



# 2018-2020 Board of Directors

## Executive Committee

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### **Shawn Leight. PE, PTOE, PTP**

#### *President*

Vice President/Chief Operations Officer  
CBB Transportation Engineers + Planners  
Adjunct Professor | Washington University at St. Louis  
Past President | ITE – A Community of Transportation Professionals  
USA



Shawn's technical strengths are transportation planning, modeling, and freeway operations. He has worked in virtually every stage of project development including comprehensive planning, corridor/feasibility studies, public engagement, grant writing, environmental (NEPA) investigations, Access Justification Reports (AJR), Value Engineering (VE), construction (PS&E) documents, Design Build, and Public Private Partnerships (P3). Shawn received his Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point and his Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Missouri, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and North Carolina and is certified nationally as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE) and Professional Transportation Planner (PTP). [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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### **Karyn M. Warsaw, MSc., MPH, DrPH(c)**

#### *Chairman*

Founder & Executive Director TPH Link/ICTH/IPATH  
DrPH Candidate, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Health Policy Management and Leadership  
USA



Karyn is a cross-disciplinary professional with 15 years of experience, in the area of trauma and critical care medicine; specifically, traumatic brain and spinal cord injuries as a result of motor vehicle crashes and interpersonal violence. With this experience, she successfully crossed over to the field of transportation after advocating for policy change in her local community. Karyn brings to the field of transportation, a unique perspective that merges best practices and lessons learned from multiple disciplines to devise innovative solutions. Over the years, she has developed an exceptional network of high-level national and international multimodal transportation, urban planning and public health contacts. Karyn is a strong results-based leader. She is the Founder and Executive Director of the Transportation Public Health Link (TPH Link), which administers the International Professional Association for Transport & Health (IPATH) and the

International Conference on Transport & Health (ICTH). In addition, Karyn has established a partnership with the Transport & Health Study Group (THSG) in the United Kingdom and serves on the Board as the US Policy and Advocacy Representative. Karyn is also a peer reviewer for the Journal of Transport & Health and multiple Committees of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) with membership in the TRB Strategic Management Committee and a member of the Institute for Transportation Engineers (ITE) Steering Committee on Transportation and Health. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## Ghassan Abu-Lebdeh, PhD

### *Vice President*

Associate Professor  
American University of Sharjah  
Civil Engineering Department  
UAE



Ghassan is Associate Professor of Civil Engineering and Transport at the American University of Sharjah, UAE. His research focus is on the interaction between urban traffic operations and public health. Ghassan teaches traffic control congestion and sustainability in transport systems. He earned a doctoral degree at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. His academic and industry experience spans 25 years in transport operations and planning with periods at Michigan State University, University of Kentucky, and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations in Worcester, Massachusetts. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## Steve Yaffe

### *Secretary*

Chief Executive Officer  
Yaffe Mobility Consulting LLC  
USA



Steve is proprietor of Yaffe Mobility Consulting LLC, recently retired as the Transit Services Manager for the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services – Transportation Division. He oversaw planning and operations for Arlington Transit (ART) fixed-route transit as well their local paratransit service. Steve has prior fixed route experience with RT Metro in Sacramento and Houston Metro. He has served on several Transportation Cooperative Research Program study panels, coordinated, presided over and presented at “Transit’s Reach: First Mile – Last Mile” workshop at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board and is a member of the TRB Transformative Trends in Transit Data Subcommittee. In his capacity with Arlington County, Steve provided input and testimony to the Virginia Dept. of Rail & Public Transportation’s Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC) which has developed state assistance allocation formulas for both operating and capital support.

## Board of Directors

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### **Slande Celeste-Alliance, MPH, MCHES**

#### *IPATH Membership Manager*

University of Florida  
College of Public Health and Health Professions  
Public Health Programs  
USA



Slande has a strong interest in social determinants of health, the built environment, and community participation. She has worked in a variety of Public Health settings. Internationally, she has worked with World Vision International: Haiti to evaluate maternal and child health programs as well as conduct health education and promotion campaigns around HIV/AIDS. Slade has worked in several health departments in Florida as an epidemiologist and a coordinator of chronic disease prevention programs. Recently, she served as an Internship Coordinator, while maintaining public health skills of program evaluation and health promotion with partners locally and internationally. In her current position, Slade works on clinical demonstration projects that benefit Veterans. She has held a number of leadership positions in the American Public Health Association's Community Health Planning and Policy Section over the last four years. Slade Celeste received her Bachelor of Health Education and Master of Public Health degrees the University of Florida in 2001 and 2003, respectively along with a certificate in Social Marketing. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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### **Emily M. D'Agostino, DrPH, MS, MEd, MA**

#### *Board of Directors*

Research Faculty  
Duke Family Medicine & Community Health  
Duke University School of Medicine  
USA



Emily is a pediatric cardiovascular epidemiologist and community-engaged researcher whose work addresses youth health inequities related to physical activity, fitness, and resilience. She is currently an Assistant Professor at Duke University School of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, and holds a secondary appointment in the Department of Population Health Sciences. She obtained her doctoral training in epidemiology at the City University of New York, Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy. Her current research aims to develop innovative community-based strategies targeting transportation equity as a social and structural driver of health. She also holds expertise in multilevel modeling techniques and the analysis of complex longitudinal datasets. Her research draws from over 20 years of experience working directly in school and park settings to improve youth health in underserved communities in New York City, Miami, and Durham.

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## **O. A. Elrahman (Sam), PhD**

### *Board of Directors*

Sr. Research Scholar  
Center for Infrastructure, Transportation, and the Environment  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
USA



Sam is currently working with the Center for Transportation Infrastructure and Environment (CTIE) as a Senior Research Scholar. He is a member of a research team that examines governance of environmental health in six global cities and studies the forces that influence decisions that impact environmental health. He also is a team member of a study that is developing performance measures for evaluating social media use in public transit agencies. Prior to his work with the Center, Sam served at the New York State Department of Transportation for 30 years in different capacities including Head of the Research Coordination and Technology Transfer unit of the Transportation Research & Development Bureau. His extensive research and management activities spanned several departmental divisions, including Environmental Analysis, Policy, Transit, Project Development, and Economic Development. During his career, Sam has authored more than sixty peer-reviewed articles and technical reports. Sam holds a PhD in Urban and Environmental Studies from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), and an M.Sc. in Transportation Planning and Engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of New York, School of Engineering, New York University. He also holds a postgraduate Certificate in Management Development from Cornell University. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## **Jennifer Mindell, BSc, MB BS, PhD**

### *Board of Directors, THSG Representative*

Professor of Public Health  
Health and Social Surveys Research Group  
Research Department of Epidemiology and Public Health  
University College London  
United Kingdom



Jenny is a Professor of Public Health in the Health and Social Surveys Research Group of the Research Department of Epidemiology & Public Health at UCL (University College London). She has experience in epidemiology, general practice, and health promotion. Jenny leads the UCL Health Survey for England team and is health lead of UCL's Transport Institute. Jenny supervises doctoral students in both the Population Health Sciences and the Civil, Environmental & Geomatic Engineering Faculties. Previously, she was Deputy Director of the London Health Observatory and led health impact assessments of the London Mayor's Transport and other strategies. Jenny was also Principal Investigator for a cross-disciplinary project developing tools to measure community severance by road traffic. Jenny was lead editor of the 2011 report, "Health on the Move2" published by the Transport & Health Study Group (THSG). She is the previous Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Transport and Health, former Co-chair (Science) of THSG, and chairs the UK Faculty of Public Health's Health Improvement Committee. [LinkedIn Profile](#)



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## Jun-Seok Oh, PhD, PE, PTOE

### *Board of Directors*

Associate Professor  
Director, Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities  
Western Michigan University  
USA



Jun is Professor of the Department of Civil and Construction Engineering at Western Michigan University and also Director of Transportation Research Center for Livable Communities, a Tier 1 University Transportation Center funded by the U.S. Department of Transportation. With 34 years of experience in the transportation field, his unique strength is an extensive knowledge of both traffic engineering and transportation systems analysis through his experiences as a researcher or a professional engineer. Jun has participated in a wide range of research activities related with transportation systems analysis, traffic safety, intelligent transportation systems, advanced traffic management, and non-motorized transportation systems. His recent research focuses on building livable communities through smart, safe, sustainable transportation. He earned his PhD from University of California at Irvine. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## Greg Rybarczyk, PhD

### *Board of Directors*

Associate Professor  
University of Michigan - Flint  
Affiliated faculty, Michigan Institute for Data Science  
USA



Greg is an Associate Professor at the University of Michigan-Flint, Department of Geography, Planning, and Environment, and is an affiliated faculty member at the University of Michigan's Data Science Institute. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and has over a decade of experience utilizing GIS and empirical analysis to investigate accessibility and transportation issues for government, non-profit, and private sectors. In terms of research, his interests are centered on active transportation, travel-demand modeling, accessibility, inter-modal mode-choice decision making, Big Data, public health, naturalistic wayfinding modeling, crime assessments, food systems, urban planning, and higher education. Besides serving on the IPATH Board of Directors, he is an active member of the Association of American Geographers, Michigan League of Bicyclists, Transportation Research Board-Transport & Health Study Group, and Association of Bicycle and Pedestrian Professionals-Education Sub-committee. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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**Ipek N. Sener, PhD**  
*Board of Directors*

Associate Research Scientist  
Texas A & M Transportation Research Institute  
USA



Ipek is an Associate Research Scientist at the Texas A&M Transportation Institute. Her research focus lies at the intersection of social, behavioral, and data sciences and brings together the elements of mobility, safety, equity, health, and technology. She has a particular interest in understanding individuals' activity-travel behaviors, the changing nature of transportation choices, and the related impact on and/or connection to transportation and sustainable mobility. She serves as a Faculty Affiliate at the Texas A&M Center for Population Health and Aging and is an active member of several TRB committees, including the Travel Behavior and Values Committee, the Effects of Information and Communication Technologies on Travel Choices Committee, and the Health and Transportation Subcommittee. She received her doctorate degree in Transportation Engineering from The University of Texas at Austin. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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**Kimberly Vachal, PhD**  
*Board of Directors*

Senior Researcher & Program Director  
Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute  
North Dakota State University  
USA



Kimberly is the lead investigator for Agricultural Industry and Rural Transportation Safety and Security activities at North Dakota State University's Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute. She conducts research and outreach to promote a competitive agricultural logistics system, along with a safe and secure transportation, in rural regions. Research, outreach, and educational activities are defined and accomplished in cooperation with stakeholders. She has over 15 years of experience in transportation research, primarily in agriculture, safety, economics, policy, and freight mobility, and has worked extensively with both government and private industry agencies. In addition, she has had the opportunity to work with students as research assistants and in teaching courses in freight logistics, microeconomics, and international development economics. Kimberly's research concentration has been in public policy and economics. She has written over 50 research papers and authored several journal articles. She also assists other research faculty with policy and economic analysis as it is relevant to their research. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## **E. Owen D. Waygood, PhD**

*Board of Directors*

Associate Professor  
Polytechnique Montréal, Department of Transport Engineering  
Quebec, Canada



Owen graduated in 2009 with a PhD in Civil Engineering from Kyoto University (Kyoto, Japan). After a position as a research associate and then research fellow at the Centre for Transport & Society at the University of the West of England (Bristol, U.K.), he held first a position of Assistant and then Associate Professor of Transport Planning at Laval University (Quebec, Canada). In 2018, Owen was recruited by Polytechnique Montréal as an Associate Professor of Transport Engineering. He has published research on children's transport, physical activity, and social connections, sustainable transport, and transport behaviour change. He has been a co-guest editor for special issues on transport and child wellbeing, and transport and wellbeing published with the journal *Travel Behaviour and Society*. He conducts research on sustainable transport modes and how to increase their use. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

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## **Stephen Watkins, BSc, MB, ChB, MSc, FFPH, HonFFSRH, CMILT**

*Board of Directors, THSG Representative*

Co-Chair, Transport & Health Study Group (THSG)  
Director of Public Health, Stockport City Council  
United Kingdom



Steve is qualified in medicine and as a specialist in public health. He was a founding member of the Transport & Health Science Group (THSG) and co-chair. Steve was the editor and a co-author of THSG publication; *Health on the Move* and then co-editor of *Health on the Move 2*. He has also written "Unemployment: a Challenge to Public Health" and "Medicine and Labour: the Politics of a Profession". Steve is a member of the Council of the British Medical Association and a former President of the Medical Practitioners' Union, a British organisation, which is the medical organisation of the social movements of the people. In the transport field, his interests are demand responsive transport, active travel, new technology and transport for older people. Steve is also a Chartered Member of the Institute of Logistics and Transport. [LinkedIn Profile](#)