



**March 27th Annual Meeting
with the Coleridge National
Convening**

Hamilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Meeting Packet





March 27th Annual Meeting
with the [Coleridge National Convening](#)
The Hamilton Hotel, Washington, D.C.

“Pathways to Innovation”

1:00 PM

Meeting Room Opens

Join early to confer with Collaborative leaders and the staff from the service organizations that support the Collaboratives.

1:30 PM

Welcome

***Yvette Chocolaad**, Managing Director, Multi-State Data Collaboratives, and Workforce Policy & Research Director, National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), with...*

- ***Ahu Yildirmaz**, President and CEO, Coleridge Initiative;*
- ***Carrie Klein**, Senior Policy Analyst, State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO);*
- ***Scott Sanders**, President and CEO, NASWA; and*
- ***Jeremy Kelley**, Program Officer, U.S. Program- Data, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

Introductions

***Erin Joyce**, Programs Director, Multi-State Data Collaboratives, NASWA (and Operations Director, Ohio Educational Research Center)*

1:50 PM State Agency Voices: The Value of the Network

Facilitator: **Dana Brandt**, *Chair, Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative (and Director, DataSpark, University of Rhode Island)*

Speakers: **Jake Walker**, *Chief Research Officer, Arkansas Division of Information Services*

Lesley Hirsch, *Assistant Commissioner, Research and Information, New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development*

Anna Hui, *Director, Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations*

2:20 PM Progress Updates: The Service Organizations

Yvette Chocolaad, *Managing Director, Multi-State Data Collaboratives, NASWA*

Jessica Cunningham, *Vice President of State Engagement, Coleridge Initiative*

2:30 PM Pathways to Data Product Innovation

Facilitators: **Cynthia Forland**, *Director, State Engagement and Special Projects, Multi-State Data Collaboratives, NASWA (and Principal, Forland Consulting LLC)*

Speakers: Midwest Collaborative: **George Putnam**, *Chair (and Labor Market Information Director, State of Illinois)*

Southern Regional Data Collaborative: **Adam Leonard**, *Chair (and Chief Analytics Officer and Director of Information Innovation and Insight, Texas Workforce Commission)*

Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative: **Tod Massa**, *Executive Committee Member (and Director, Policy Research and Data Warehousing, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia)*

Ten minutes are reserved for information exchange with attendees

“Pathways to Innovation” (continued)

3:00 PM **Call to Action**

Adam Leonard, Chair, Southern Regional Data Collaborative and

*Julia Lane, Professor at the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, and
Cofounder of the Coleridge Initiative*

3:10 PM **Break**

3:20 PM **Individual Collaborative Meetings**

4:30 PM **Results from Individual Collaborative Meetings: Aligning Goals and Action Items**

5:00 PM **Adjourn**

5:30 PM **Optional Networking Event**

Meet in the lobby to walk two blocks to the Hamilton Restaurant. Have a quick libation or stay for dinner. Payment on your own.



March 27th Annual Meeting with the Coleridge National Convening Attendee List

State Attendees (alphabetical by state)					
State	First	Last	Title	Organization	Email
AL	Michele	Tatum	LMI Director	ADOL	michele.tatum@labor.alabama.gov
AR	Denise	Airola	Directions	University of Arkansas	dairola@uark.edu
AR	Carrie	Anderson	ARData Chief Policy Officer	Arkansas Division of Information Systems	carrie.anderson@arkansas.gov
AR	Robert	McGough	Chief Analytics Officer	State of Arkansas	robert.mcgough@arkansas.gov
AR	Jake	Walker	Chief Research Officer	Arkansas Division of Information Systems	jake.walker@arkansas.gov
AR	Chad	Brown	Executive Director	Arkansas Division of Workforce Services	chad.brown@arkansas.gov
AR	Heather	Saco	ARData Program Manager	State of Arkansas, ARData	heather.saco@arkansas.gov
AR	James	Weese	Junior Programmer/Analyst	Office of Innovation for Education at the University of Arkansas	jweese@uark.edu
CA	Lisa	Martin	Regional Manager	California Tribal TANF Partnership	lmartin@cftp.net
DC	Szilvia	Altorjai	Lead Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	szilvia.althorjai@dc.gov
DC	Melissa	Amos	Lead Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	melissa.amos@dc.gov
DC	Adrian Wayne	Bruce	Senior Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	adrian.bruce@dc.gov
DC	Christopher	Faiella	Lead Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	Christopher.Faiella@dc.gov
DC	RJ	Mendez	Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	rj.mendez@dc.gov
DC	Unique	Morris-Hughes	Director	DC Department of Employment Services	unique.morris-hughes2@dc.gov
DC	Brittany	Rabb	Senior Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	brittany.rabb@dc.gov
DC	Jasmine	Underwood	Data Analysis Manager	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	Jasmine.Underwood@dc.gov
DC	Alexis	Young	Research and Data Analyst	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	alexis.young@dc.gov

GA	Angela	Bell	Vice Chancellor for Research and Policy Analysis	University System of Georgia	angela.bell@usg.edu
GA	Hannah	Harding	Chief Development Officer	Georgia Department of Labor	hannah.harding@gdol.ga.gov
GA	Bruce	Thompson	Commissioner	Georgia Department of Labor	bruce.thompson@gdol.ga.gov
GA	Ethan	Stiles	Chief Operating Officer	Georgia Department of Labor	ethan.stiles@gdol.ga.gov
IL	Benjamin	Boer	Data Coordinator	Governor's Office	ben.boer@illinois.gov
IL	Ewa	Gallagher	Workforce Outcomes Manager	IL Dept. of Employment Security	ewa.gallagher@illinois.gov
IL	George	Putnam	Director, Labor Market Information	IL Dept of Employment Security	george.putnam@illinois.gov
IN	Holly	Brauneller	Director of Research & Analysis	Indiana Department of Workforce Development	Hbrauneller@dwd.in.gov
IA	Linda	Fandel	Governor's Liaison for Work-Based Learning	Iowa Workforce Development	linda.fandel@iwd.iowa.gov
KY	Angie	Tombari	Research Scientist	KYSTATs	angie.tombari@ky.gov
KY	Matt	Berry	Interim Executive Director	Kentucky Center for Statistics	matt.berry@ky.gov
LA	Kellie	Taylor-White	Assistant Secretary OOS	Louisiana Workforce Commission	ktaylor-white@lwc.la.gov
MD	Quentin	Frost	WDQI Project Manager	MD Department of Labor	quentin.frost@maryland.gov
MD	Douglas	Weimer	Supervisor, Adult Instructional Services	Maryland Department of Labor	douglas.weimer@maryland.gov
MD	Ross	Goldstein	Executive Director	Maryland Longitudinal Data System Center	ross.goldstein@maryland.gov
MI	Edwin	Bishop	Data Analyst	MI Dept. of Health and Human Service	bishope@michigan.gov
MI	Scott	Powell	Chief Data Officer	State of Michigan	powells6@michigan.gov
MS	Robert	Bock	Director, Workforce Data Reporting	Mississippi Department of Employment Security	rbock@mdes.ms.gov
MO	Jeremy	Kintzel	Director, Postsecondary Research	MO Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development	jeremy.kintzel@dhewd.mo.gov
MO	Anna	Hui	Director	Missouri Department of Labor	anna.hui@labor.mo.gov
NJ	Shashi	Yellambhatla	CIO	NJ DOE	Shashi.Yellambhatla@doe.nj.gov
NJ	Robert	Asaro-Angelo	Commissioner	NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development	carleen.snyder@dol.nj.gov
NJ	Marjory	Palius	Senior Research Project Manager	Rutgers University	mfpalius@ejb.rutgers.edu

NJ	Stephanie	Walsh	Research Project Manager	Rutgers University	stephanie.walsh@ejb.rutgers.edu
NC	Gina	Zhang	Research & Data Analysis Manager	MyFutureNC	gina@myfuturenc.org
OH	Mason	Alexander	Data Analyst	Franklin County Job and Family Services	mason.alexander@jfs.ohio.gov
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OH	Coretta	Pettway	Deputy Director	Ohio Department of Job and Family Services	coretta.pettway@jfs.ohio.gov
PA	Jennifer	Berrier	Special Advisor	Department of Labor & Industry	jeberrier@pa.gov
PA	Ed	Legge	Director	Department of Labor & Industry	elegge@pa.gov
PA	Kate	Akers	Associate Vice Chancellor & Chief Data Officer	Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education	KAkers@passhe.edu
PA	Tony	Stagliano	Deputy Director	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	astagliano@pa.gov
PA	Colby	Clabaugh	Executive Director	Office of Administration, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	cclabaught@pa.gov
RI	Dana	Brandt	Director	DataSpark, University of Rhode Island	dbrandt@uri.edu
TN	Amanda	Klafehn	Senior Director of Research and Strategy	Tennessee Higher Education Commission	Amanda.Klafehn@tn.gov
TN	Harish	Nadar	Database Administrator	TN DEPT. OF LABOR	harish.nadar@tn.gov
TX	Adam	Leonard	Chief Analytics Officer	Texas Workforce Commission	adam.leonard@twc.texas.gov
TX	David	Troutman	Deputy Commissioner	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	david.troutman@highered.texas.gov
VA	Heather	McKay	Executive Director	Virginia Office of Education Economics	Hmckay@vedp.org
VA	Tod	Massa	Policy Analytics Director	State Council of Higher Education	todmassa@schev.edu
VA	Todd	Oldham	Director of Research	Virginia Office of Education Economics	toldham@vedp.org
VA	George	Taratsas	Workforce Development Director	Virginia Office of the Secretary of Labor	george.taratsas@governor.virginia.gov
WI	Yonah	Drazen	Researcher	Institute for Research on Poverty	yonah.drazen@wisc.edu
WI	Meghan	Donahue	Chief Statistical Officer	WI Dept. of Workforce Development	meghan.donahue@dwd.wisconsin.gov
WI	Bryan	Huebsch	Enterprise Data Steward	WI Department of Workforce Development	bryand.huebsch@dwd.wisconsin.gov

Other Invited Attendees				
First	Last	Title	Organization	Email
Jessica	Cunningham	Vice President of State Programs	Coleridge Initiative	jessica.cunningham@coleridgeinitiative.org
Scott	Sanders	President and CEO	NASWA	ssanders@naswa.org
Carrie	Klein	Senior Policy Analyst	State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)	cklein@sheeo.org
Julia	Lane	Professor	NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service	jil4@nyu.edu
Morgan	McKinney	Project Associate, Process Innovation	American Public Human Services Association	mmckinney@aphsa.org
Nana	Sasu	Senior Project Associate, Process Innovation	American Public Human Services Association	nsasu@aphsa.org
Amber	Gaither	Director, NLx	NASWA	agaither@naswa.org
Portia	Polk	Senior Policy Analyst	National Governors Association	ppolk@nga.org
Corey	Dixon	Consulting Director, Skills and Credentials	National Governors Association	cdixon@nga.org
Amanda	Winters	Program Director	National Governors Association	awinters@nga.org

Multistate Data Collaboratives Admin Staff				
First	Last	Title	Organization	Email
Ceanna	Burnheimer	Research Associate	NASWA/Ohio State University	burnheimer.7@osu.edu
Yvette	Chocolaad	Managing Director	NASWA	ychocolaad@naswa.org
Cynthia	Forland	Director, State Engagement	NASWA	forland_c13@msn.com
Erin	Joyce	Director, Programs	NASWA/Ohio State University	joyce.221@osu.edu
Zoe	Vaughan	Policy Staff Assistant	NASWA	zvaughan@naswa.org
Jessica	Vendegnia	Project Manager	NASWA	jvendegnia@naswa.org

**March 27th Annual Meeting
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Speaker Head Shots & Bios**



Dana Brandt, Chair, Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative and Director, DataSpark, University of Rhode Island

Dana Brandt is the Director of DataSpark, overseeing Rhode Island's Statewide Longitudinal Data System (RI SLDS) and DataSpark's quantitative and geospatial analytical services to state agencies, academic institutions, and community-based organizations. Dana joined DataSpark in 2019 as a data scientist, and she has also led DataSpark's governance program, coordinating with agencies to ensure data quality, security, and use for the public good. She currently serves as the Chair of the Interim Executive Council for the Eastern States Longitudinal Data Collaborative, developing permanent governance structures to improve regional coordination among education-to-workforce P20W longitudinal data systems.

Dana joined DataSpark from Washington, DC, where she previously worked for the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. She holds two master's degrees, one in Public International Law from Leiden University in the Netherlands and one in Human Rights Law from Central European University in Hungary. She has a passion for learning new technical skills.



Yvette Chocolaad, Managing Director, Multi-State Data Collaboratives and Workforce Policy & Research Director, National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA)

Yvette is the Workforce Policy & Research Director at NASWA, helping state workforce agency leaders anticipate and address labor market challenges arising from a changing economy. She is a member of the leadership team and directs NASWA's Workforce & Labor Market Information Committee (WLMI). The WLMI Committee provides a forum for state WLMI directors to share practices and develop the data ecosystem as an asset for workforce development and education policy and practice.

Yvette also conducts research and leads projects. She is engaged in a USDOL-funded project to support state research capacity on the effectiveness of reemployment services for UI claimants and leads NASWA's foundation-funded initiative to support the development of state data infrastructure and multi-state data collaboratives.

Prior to NASWA, she was on the professional staff of the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, where she was the assistant to the Chief Economist and then professional staffer for the Subcommittee on Human Resources, covering cash welfare, child welfare, unemployment insurance, and social services policy.



Jessica Cunningham, Ph.D., Vice President of State Programs, Coleridge Initiative

Dr. Jessica Cunningham is the Vice President of State Programs at the Coleridge Initiative. Dr. Cunningham helps lead the continued expansion of state engagement and collaborative research within the Administrative Data Research Facility. Dr. Cunningham served as the Executive Director and Labor Market Information Director at the Kentucky Center for Statistics (KYSTATS) from 2019 through 2022, formerly the Research and Analytics Director for

three years prior. Dr. Cunningham led the development, maintenance, and reporting for one of the nation's leading longitudinal data systems (Kentucky Longitudinal Data System) and the Kentucky Labor Market Information.

During her tenure, she led the Kentucky research through three biannual strategic agendas to inform policymakers, practitioners, and the public on topics related to program outcomes across education, public assistance, criminal justice, and workforce. She served as an executive committee member for the Southern Regional Collaborative, and she led the multi-state collaborative effort for cross-state postsecondary education and workforce outcomes out of the Mid-West Collaborative.

She has a Doctorate in Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation from University of Kentucky specializing in Measurement and Statistics, as well as M.S. and B.S. degrees in Mathematics from the University of Kentucky and Georgetown College respectively. She brings with her experience in writing, managing, and evaluating state, federal, and philanthropic grants as well as teaching and research experience from her time as faculty in North Carolina and Kentucky.



Cynthia Forland, Ph.D., Director, State Engagement and Special Projects, Multi-State Data Collaboratives, NASWA and Principal, Forland Consulting LLC

Dr. Cynthia Forland is a nationally recognized workforce development and labor market information leader, who has extensive experience with workforce and labor market information, policy, reporting, analysis, and evaluation. Dr. Forland has operated her own consulting firm for four years, working with clients including NASWA, Council for Community and Economic Research, U.S. Department of

Labor, and individual states and local workforce development areas. Dr. Forland's public sector experience included serving as a senior manager with the Washington state workforce agency, where she oversaw labor market information, research and evaluation, and agency-wide performance measures. Dr. Forland has a Ph.D. in political philosophy from the New School for Social Research in New York City.



Lesley Hirsch, Assistant Commissioner, Research, New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development

Lesley Hirsch has held several senior advisory and technical policy research roles over her 25+ year career, with a focus on using data and research to inform programs and policies to improve economic mobility for historically marginalized populations (e.g., BIPOC, people with disabilities, and low-income). She currently serves as Assistant Commissioner for Research at the New Jersey

Department of Labor, where she is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of labor market and demographic data; research, evaluation, and business intelligence activities for state and federal workforce, benefits, and strategic enforcement programs; and the oversight of private career schools and the Eligible Training Provider List for the State.



Anna Hui, Director, Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Anna Hui was appointed Director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in March of 2017 and the Senate confirmed the appointment in January 2018. Making her the first Asian American to serve in the governor's cabinet in Missouri history. For over two decades, Anna has worked in numerous senior positions in both state and federal government.

Anna started her public service career working for Illinois Governor Jim Edgar as the Special Assistant to the Governor for Asian-American affairs and then for Governor George Ryan, as a senior-member of the Washington, D.C. policy management team. She then served as the Associate Deputy Secretary of Labor at the U.S. Department of Labor during President George W. Bush's Administration. In that role, Anna spearheaded efforts to encourage diversity and the inclusion of historically underserved communities in the Department's programs and Federal government management.

After leaving federal service in 2009 and until she returned to Illinois in 2015, she was Chief of Staff to former U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Elaine Chao. From 2015 to 2017, Anna served as Assistant Director and later as Acting Director of the Illinois Department of Labor, where she implemented major reforms in process and program efficiency and effectiveness.

Anna received a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law, a M.S.M. and a M.B.A. from the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) and B.S. in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). In April 2018, she was named the recipient of UIUC's Outstanding Asian American Alumni Award from the Asian American Cultural Center for her dedication to public service.



Erin Joyce, Operations Director, Ohio Education Research Center

Erin Joyce is the operations director of the Ohio Education Research Center. In her role, Erin manages the day-to-day operations of the Ohio Education Research Center and leads client engagement for the OERC and Ohio Analytics partnership. Prior to joining the OERC, Ms. Joyce worked in both the non-profit and government sectors, including 6 years with the Ohio Department of Education. Her career has focused on improving outcomes for children, youth

and families. Ms. Joyce earned her MA in Government and International Relations from the University of Notre Dame.



Jeremy Kelley, Program Officer, U.S. Program – Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Jeremy Kelley is a Program Officer for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's U.S. Program's Data team, which supports efforts to strengthen the availability, quality, and use of education-to-workforce data systems. Their goal is to ensure that institutions, policymakers, and researchers have the information they need for data-driven decision-making, and to empower families and learners to make informed decisions about career paths. Jeremy leads a set

of sub initiatives to bolster workforce data connections and infrastructure, and to expand workforce outcome indicators within longitudinal datasytems.

Jeremy has dedicated his career to supporting workforce-aligned education and training, beginning with directing a re-entry program in his native Boston after graduating from Amherst College. He joined the foundation from EMSI Burning Glass (now Lightcast), where he productized a job postings and labor market information integration model and supervised all customer implementations. Prior to EMSI Burning Glass, Jeremy led Jobs for the Future's contract and grant-funded work increasing the adoption of real-time labor information to guide regional workforce training investments across the US. He lives in Silver Spring, MD with his wife and two sons.



Carrie Klein, Ph.D., Senior Policy Analyst, SHEEO

Carrie Klein joined the State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO) in May 2021. She serves as a senior policy analyst, working out of SHEEO's Washington, D.C., office. In this role, she contributes to SHEEO's efforts to develop state postsecondary data and information resources, provides technical assistance and professional development to SHEEO agency researchers and policy analysts, and collaborates with partner organizations.

Before joining SHEEO, Dr. Klein was a senior fellow and higher education lead on the Future of Privacy Forum's Youth and Education team. Before that, Dr. Klein worked as a strategic planning project manager in George Mason University's (GMU) Office of the President and in the office of University Life. Dr. Klein is also an affiliate faculty member and graduate (Ph.D. and MAIS) of GMU's Higher Education Program and earned her B.A. in classics and anthropology at The University of Arizona.

Outside of work, Dr. Klein is an avid Doctor Who fan, a certified yoga instructor, and loves to read and travel.



Julia Lane, Professor, NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and Cofounder, Coleridge Initiative

Julia is a Professor at the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and a NYU Provostial Fellow for Innovation Analytics. She cofounded the Coleridge Initiative, whose goal is to use data to transform the way governments access and use data for the social good through training programs, research projects and a secure data facility.

She currently serves on the Advisory Committee on Data for Evidence Building and the National AI Research Resources Task Force.

Previous to this, Julia was a Senior Managing Economist and Institute Fellow at American Institutes for Research. In this role Julia co-founded the Institute for Research on Innovation and Science (IRIS) at the University of Michigan. Julia has held positions at the National Science Foundation, The Urban Institute, The World Bank, American University and NORC at the University at Chicago.



Adam Leonard, Southern Regional Data Collaborative Chair and Chief Analytics Officer and Director, Information Innovation & Insight, Texas Workforce Commission

Adam Leonard is the Director of the Division of Information Innovation & Insight (I|3) for the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). Adam envisioned and founded I|3 to help TWC leverage its most important untapped resource - its data - to help the agency and its partners better help employers, individuals, families, and communities achieve economic prosperity.

I|3 has four major areas of responsibility:

- Analytics Infrastructure Department – building out our modern data infrastructure and democratizing our data by creating intuitive online dashboard and analysis tools;
- Business Transformation – applies process improvement protocols to help program and policy-makers improve effectiveness and ideally transform entire business processes;
- Labor Market Information – gathers, analyzes, and disseminates key Labor Market and Labor Market Adjacent information help drive effective decision making; and
- Analytics & Evaluation – applies modern data science and traditional statistical research techniques to better understand our programs & system and how to improve them.

Since joining TWC in 2003, Adam has worked extensively with federal, state, and local partners to improve the use of data in both the Texas and national workforce systems. He continues to influence the national conversation about the use of data in the public sector serving on several NASWA committees and subcommittees relating to data, technology, and accountability as well as the Department of Labor's State Data Workgroup, the National Skills Coalition's Workforce Data National Advisory Panel, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's JEDx Initiative, the Education Department's Rethink Performance workgroup, and various P20W+ Communities of Innovation. He is also helping guide development of the Southern Regional Data Collaborative and participating in the Midwest State Regional Data Collaborative governance meetings. Other key recent partnerships have been with the Coleridge Initiative and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

Adam earned a BA in Government from the University of Texas and a MPAff from the LBJ School of Public Affairs.



Tod Massa, Eastern Longitudinal Data Collaborative Executive Committee Member and Director, Policy Research and Data Warehousing, State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Tod Massa started at State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) in 2001 with nearly a decade of experience in policy research and analysis, and data management. As Policy Research and Data Warehousing Director, Mr. Massa oversees the development and of the

Commonwealth's postsecondary education data system; the biennial projections of enrollment and demand; and is one of the architects and leaders of the Virginia Longitudinal Data System.

His wide-ranging duties also include directing the collection, maintenance, and analysis of research data from all Virginia colleges and universities related to enrollment, graduation, faculty salaries, and financial aid. He directs the agency's information systems activities and coordinates the agency's relationship with the Virginia Information Technology Agency. Mr. Massa frequently serves on federal technical review panels for the US Department of Education.

Prior to joining the Council staff, Mr. Massa held institutional research leadership positions at two institutions of higher education. From 1991 to 1994, he served as the Institutional Research Coordinator and Academic Policy Analyst at Saint Louis University. More recently, Mr. Massa served as the Director of Institutional Research and Planning Support at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Prior to joining the staff at Willamette, Mr. Massa served in the U.S. Army and was twice awarded the Department of the Army Certificate of Achievement and the Army Achievement Medal for outstanding service.

Mr. Massa has completed doctoral work in Public Policy Analysis and Planning at Saint Louis University. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in studio art from Missouri Southern State College. Mr. Massa has also received the Association for Institutional Research's Outstanding Service Award for service to the association in 2000.



George Putnam, Ph.D., Midwest Collaborative Chair and Director, Labor Market Information, Illinois Department of Employment Security

Dr. George Putnam has worked in the labor market information field for nearly 30 years, and has served as the chief economic analyst for the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) for more than 20 years. He is currently Director of Labor Market Information. His most recent initiatives have been in the use of administrative data for statistical research and, in particular, establishing

inter-agency data infrastructures for linking workforce outcomes to training and education.



Scott Sanders, President and CEO, NASWA

Scott B. Sanders has been the President and CEO of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) since October 2014. He manages the association of state administrators who handle workforce training, unemployment insurance, employment services, employment statistics, labor market information programs and veteran reemployment in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and US Territories. The association provides advocacy at the national level for a more effective

workforce system, and engages with the US Department of Labor, employers and the public.

He previously served as Commissioner of the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and was a member of the cabinet of Governor Michael Pence and Governor Mitchell Daniels. DWD managed and implemented training and employment programs for Hoosiers, collaborated on regional economic growth initiatives for Indiana, coordinated the adult education system, and oversaw the unemployment insurance system. He was also involved in the launching of JAG in Indiana in 2007.

Scott served on American Workforce Policy Advisory Board from February 2019-January 2021, and also serves on the boards of the LMI Institute (Chair 2020-2021) and the UWC Foundation.

Scott also has over 20 years of private sector experience prior to his role at DWD.

Scott earned his master's degree in business administration from Northwestern University's J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management and his bachelor's degree from Miami University.



Jake Walker, Chief Research Officer, Arkansas Division of Information Services

Jake joined the ARData Team as the Chief Research Officer in June of 2022. He comes to this role with a career that includes a decade of private industry experience and almost 20-years in postsecondary education building cross agency connections to create Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems (SLDS) to conduct research and evaluation from Pre-K through the workforce with a focus on career and technical education and workforce development.

Prior to joining the ARData Team, Jake was a Project Director with the Arkansas Research Center where his work focused on using longitudinal data for performance reporting and accountability of state and federally funded programs and grants. Additionally, he has extensive experience in research methodology, statistics, software and data system design, data management and analysis, curriculum development, training, policy analysis, and consulting.

Jake earned his bachelor's degree in medical sociology and gerontology from the University of Central Arkansas and a graduate certificate in geographic information systems, master's degree in sociology, and doctorate degree in instructional systems and workforce development from Mississippi State University.

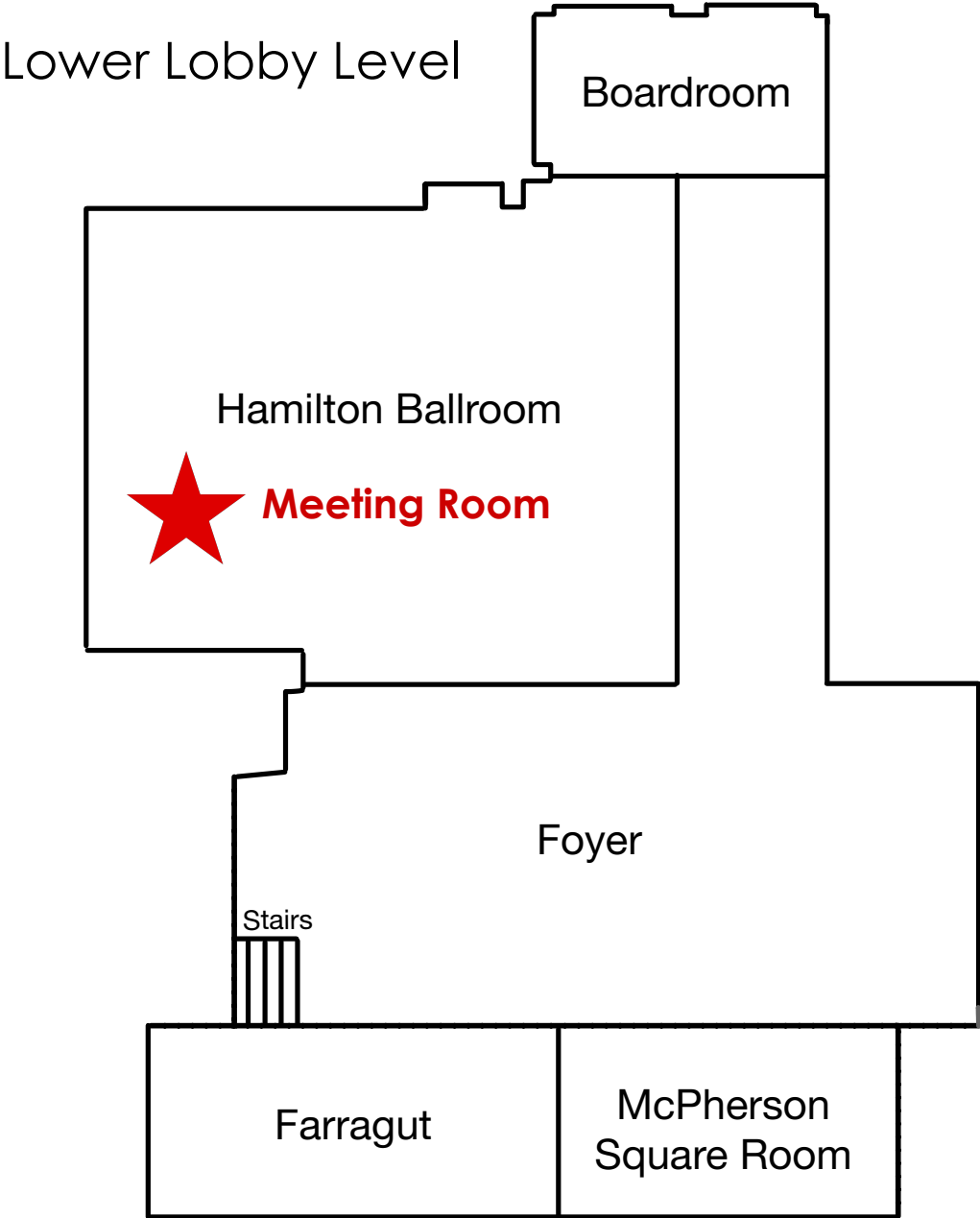


Ahu Yildirmaz, Ph.D., President and CEO, Coleridge Initiative

Dr. Ahu Yildirmaz is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Coleridge Initiative. Prior to joining the Coleridge Initiative, she was the co-Head of the ADP Research Institute. She has more than 20 years of experience in several senior management and leadership roles, including finance, strategy, research, and data analytics. She holds a doctorate degree in economics from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York and a bachelor's degree from Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey.

York and a bachelor's degree from Bogazici University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Hotel Map



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Multi-State Data Collaboratives



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To find out more information about the Multi-State Data Collaboratives, visit our website by clicking [here](#) or scanning the QR code!

Check out the agenda for the 3rd Annual National Convening: Cross-Agency Collaboration for Evidence-Building. Visit the website [here](#) or scan the QR code.

3rd Annual National Convening



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