

Biographies

Dr. Eric Scorsone is the Executive Director of the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service and an Associate Professor of Public Policy at the Batten School at the University of Virginia. He has almost 30 years of experience in public service in both academia and in state and local government. His most recent position before joining UVA was at Michigan State University as Associate Professor and Founding Director of the MSU Extension Center for Local Government Finance & Policy, and Director of the MSU Extension Institute of Public Utilities. During his tenure at MSU, Dr. Scorsone went on leave for state-level appointments as Deputy State Treasurer at the Michigan Department of Treasury and as Senior Economist at the Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency. Just one example of his dedication to public service is the time he spent in Flint, Michigan, as Senior Advisor to Flint Mayor Sheldon Neeley, helping coordinate MSU Extension's response to the water and financial crisis there —work for which his team won the Abraham Lincoln Award from the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

Kristina Weaver, PhD is a consultant with the Institute for Engagement & Negotiation having previously served as its associate director. An experienced facilitator and trainer, Kristina has worked with dozens of organizations and communities ranging from grassroots projects and nonprofits to corporations and agencies. Her facilitation work spans strategic planning retreats, multi-stakeholder consensus building, community engagement, and action research. Kristina holds a doctorate in cultural geography with a research focus on social movements and natural resource conflict. Her recent work with IEN includes projects on climate adaptation and decarbonization, sustainable food systems, and equitable collaboration. Kristina has a keen understanding of how to help clients build solutions with sustainability in mind. Her approach is informed by a successful career as a grants consultant; since 2012 Kristina has helped clients garner more than \$217 million in awards.

Sarah Campbell is the Administrative Operations Coordinator for the Virginia Institute of Government in the Weldon Cooper Center at UVA. Sarah grew up in Northern Virginia and attended Virginia Tech for her bachelor's in economics. Following her graduation, she moved to Richmond, VA to work in State Government as a Forecast Analyst for Virginia Medicaid. Having called three different areas of the Commonwealth home, she is a Virginian at heart.

Blair Blanchette is the Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute (VNRLI) Program Manager for the Institute for Engagement and Negotiation. Prior to joining IEN, Blair worked for the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts as the Virginia Conservation Assistance Program Coordinator and for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation in grassroots organizing and field education. Blair received a B.Sc. in Environmental Science from the University of Virginia and a Master of Natural Resource Stewardship from Colorado State University.