, and plays a critical role in maintaining local corporate social responsibility. Elected to four terms in the State House, Matt focused his attention on three core areas: engaging youth in government and community service, promoting the arts, and sparking innovative job-creation and redevelopment of Vermont's historic downtowns. Matt attended Brown University and majored in Public Policy, graduating in 1992. He then returned home to Vermont and, at 22, was elected to the state legislature, representing Hartland and West Windsor.

Connect VT

Karen Marshall - Karen Marshall is currently the Chief of Connect VT. Prior to this appointment, Marshall served as Chief Operating Officer at SecurShred, and she served as Vice President Northern New England for Comcast Spotlight, the advertising division of Comcast Cable, and Vice President/Vermont for Clear Channel Communications, where she managed 15 radio stations. Marshall has played an active role in community service as well, serving currently as Chair of the Vermont Economic Progress Council, a board member of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle counties, the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce, and UVM's Athletic Advisory Council.

World Café

Judy Warriner Walke - Judy is Director of The Snelling Center for Government's Vermont Leadership Institute, and has been associated with VLI since helping to launch the program in 1995. Judy is an organization development consultant and facilitator whose work has been energizing inspired teams and reflective leaders since 1993, in a wide variety of organizations, companies, and communities. To this work with groups, Judy Walke brings fifteen years' management and planning experience in manufacturing with Digital Equipment Corporation. She has worked in nonprofit organizations and in government at the local and state level. Judy holds an M.B.A. from the Amos Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and an undergraduate degree in history of art from Smith College.

Community Track

The Downtown Connection: Three Models for Bringing Public Wifi to Your Town

Sean Sheehan - Sean worked with the Center for A New American Dream for 12 years, where his management and communication skills were invaluable as he helped start and grow the organization. His experience with public opinion research, on-line resources, and consensus building will help him hit the ground running. Sean earned his B.A. at American University and Masters in Public Administration at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Philip Petty - Philip brings his 30 years of experience as a faculty member at Vermont Technical College to this e-Vermont position. He recently served as Instructional Technology Coordinator and Interim Director of the Center for Sustainable Practices at the school. Philip is an exceptional listener and communicator, and describes himself as a "passionate Internet citizen." Philip earned his B.A. at UVM and a M.S. in Botany and Plant Pathology at Michigan State University.

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Townsend Belisle – Townsend is an independent producer and has over 15 years of experience leading the strategy and business development for various creative communication and design firms. He has produced hundreds of websites, presentations, events, videos and print campaigns, and he takes pride in creating meaningful, memorable and measurable brand solutions. His recent clients include American Express, Comcast, Conde Nast, Diageo, MetLife, Moet Hennessy, New York Times, PBS, Reebok, Showtime, Sony Music, and Xerox.

Patricia Sears - Patricia serves as the Executive Director of Newport City Renaissance Corporation, a nongovernmental private nonprofit organization working on the revitalization of downtown Newport, Vermont, an international gateway to Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. She works with the volunteer board and members of the organization's Design, Economic Restructuring, Organization and Promotions Committee working as catalysts for Newport City's downtown's economic and community development. In 2009, Patricia organized the American Institute of Architect's (AIA) Rural/Urban Design Team (R/UDAT) work on downtown Newport. Patricia is recognized for her ability and skills in coalition building, community outreach and has a proven track record of working in challenging environments with facility, bringing diverse groups and cultures together.

Al Levy – Al Levy is the President of Summit Technologies. Summit has been providing high-speed wireless networking design, implementation and support services since 2002 to enable mobility. The company serves healthcare, manufacturing/warehousing, enterprise, hospitality/resort and state/local government verticals across the U.S. with wireless and WiFi solutions including guest access, voice over wireless, location/asset tracking, and temperature sensing. The company recently co-developed a 900mhz mesh, last-mile wireless solution ideal for extending fiber networks to rural residences and providing WiFi in densely wooded areas. Al currently serves on the board of the vtSDA in an effort to highlight and promote the tech sector in Vermont. He graduated from UVM in 1981 with a BA in Psychology and has been focused in technology since 1988.

Online Tools for Real World Communities

Helen Labun Jordan - Helen moved to e-Vermont after several years with the Vermont Agency of Agriculture where she was instrumental in developing local and regional food systems through a variety of programs. She also brings a background in federal and state policy issues, as well as grant writing and management. Helen earned her B.A. from Princeton University and a M.Sc. in Community Development and Applied Economics at the University of Vermont.

Michael Wood-Lewis - Michael Wood-Lewis and his wife Valerie founded Front Porch Forum in Burlington in 2006. FPF hosts a network of online neighborhood forums that blankets 60 Vermont towns (and growing), and more than 25,000 households subscribe. The resulting news sharing and community building earned an international 2010 Knight News Challenge award. Previously, he led an innovative trade association of New England utilities. As do many of his fellow Vermonters, Michael serves many roles locally with youth sports, town committees, charities, and church. He earned an M.S. in engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as an MBA.

Lise LePage and Christopher Grotke – Lise and Christopher run MuseArts, a web design company started in 1997 to create sites not only for clients, but also for themselves. In early 2003, they launched iBrattleboro.com as an experiment: a community news and information site where the readers are also the writers, and ordinary citizens are encouraged to report on issues of interest. iBrattleboro is considered a pioneering site, and is now one of the oldest citizen journalism sites in the country, with nearly 2,300 register users having submitted nearly 18,000 stories and 90,000 comments. iBrattleboro has recently partnered with Archive-It.org to permanently preserve the site.

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Susan Clark – Susan is the town moderator for Middlesex, VT. For ten years she chaired the Middlesex Town Meeting Solutions Committee—an ad hoc group created to improve citizen participation in her community—working on such creative projects as remote town meeting participation, a citizens’ “operator’s manual,” and efforts to close the town’s digital divide. She has also been an advocate for new legislation to improve town meeting participation and process. With UVM professor Frank Bryan, Susan co-authored *All Those In Favor: Rediscovering the Secrets of Town Meeting and Community*.

21st Century Libraries: Finding the Information You Need Online

Stacey Knibloe – Stacy is a Customer Education Consultant for Cengage Learning, and has worked for the organization since 1999 as a member of the Electronic Product Training & Support team. Her role includes instructing libraries on how to use their e-resources to their fullest capacity and make the most of their subscriptions. Stacey received her Masters of Library Science degree from University of Buffalo in May 1998 and her Bachelors of Science degree in Business Education from Buffalo State College in May 1995.

Mara Siegel – Mara is the Continuing Education Coordinator for the Vermont Department of Libraries. Realizing she would never be a world-class runner, Mara decided to do the next best thing and become a librarian. Mara began working at the Department of Libraries in 1997 lending books from UVM to libraries in Vermont, and has been teaching technology-related workshops since 2002.

Education Track

Effective Planning For School Modernization: Crafting a Paradigm Shift

Heather Chirtea (panel moderator) – Heather is the creator of Digital Wish, training educators to use technology for over 12 years. She worked at television stations for five years, and did a year-long stint as a studio hand on Fox News in Baltimore. Heather then moved to California and designed computer games for a few years. She eventually started her own software licensing firm, then started the company Tool Factory, then Digital Wish.

Bjorn Behrendt - Bjorn is the IT Coordinator for Mount St. Joseph Academy in Vermont. He spearheaded their 21st century learning environment initiative which consists of 1:1 netbooks, interactive white boards, and training. He also teaches classes at his alma mater Castleton State College in Web Design, Intro to Computers and Arts and Humanities. In additions he works with several grant and state funded projects including the development team of Vita-Learn.org, and as a technical advisor and trainer for the MSP Science and Technology grant. Bjorn holds a Bachelor’s degree in Computer Information Systems with a minor in Business from Castleton State College. He is a Google Apps Certified Trainer.

Implementing 1:1 Computing: Getting on the Roadmap How to Win Grants and New Places to Find Funding

Heather Chirtea

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Nonprofit and Social Services Track

Access for Everyone: Addressing the Digital Divide

Barry Lampke (panel moderator) – Barry is the director of the Champlain Initiative, established in 1996 with a mission of improving the health of our community over a 20-year period. The Champlain Initiative is a multi-sector collaborative that mobilizes the creativity and resources of the community to address key challenges identified by stakeholders. Prior to joining the organization, Lampke was Development & Communications Director for Smart Growth Vermont, Marketing Project Manager with the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation and Executive Director of the Association of Vermont Recyclers.

Mary Ide - Mary has been Regional Manager for Vermont Adult Learning in Windham County since 2008. Prior to coming to VAL, she was the Director of the Media Library and Archives at WGBH in Boston, the multi-media public broadcasting station.

Jay Hoffman - Jay Hoffman has been a national leader in innovative application of technologies in the classroom. With a Bachelor's degree in Technology Education and an advanced degree in Public School Administration, Jay recognized the need to incorporate the arts and technology across curricula at Tuttle Middle School in Burlington, VT. So he and the school's music teacher teamed up and secured grant money they used to create a news broadcast studio, equip every classroom with televisions, and upgrade the school's cable infrastructure. Not long after, in February 2003, the South Burlington Network News (SBNN) debuted on their school network.

Scott Campitelli - Station manager at RETN Channel 16 public access television. RETN is an award winning public television station that is leading the way in Web-based content and distribution.

Dan Glanville - Dan serves as Comcast's Vice President of Government Affairs in the Western New England Region. In this position, he is responsible for franchise negotiations, license and regulatory compliance, interaction with elected and appointed officials and other government and public affairs initiatives. Dan also coordinates with Senior Management on the implementation of operational initiatives throughout the North Central Division. Prior to entering the cable industry in 1998, Dan was the city solicitor for the City of Holyoke, Massachusetts, where he served as chief legal counsel for a mid-sized city of 44,000. Dan holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Government from Western New England College, as well as a Law Degree from Western New England College School of Law. Dan is active in a variety of community public service capacities such as member of the Holyoke Fire Department Board of Fire Commissioners, Holyoke Youth Baseball Board of Directors and the Spirit of Springfield Board of Directors.

Helen Labun Jordan

Nonprofit Fundraising

Lauren-Glenn Davitian – Lauren-Glenn is widely credited with establishing strong community access to cable television throughout Vermont. She is a well-known spokeswoman on behalf of free speech and open networks locally and in the state capital. She is founder and executive director of CCTV's Center for Media and Democracy and oversees Channel 17/Town Meeting Television (a regional government access TV channel), Common Good Vermont (a Vermont nonprofit capacity building project) and CCTV Productions & Technical Services.

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Jacob Colie – Jacob is the President of Stagecoach Digital LLC. He helps nonprofits, colleges/universities and small businesses take advantage of Internet resources. With 12 years of nonprofit experience, Jacob raised over \$68 million from 200,000 supporters, and he pioneered many key digital fundraising tools and marketing methods. He is passionate about leveraging technology to raise money, improve ROI, engage supporters, advocate and raise awareness.

Skill Building to Close the Digital Divide

Barry Lampke

Jay Hoffman

Scott Campitelli

Business Track

The Mobile Web: Vermont's Business Advantage

Deb Shannon (panel moderator) – Director, Broadband Outreach and Coordination, VT Telecommunications Authority - Deb was appointed as director at the VTA after three years as a policy analyst at the Vermont Department of Public Service, where she researched and developed the 2010 Draft Telecommunications Plan. After a stint in the financial services industry, Deb began her career in telecommunications as an education specialist at the Together Foundation for Global Unity. Upon graduating from the University of Vermont, Deb received a Fulbright Award and lived in Austria until she returned to Vermont in 1992. Deb is also a graduate of the Vermont Leadership Institute and a member of her local development review board.

Ann Pettyjohn - Vice President and Founder, Green Mountain Software - Ann is responsible for working with clients and strategic partners in leveraging mobile computing technology to meet their specific business needs. With more than 20 years technology marketing experience, she has held senior management positions with Motorola, Prime Computer and Boise Cascade. She is a published author and has been a frequent contributor to *Network World*. She graduated maxima cum laude from the Univ. of Portland with a BA in Communications.

Tom Jaros - Founder and CEO, Empower Mobility - Tom has nearly 20 years of experience in the Mobile Computing field, having helped numerous clients take their businesses and ideas mobile through the crafting of custom software. An advocate of mobile, Tom has spoken at other area events on mobile and was even an initial content contributor to Champlain College's Online Mobile Programming Certificate program. When not focusing on his mobile endeavors, Tom contributes his time to the Vermont Software Developers' Alliance as the VP on Board of Directors and to help organize the Vermont Tech Jam. He graduated from UVM with a degree in Computer Science and a minor in Music.

Ed Shepard - Edward is the founder of Fablelab, a marketing and production company that uses web video, mobile apps and social media to engage and involve customers and communities. Previous to Fablelab, Edward was VP of Marketing at Small Dog Electronics for seven years. Edward is an active member of Vermont's digital marketing community and is a frequent speaker on the best-of-breed web-enabled marketing and analytic tools available to small and medium sized businesses. Edward is currently developing a fitness-based iPhone app with a partner in Burlington Vermont, set to launch this December.

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Business Technology: Do More with Less Web Analytics: Catch and Count the Clicks

Bibi Mukherjee – Bibi is the owner of Curve Trends Marketing, a full service digital marketing agency. With over 16 years of market research and digital marketing experience, Bibi, a Mechanical Engineer, has developed and led implementations for multitudes of marketing campaigns, working closely with global and national clients. Her digital work has spanned the retail, education, and hospitality industries. An active blogger, a social media enthusiast and a passionate speaker at several industry conferences, Bibi is ambitious about the increasing influence of digital media and its effective measurement techniques in driving business goals and continues to share her innovative approach with clients, peers and associates.

Conference Introductions

Paul Costello - Paul is the executive director for the Vermont Council on Rural Development. He is a UVM alumnus and holds a PhD in intellectual history from McGill University. In addition to his work at VCRD, Paul is a member of the Housing Vermont Board of Directors and President Emeritus of the national Partners for Rural America organization.

Mark Snelling - Mark is the president of the Snelling Center for Government. He has owned and operated a number of businesses in the ski, bike, and hardware industries. He is currently on the board of The Snelling Center for Government and is chair of the Vermont Governor's Council of Environmental Advisors. He also recently chaired the Governor's Commission on Downtowns and Growth Centers. He has previously served on the Boards of Key Bank Vermont, the Vermont Land Trust, Medical Center Hospital of Vermont, and as Chair of Housing Vermont and the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps.

Joanna Cummings - Joanna Cummings is The Snelling Center for Government Community Coordinator for the e-Vermont Community Broadband Project, and the statewide conference and regional workshop coordinator. Previously she was the director of communications for a public television station, responsible for the development and implementation of communication, marketing and public relations strategies. Joanna's career in communications also includes several years of public service with the State of Vermont, for the Department of Health and the Agency of Agriculture. Joanna graduated from The Pennsylvania State University with a B.S. in Horticulture, and received a M.S. in Environmental Communications from Antioch University/New England.