



**Solutions from the Land Special Initiative:  
Enabling Farmers to Meet Global Sustainable Development Goals**

**Farmer Envoys**

- **Larry Black – Fort Meade, FL**  
Larry Black is citrus grower and serves as the General manager of the Peace River Packing Company, a citrus cooperative that provides caretaking, harvesting and fresh fruit packing.
- **Trey Hill – Rock Hall, MD**  
Trey Hill is the owner and manager of Harborview Farms in Rock Hall, Maryland. A fourth-generation grain farmer, he and his family sustainably produce corn, wheat, and soybeans for the Mid-Atlantic region. A graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Farm Management and Economics, Hill has been committed throughout his career to innovative agriculture sustainability. At Harborview Farms, he and his team are breaking new ground with innovative and creative farming techniques—combining the wisdom of traditional practices with forward-thinking, environmentally conscious solutions that are shaping the future of the agricultural industry.
- **Adrienne Mollor – Bridgewater, MA**  
Adrienne is a second-generation cranberry grower and grower-owner in the Ocean Spray Cooperative in Southeastern Massachusetts. She currently serves on USDA's Cranberry Marketing Committee, the Education and Outreach Committee and Education Foundation for the Cape Cod Cranberry Growers Association and served 9 years for Farm Service Agency state committee. 2010 Eisenhower Fellow reviewing sustainable agricultural practices in South America and served 3 years on their global counsel.
- **Matt Russell – Des Moines, IA**  
Fifth generation Iowa farmer, Russell farms with Patrick Standley in Marion County producing beef and growing specialty crops. He served 8 years on the Farm Service Agency state committee, worked for 12 years at the Drake University Agricultural Law Center, earned an MS in Rural Sociology at ISU, and currently is the executive director of Iowa Interfaith Power & Light where he leads their Faith Farms and Climate project.
- **Don Villwock – Edwardsport, IN**  
Owner/Operator of Villwock Farms, which produces white corn, soybeans, seed soybeans and popcorn; retired as president of Indiana Farm Bureau and Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance. He is a former member of the American Farm Bureau board of directors and the executive committees of the Farm Bureau Bank, American Agricultural Insurance Company and AFBIS.
- **Craig Yunker – Elba, NY**  
CY Farms is a multi-generation, family-owned operation located in western NY between Buffalo and Rochester. What started as a 25 cow dairy in 1951, has grown into a 6,000 acre diversified crop farm.

## **SDG Senior Advisers**

- **Doug Berven – Sioux Falls, SD**

Doug joined POET in March 2003, and currently serves as Vice President of Corporate Affairs. In this role Berven promotes the corporate objectives of POET, the importance of agriculture, and the benefits of biofuels domestically and internationally. Berven currently sits on BIO's Industrial and Environmental Section Governing Board, South Dakota Agriculture Foundation Board, the U.S. Grains Council Ethanol Advisory Team, the U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance Board, is an Emeritus Board Member of the American Council on Renewable Energy, is the Executive Director of the South Dakota Ethanol Producer's Association and serves on several other industry associated work groups, committees and associations.
- **Robert Bonnie, Executive in Residence, Nicholas Institute Duke University - Durham, NC**

Executive in Residence at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions at Duke University, working on conservation and environmental issues in rural America. During the Obama Administration, Robert was Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment at USDA from 2013 to 2017, and a senior advisor to Secretary Tom Vilsack from 2009 to 2013. Prior to joining USDA, Robert was vice president for land conservation at Environmental Defense Fund where he focused on developing incentives to reward stewardship on private lands. Robert has master's degrees from Duke in forestry and environmental management. He lives with his wife, Julie, and daughter, Lilly, in Loudoun County, Virginia.
- **Dr. Alexandra Brand, CSO, Syngenta - Basel Area, Switzerland**

Chief Sustainability Officer, Syngenta; previously Regional Director of Syngenta's crop protection and seed operations across Europe, Africa and the Middle East (2015-2017). Before joining Syngenta, Alexandra held various positions in the BASF Group, she was senior vice president of the global Animal Nutrition business unit (2012-2015), chief of staff for BASF's chief executive officer (2010-2012), vice president of the Global Marketing Pharma Ingredients unit (2009-2010) and head of staff for Board Member Chemicals and CTO (2007-2009). Alexandra gained international experience through her role as director of BASF's Sub Regional Operating Manager Intermediates in South Asia (2005-2007). Alexandra Brand started her career with BASF in 1999 in global research.
- **Dr. Len Bull, Professor Emeritus, NC State – Wilmington, NC**

Emeritus Professor and Head, NC State Animal Science, Former Co-Director, NC State Animal and Poultry Waste Management Center, Past President, American Society of Animal Science; Past Board Chair, National Institute for Animal Agriculture; Past VP, Past President, American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists; World Assoc for Animal Production; Past Chair, VT Governors Ag and Forest Products Development Board; Past Senior Advisor, World Bank, Animal /Environmental Issues, Brazil; Past Member, AAAS International Advisory Board
- **Dr. Michael Castellano, Iowa State University – Ames, IA**

Mike is Professor of Agronomy and the William T. Frankenberger Professor of Soil Science at Iowa State University. His research, teaching and outreach use a systems approach to minimize trade-offs between crop production and environmental performance. To achieve this goal, he

collaborates with a diverse team of scientists, engineers and policy makers. A broad range of organizations have worked with Mike to improve the long-term sustainability of agriculture. He maintains international research collaborations with China, Israel and Switzerland.

- **Dr. Jason Clay, WWF – Washington, DC**

Senior Vice President, Markets and Executive Director, Markets Institute for World Wildlife Fund; Jason Clay leads WWF-US' work on markets, supply chains, corporate platforms and emerging issues and trends (e.g. pre-competitive strategies, Scope 3 Carbon, long-term contracts, illegality, etc.). During his career he has worked on a family farm and in the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He has taught at Harvard and Yale and spent more than 35 years with human rights and environmental organizations.

- **Mark Cackler, Lead Agricultural Specialist, World Bank - Falls Church, VA**

Mark Cackler is a Lead Agricultural Specialist at the World Bank, working primarily on World Bank programs on agricultural and rural transformation in South Asia. He is also the World Bank's representative on the CGIAR governing council, and, more recently, has become a member of the World Bank's global task force for the COVID-19 response. Mr. Cackler joined the World Bank in 1981, after working as an Overseas Representative for John Deere Intercontinental, Ltd., an agricultural equipment manufacturer, based in Thailand. Initial assignments in the World Bank included agriculture and natural resources units for East Africa, China, Indonesia and the Pacific Islands, and in the World Bank's New Delhi Office, where he led the World Bank's commercial agriculture portfolio in India. In 2000, he was appointed Manager for Agriculture and Rural Development for Latin America and the Caribbean region, and in 2007 Mr. Cackler was appointed Manager of the central agriculture and rural development department, where he managed World Bank global programs and partnerships for agriculture and food security, including the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), the Global Food Safety Partnership, the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development, AgriFin (on agricultural finance), AgResults (on private sector innovations), and other programs dealing with climate smart agriculture, agricultural technology, gender in agricultural livelihoods, livestock, and agricultural risk management. In 2015, Mr. Cackler was appointed as Manager for the unit responsible for World Bank activities dealing with agricultural transformation in Africa, and in 2019 was appointed as Manager of the unit responsible for World Bank activities dealing with agriculture and rural transformation in South Asia. Mr. Cackler is from the United States and was raised in Moline, Illinois. He has economics degrees from Oberlin College, Ohio, and the University of Jyväskylä in Finland, and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

- **Reid Detchon, Senior Advisor for Climate Change, UNF – Washington, DC**

Reid Detchon is Senior Advisor for Climate Solutions at the United Nations Foundation. He previously served as the Foundation's Vice President for Energy and Climate Strategy from 2006 to 2017. He also served as Executive Director of the Energy Future Coalition, a non-partisan domestic policy initiative. Reid previously served as Director of Special Projects in Washington for the Turner Foundation; as a principal at Podesta Associates (now the Podesta Group), a government relations and public affairs firm in Washington; as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Conservation and Renewable Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy from 1989

to 1993; as principal speechwriter for Vice President George H. W. Bush; and as a staff member and legislative director for U.S. Senator John Danforth of Missouri.

- **Dan Dooley, New Current Water and Land, LLC. – Sacramento, CA**

Dan is a Principal in New Current Water and Land, LLC, which provides strategic advice on major water issues and connects private equities to water infrastructure projects. He left the Office of the President of the University of California after seven years (first as the Vice President – Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources and then as its Senior Vice President External Relations) to return to the practice of water law as of counsel to Bolen Fransen Sawyers LLP. Dan currently serves Chair of the Board of Sustainable Conservation, a California NGO that promotes collaborative solutions to conservation problem. He is a founding member of the Advisory Board of the Public Policy Institute of California Water Center. Dan also serves on the Board of Directors of International House – Davis. Prior to joining the University, Dan distinguished himself as an agricultural and environmental attorney with extensive experience in California serving as a partner at Dooley, Herr and Peltzer, LLP, a law firm emphasizing water, agricultural, environmental and business law. Dan previously served as Undersecretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (1977-80) and Chair of the California Water Commission (1982-86). He has served on the National Academy of Sciences, Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the Western Rural Development Center Board. He was a partner in Dooley Farms from 1980 to 2001.

- **Dr. Jerry Hatfield – Ames, IA**

Dr. Jerry Hatfield, recently retired director for the USDA-ARS National Laboratory for Agriculture and The Environment; He graduated from Kansas State University in 1971 with a B.S., University of Kentucky in 1972 with a M.S., and in 1975 with a Ph.D. from Iowa State University in Agricultural Climatology. His focus is on the role of management practices that enhance soil health to increase the efficiency of agricultural systems in the use of natural resources and positively impact ecosystem services. He is working directly with producers and agribusiness to show how the genetics x environment x management concept can be utilized to increase food security. He is the recipient of numerous awards and was elected to the ARS Hall of Fame in 2014 for his research on improving agriculture and environmental quality and the Hugh Hammond Bennett award for his national and international work on conservation and a Presidential Rank Award in 2017 for meritorious service to agriculture on environmental quality. He is the author or co-author of 493 refereed publications and the editor of 18 monographs.

- **Dr. Teresa Long – Columbus, OH**

Dr. Teresa C. Long became the first female Health Commissioner for Columbus in 2002. She was appointed to the post by Mayor Michael B. Coleman and the Columbus Board of Health. Prior to this appointment, she served as Medical Director and Assistant Health Commissioner for the Columbus Health Department from 1986 until 2002. Before coming to Columbus, Dr. Long served on the front lines of the emerging AIDS epidemic as a physician specialist with the San Francisco Department of Public Health. She conducted her preventive medicine residency with the California Department of Health Services where she developed perinatal AIDS guidelines in addition to other duties. Upon her arrival in Columbus, Dr. Long was instrumental in organizing both the department's and the community's response to HIV/AIDS. Her commitment and

attention to this disease have been unwavering. In addition to serving on numerous boards and committees, locally, statewide and nationally, Dr. Long is a Clinical Associate Professor at the Ohio State University College of Medicine and Public Health. She was the first recipient of the Elizabeth Blackwell Award for Pioneering Efforts to Improve Women's and Community Health. She holds a Doctor of Medicine Degree from the University of California – San Francisco and a Master of Public Health from the University of California – Berkeley

- **Vice Admiral Denny V. McGinn, USN (Ret) – Washington, DC**

Appointed and served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations and Environment from September 2013 until January 2017; served on active duty in the United States Navy for 35 years; former President of the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) and a past member of the Steering Committee of the Energy Future Coalition, United States Energy Security Council, Bipartisan Policy Center Energy Board, and CNA Military Advisory Board. He currently serves as a board member for the Electric Power Research Institute, the Rocky Mountain Institute, Customer First Renewables, Willdan Group Inc., HALO Maritime Systems, and is a senior advisor to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography and the Center for Climate and Security.

- **Mac Middleton, Chairman Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology- Waldorf, MD**

Mac Middleton is a farmer, former County Commissioner, State Senator and current Chairman of the Board of the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology. Over the course of his 16 years in the Maryland State Senate he served as chair the Capitol Budget Subcommittee and Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee. Throughout most of Mac's tenure in the Senate, he was the only full-time farmer amongst the entire legislative body, and thus was recognized as the voice of the farming community. Because of his dedication to the job, his respect for others, his talent to bring people together, and his fairness, he was able to successfully facilitate many complex legislative issues. Mac chaired numerous task forces, studies, work groups, etc. His work has been acknowledged through numerous local, state, and national awards. Mac left politics to return full-time to his beloved family and farm where for most of his farming career he ran a retail/wholesale produce operation. He now raises beef cattle and hay.

- **Dr. Keith Paustian – Ft. Collins, CO**

Keith Paustian is University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Soil and Crop Sciences and Senior Research Scientist at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory at Colorado State University. A major focus of his work involves modeling, field measurement and development of assessment tools for soil carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions from soils. He has published over 250 journal articles and book chapters. Previous and current research activities include development models and inventory methodology used to estimate US soil C and N<sub>2</sub>O emissions that are reported annually by EPA to the UNFCCC; development of a web-based tool (COMET-Farm<sup>TM</sup>) for estimating on-farm greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and carbon sequestration used by USDA (<http://cometfarm.nrel.colostate.edu/>) and project-scale systems for GHG assessment of sustainable land management projects in developing countries ([http://www.unep.org/cbp\\_pim/](http://www.unep.org/cbp_pim/)). He also serves as project director for the Bioenergy Alliance Network of the Rockies (BANR – <http://banr.nrel.colostate.edu/>), a consortium of universities, industry and government, researching the potential for sustainable bioenergy production from beetle-kill trees and forest residues. Professional service activities include Coordinating Lead

Author for the IPCC 2006 National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Methods and the IPCC 2003 Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF, serving on two National Academy of Sciences panel (2010, 2018) dealing with land use and greenhouse gas measurement issues, and was a member of the US Carbon Cycle Science Steering Group, which provides expert input to Federal Agencies involved in climate and carbon cycle research. He also served on the Voluntary Carbon Standard Steering Committee for Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) and on numerous other national and international committees involving climate and carbon cycle research. He is a Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America and 2015 recipient of the Soil Science Society of America's Outstanding Research Award.

- **Dr. Jack Payne, SVP Agriculture and Natural Resources UF/IFAS - Gainesville, FL**

Jack Payne is the University of Florida's senior vice president for agriculture and natural resources, and head of the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS), which makes him one of the top agricultural academic leaders in the United States. He has led the \$400-million-a-year agricultural and natural resources branch of UF, including the College of Agricultural and Life Science, the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, and the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, since 2010. He oversees a dozen research and education centers across Florida, whose faculty and researchers on main campus combined to secure \$166 million in research grants last year. UF/IFAS is perennially among the nation's leaders in agricultural research funding. Payne is also responsible for Extension offices in all 67 Florida counties and a college with a record high enrollment of more than 6,000 students. He shares oversight of the College of Veterinary Medicine with UF Health. UF is Dr. Payne's fifth land-grant university. He previously served as a vice president at Iowa State University and at Utah State University and on the faculty at Texas A&M University and Pennsylvania State University. He also spent a decade at Ducks Unlimited as its national director of conservation, during which he expanded the organization's Mexican program into Central and South America.

- **Greg Rutland, Rutland - Dryer Integrated Healthcare – Columbus, OH**

CEO of Rutland - Dryer Integrated Healthcare in Columbus, Ohio. He and his wife Merit's goal with their staff of providers is help those with chronic Conditions be better informed that proper nutritional and food choices can be the best Medicine to fight hypertension, diabetes and other ailments that are so costly to our at risk communities and healthcare costs. Greg is a graduate of Franklin University with B.S. degrees in Finance and Healthcare Management. During his career he has been in management positions with the Kroger Company as a Produce Buyer, Seafood Merchandiser and Regional Bakery Sales Manager. Greg also opened the first City Barbeque restaurants as Managing Partner, a regional chain that now numbers 43 restaurants in 7 states. These experiences have given Greg great insight into consumer buying habits and trends. A U.S. Army veteran, Greg is the father of 4 children and 9 grandchildren. During their free time Greg and Merit enjoy traveling and hiking the trails of the United States.

- **Kent Schescke, Executive Vice President CAST – Ames, IA**

Executive Vice President for the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, or CAST, in Ames, Iowa. His prior experience includes serving the National FFA Organization in various roles for 24 years, including director of the development and partnership division, regional director, senior regional director and co-team leader. Most recently, Mr. Schescke was the director of

government and nonprofit relations, working closely with governmental agencies, private foundations, agricultural, youth and educational organizations. He has decades of experience in fundraising, development and government relations for nonprofit youth organizations. While he also handled numerous managerial and executive-level responsibilities in his past roles, he is especially proud of the work he has done with agricultural education and youth development. A graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia, Schescke served as an agriculture education instructor for fourteen years in Missouri prior to joining the National FFA Foundation. As a student, he served as a state FFA officer. During his teaching career, he was the President of the Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

- **Gregory Tutton, CEO Cloverton Holdings - Basel, Switzerland**

CEO of Cloverton Holdings and is the Managing Partner for Cloverton Valley and Cloverton Emissions Management, a group of companies focused on agribusiness and food production with the goal of upscaling the practice of sustainable intensive agriculture. Cloverton Holdings is the principal channel in North America, Latin America, and Asia for SOP Srl, an agritech firm based in Milan, Italy, with an innovative suite of commercial applications for crop systems, livestock operations, and waste management used in Europe for emissions control and yield enhancement. Cloverton Holdings is an official supporter of the TCFD. Greg's family has been in the Central Valley of California for several generations, where his mother's family had worked in citrus and cotton, and where his father introduced him to dairy genetics. He now combines his background in technology with a lifelong love for food and agriculture in order to bring cost effective solutions for climate adaptation and environmental resilience to the farm system. Prior to Cloverton, Greg worked at ETH Zurich on health tech for policy makers, industry, and universities at the European level, at UNESCO on information technology for developing countries, and at The Media Lab at MIT. He co-founded FanAI, a data science firm in Santa Monica at the intersection of machine learning and eSports. He began his career in the entertainment industry, working on feature film and television with Disney, Tim Burton, and ILM. He is a graduate of Westmont College and of IESE Business School in Spain. He is originally from California, and lives in Basel, Switzerland.