



WORKING TOWARD a SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY | **LIVE GREEN!**

Speaker Biographies

2019 Symposium on Sustainability: Envisioning Our Next Sustainable Decade

Public Lecture – The Sky is Not the Limit

Captain Scott Kelly, NASA Astronaut

Scott Kelly's resume includes former military fighter pilot, test pilot, engineer, retired astronaut and retired U.S. Navy Captain. A veteran of four space flights, Kelly commanded the International Space Station (ISS) on three expeditions and was a member of the yearlong mission to the ISS. In October 2015, he set the record for the total accumulated number of days spent in space, the single longest space mission by an American astronaut. He lives in Houston, Texas. Kelly's lecture is entitled "The Sky is Not the Limit." Kelly captivated the world and seized the imagination of millions during his record-breaking year; proving that the sky is not the limit when it comes to the potential of the human spirit. On his trip, Scott, together with his identical twin brother Mark (the husband of Arizona Senator Gabrielle Giffords) who was located on Earth, sought to discover how elongated lengths of time in space effects the human body. Kelly also helped the world see the impacts of climate change when he returned from his 2017 expedition and shared pictures of Earth covered in pollution. Kelly has published three books "My Journey to the Stars," "Endurance," and "Infinite Wonder," which has garnered being featured in many magazine articles, book reviews and interviewed on several news stations. Kelly resides in Houston, Texas.

Presentation of the Live Green! Awards for Excellence in Sustainability

Merry Rankin, Director of Sustainability, Iowa State University and Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Ames

Merry Rankin is Iowa State University's inaugural Director of Sustainability, responsible for coordinating Iowa State University's sustainability initiatives and serving as a central resource for collaboration and information. Through a partnership with the City of Ames, she also assists in the facilitation of community sustainability planning and implementation. Prior to coming to ISU, she worked for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, working with the Recycling Technical Assistance Team and overseeing the Department's statewide volunteer program – Keepers of the Land, and also Iowa State University Wildlife and Fisheries Extension Service. Merry has a B.S. in General Business and an M.S. in Wildlife Biology, both from Iowa State University and has completed international environmental human dimensions research in India, Costa Rica, Australia, and South Africa. Outside of work, Merry serves on the Board of Directors for Worldly Goods