



WORKING TOWARD a
SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY | LIVE GREEN!

Speaker Biographies

2015 Symposium on Sustainability:

Doing Our Part, Greening Our Mark, Making a Difference

Public Lecture – Green Chemistry: Helping Create a Safer, More Sustainable Future

Dr. John Warner, Author, Chemist, Professor

John is the recipient of the 2014 Perkin Medal, widely acknowledged as the highest honor in American Industrial Chemistry. He received his BS in Chemistry from UMASS Boston, and his PhD in Chemistry from Princeton University. After working at the Polaroid Corporation for nearly a decade, he then served as tenured full professor at UMASS Boston and Lowell (Chemistry and Plastics Engineering). In 2007 he founded the Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry, LLC (A research organization developing green chemistry technologies) where he serves as President and Chief Technology Officer, and Beyond Benign (a non-profit dedicated to sustainability and green chemistry education). He is one of the founders of the field of Green Chemistry, co-authoring the defining text [Green Chemistry: Theory and Practice](#) with [Paul Anastas](#). He has published over 200 patents, papers and books. His recent work in the fields of pharmaceuticals, personal care products, solar energy and construction and paving materials are examples of how green chemistry principles can be immediately incorporated into commercially relevant applications. Warner received The 2004 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Mentoring, the American Institute of Chemistry's Northeast Division's Distinguished Chemist of the Year for 2002 and the Council of Science Society President's 2008 Leadership award. Warner was named by ICIS as one of the most influential people impacting the global chemical industries. In 2011 he was elected a Fellow of the American Chemical Society and named one of "25 Visionaries Changing the World" by Utne Reader.

Presentation of the Live Green! Awards for Excellence in Sustainability

Merry Rankin, Director of Sustainability, Iowa State University

Merry Rankin is the Director of Sustainability at Iowa State University. She received her B.S. in General Business and M.S. in Wildlife Biology from Iowa State University. Merry has fifteen years of experience in the area of environmental management and sustainability. She is responsible for coordinating sustainability (greening) activities at Iowa State University and serving as a central resource related to sustainability collaboration and information. She has completed international environmental human dimensions research in India, Costa Rica, Australia, and South Africa. Merry serves on the Board of Directors for the Volunteer Center for Story County, the Octagon Center for the Arts and Worldly Goods.

Kerry Dixon, Coordinator of Sustainable Design and Construction, Facilities Planning and Management

Kerry has been with Facilities Planning and Management at Iowa State since 1995, and serves as the Coordinator of Sustainable Design and Construction in addition to her role as a capital projects manager. Kerry managed ISU's first LEED project – the renovation of Morrill Hall, ISU's first LEED Platinum project – the King Pavilion at the College of Design; and ISU's first LEED for Commercial Interiors projects – Curtiss Hall Harl Commons and Curtiss Hall Student Services Mall. Kerry has a Bachelor's of Architecture from the University of Notre Dame. In 2013 she received the Live Green! Award for Excellence in Sustainability, with Ulrike Passe, for their work with the USGBC Research to Practice Program on the ISU Campus. She also received the 2012 Iowa State University Professional and Scientific Excellence Award.

Alyson Straube, Director of Sustainability, Government of the Student Body

Alyson Straube is a senior in chemical engineering. As a high school student in Racine County, Wis., she used to move her friends' soda bottles from the trash to a recycling bin, so Alyson Straube knows how to 'walk the walk.' The chemical engineering senior thinks the Government of the Student Body's director of sustainability post (in her second term) is a great fit for her interests. "I wanted this position to try to make a difference." "We [Iowa State] do a really good job with sustainable projects, but the more we can do, the better." The University Library permanently established another recycling program – with plastic, metal and glass food and beverage containers, thanks to work last year by Straube.

Parker Neid, Assistant Director of Sustainability, Government of the Student Body

Parker Neid is sophomore in Management Information Systems from Columbus, Nebraska. At the end of his freshmen year he became the first Assistant Director of Sustainability for the Government of the Student Body at Iowa State University. Parker has been active in Freshmen Council and The Green Umbrella. He is excited to support The Green Umbrella and all of their event planning and credits the organization for making a positive impact on his adventure at ISU. He is also excited to work closely with the Government of the Student Body Director of Sustainability and ISU's Director of Sustainability on expanding campus recycling. "Even though these adventures do not always head in a direct and desired direction, I always look forward to them in my hectic schedule."

Public Lecture- Caterpillar's Journey to Sustainability: A Corporate Perspective

Dr. Tim Lindsey, Global Director of Sustainable Development, Caterpillar

Tim Lindsey, Global Director of Sustainable Development at Caterpillar, has over thirty years' experience associated with helping organizations become more sustainable by improving processes, products, and systems with respect to their energy, water, and materials utilization. He is an accomplished program and project manager with experience in multiple industrial sectors, including: energy processing, food processing, agriculture, biofuels, chemical processing, electronics, machining, metal forming, metal finishing, and die-casting. Dr. Lindsey has helped hundreds of corporate and public sector interests improve their economic, environmental and social sustainability through state-of-the-art training and technical assistance services. He is a nationally recognized expert regarding the development of techniques to facilitate the implementation and diffusion of innovative alternative energy and sustainability practices. He has produced multiple publications on energy efficiency, alternative energy, alternative fuels development and sustainability.