



National Advisors Panel: Indicators for Impact

Bios

Sarah Blacklin has worked in the field of sustainable agriculture and food systems for the past ten years. She has helped leverage support for sustainable farm and business practices, resource build for small scale producers, and maximizing customer reach through direct marketing efforts. She served as Market Manager for the Carrboro Farmers' Market five years prior, originally getting her start as a farmhand for local farmers.

Colleen Donovan is the Farmers Market Project Coordinator for Washington State University's Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources. Since 2010, Ms. Donovan has coordinated farmers market research for the WSU Small Farms Program and Farmers Market Action Team. She co-authored the "WSDA Small Farm and Direct Marketing Handbook" (6th Edition) in 2009 and "Washington State Farmers Market Management Toolkit" in 2012. Ms. Donovan serves on the board of the Washington State Farmers Market Association and was named the "2011 Advocate of the Year" by the Tilth Producers of Washington. She has a Bachelor of Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a Master's degree in Geography from the University of Washington.

Paul Freedman is Associate Professor in the Department of Politics at the University of Virginia, where he serves as Associate Department Chair. Freedman teaches courses in media and politics, voting behavior, research methods and the politics of food. He is a founding member of the UVA Food Collaborative, and currently serves as Academic Director of the Morven Summer Institute, where he teaches a course on farmers markets. Since 2000, Freedman has been an election analyst for ABC News in New York. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Michigan.

Patricia Inman is Senior Research Associate at Northern Illinois University's Center for Governmental Studies (CGS). The Center for Governmental Studies (CGS) at Northern Illinois University helps decision-makers develop effective local food policies and plan, design, implement, and promote a broad array of sustainable local food initiatives ranging from community food kitchens and incubators to large-scale facility re-use and redevelopment.

Robert King is a professor in the Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota. He joined the faculty at the University of Minnesota in 1983 and held the E. Fred Koller Chair in Agricultural Management Information Systems from 1983 to 2004. He served as head of the Department of Applied Economics from July 2004 through June 2008. His research focuses on local food systems, on organic agriculture, and on management issues facing food retailers, farmer cooperatives, and farmers. He teaches courses on managerial economics, cooperatives, and food systems. He is a past President of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association. He currently serves on the Board of the Organic processing Institute and the International Advisory Board of the Wageningen School of Social Sciences in the Netherlands.

Bryn Sadownik is the Program Manager for Evaluation & Community Impact at Vancity Community Foundation. Ms. Sadownik works to enhance the capacity of VCF, Vancity Credit Union and community-based organizations to strategically plan, manage and communicate the value of their work, and in particular the measurement of social and environmental impact. She has over 15 years' experience working in impact assessment and cost-effectiveness analysis. Prior to joining VCF, Ms. Sadownik worked as a consultant and researcher at SFU, leading numerous projects for government, private sector and non-profit organizations. Ms. Sadownik holds a B.A. from Carleton University and a Masters of Resource and Environmental Management from Simon Fraser University.

Garry Stephenson is an Associate Professor at Oregon State University. He is Coordinator of the Small Farms Program which focuses on applied research and educational outreach to benefit small scale farmers. With advanced degrees in agriculture and anthropology, Dr. Stephenson occupies a unique niche spanning farming systems and social science. His interests include alternative agriculture production and marketing systems, community food systems, and agricultural development. Dr. Stephenson holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Anthropology from the University of Oregon.

Amy Yaroch, Ph.D. is the Executive Director at the Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition in Omaha, Nebraska. The Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition is an independent research institution providing scientific expertise, partnership and resources to improve diet and physical activity behaviors among youth and their families to help grow a healthier next generation.

Dr. Yaroch also holds a Special Dean appointment as Professor in the Department of Health Promotion, Social and Behavioral Health at the University of Nebraska of Medical Center. Since joining the Center in 2009, Dr. Yaroch has been leading efforts in obesity prevention, food insecurity, local food systems, and survey development and evaluation. Her research incorporates a social ecological approach, working at individual, environmental and policy levels for positive behavior change.