

Oregon Mass Timber Development – Speaker Bios

Kevin Cheung, Western Wood Products Association (WWPA)
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Dr. Kevin Cheung is the Chief Engineer of the Western Wood Products Association in Portland, Oregon. He got his PhD from Washington State University (Pullman, Washington) in 1984. He has published numerous articles in journals and conference proceedings on topics of multistory wood frame construction, performance of wood frame construction during earthquake, and lumber testing and design properties. Dr. Cheung is active in the development of standards for wood products and timber engineering in ASTM Committee on Wood and ISO Technical Committee on Timber Structures.



Tricia Clemens, Senior Program Specialist, VertueLab
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Tricia is a Special Projects & Programs Specialist for an Oregon-based non-profit, VertueLab. VertueLab (formerly Oregon BEST) partners with funders and innovators in clean technologies to make a global environmental impact. Through a series of focused programs and funding opportunities, they advance promising technologies to market while helping innovators find the resources they need to move their vision forward. Tricia was the Program Manager for the 2017 CLT Manufacturing Study, convening 10 regional partners for a feasibility study to evaluate the opportunities, options, and challenges involved in adopting Cross Laminated Timber production in the Oregon-SW Washington marketplace.



Matthew F. Craigie - Project Manager, ECONorthwest
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Matt Craigie joined ECONorthwest as a Project Manager in 2016. He specializes in bridging the gap between public sector goals and private sector realities, especially as they relate in the fields of urban planning and real estate development. In addition to managing projects, he serves as a technical advisor on market, financial, and site specific analyses. Matt enjoys identifying the key data and attributes in each project that make for a compelling story.



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Allan Czinger – Senior Account Manager, USNR
allan.czinger@USNR.com

Allan Czinger is Senior Account Manager for USNR, based at the company headquarters in Woodland, Washington. Allan's career with USNR began in 2007 when he was hired as General Director of USNR Russia to head up the company's Russian market activities. In 2010 Allan returned to the US to play a key role in working with USNR's customers in the Pacific Northwest region. In 2015 USNR developed its first CLT press. This CLT press was installed at D.R. Johnson at Riddle, Oregon, and it peaked Allan's imagination for this emerging market in North America. Allan is currently serving on the Educational Advisory Board for Oregon State University, working to develop a new degree focus on renewable resources that will be called Advanced Manufacturing.



Sam Dicke – Economic Development Coordinator
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Sam Dicke first became involved with Cross Laminated Timber during the summer of 2016, when he served as an Oregon Summer Fellow with Portland State University, working on Clackamas County's CLT initiative. In November 2017, Sam accepted a full time position with Clackamas County's Economic Development department to work more closely on the County's CLT efforts in recruiting a producer to the region. Sam brings many years of management experience as well as research and project coordination. Sam holds a Master of Public Affairs from the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri.



Kyle Freres -Vice President of Operations for Freres Lumber Co., Inc.
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Since 2001, Kyle has managed and supervised a variety of areas including environmental health and safety, cogeneration, information technology, plant upgrades and maintenance. As a member of the executive team, Kyle is actively involved in long-term strategic planning for the company. Kyle has managed some of the company's largest capital projects including the Evergreen BioPower cogeneration facility constructed in 2007 and the new Mass Plywood Panel (MPP) facility, which came online in December of 2017. He is an advocate for innovative new production technologies as well as product innovation. Kyle is motivated by the heritage built by three generations of the Freres family, and the dedication of employees over almost 100 years of operation. Kyle attended Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas where he earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering, a B.A. in Mathematics and minored in Russian Area Studies



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Donna Greene-Salter, Strategic Initiatives Project Manager, Business Oregon
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Donna’s public service career has been built exclusively at Business Oregon for close to 16 years. She has been fortunate to fulfill various roles within the Department and is skilled in the administration of grant and incentive programs including management of a tax credit portfolio that exceeded \$228 MIL in private project investment. Today, Donna typically provides support to large-scale, high visibility strategic initiatives related to Oregon’s target industries like the mass timber sector. She finds her current role to be one of the most fulfilling yet, because she works closely with executive managers and government decision-makers to collaborate with business leaders, researchers and teams of professional public administration employees to identify new business opportunities and support the industry environment.



Chris Harder, Director, Business Oregon
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Chris was appointed by Governor Kate Brown in March of 2016. Chris leads the Oregon Business Development Agency (Business Oregon) in its work to help businesses grow in Oregon and see that economic opportunity is reaching each corner of the state. An Oregon native, Chris most recently served as economic development director at the Portland Development Commission, the city of Portland's economic development agency. He managed the Business & Industry Division and led Portland's efforts to support entrepreneurship, innovation and trade. Previously, Chris was the Director of Economic Analysis for the North Carolina Department of Commerce and a Senior Budget Analyst in the North Carolina Office of State Budget and Management. Chris has master's degrees in City and Regional Planning and Public Administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Puget Sound.



Ken Humberston, Clackamas County Commissioner
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Ken Humberston was elected Clackamas County Commissioner in November 2016. He has worked in law enforcement and as a schoolteacher and firefighter. Ken served in the United States Marine Corps and has held public office as mayor, school board member, fire board member, and on several economic development agencies. Commissioner Humberston’s primary initiatives since joining the Clackamas County Commission include supporting an innovative approach to sustainable forest management with the intention of advancing the emerging Cross Laminated Timber (CLT) industry and advancing efforts to ensure all of Clackamas County is served with low-cost high-speed internet.



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Timm Locke, Director of Forest Products, Oregon Forest Resources Institute
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Timm leads OFRI's Forest Products Promotion and Education Program. The program aims to create and strengthen demand for traditional and innovative Pacific Northwest wood products among professionals who design, specify and construct commercial buildings. Locke brings a passion for wood products and extensive building products marketing experience to the position. He holds a bachelor's degree in communication from State University of New York at Buffalo and has worked as a product publicity manager for the Western Wood Products Association and as a principal and public relations director at KnollGroup in Portland. Before joining OFRI in 2015, Locke was the owner of the Portland-based public relations and marketing agency Pipeline PR + Marketing. Over the years, his building products clients have included Willamette Industries, SierraPine, Contact Industries, Patrick Lumber, Warm Springs Composite Products, Clayhaus Ceramics, and several wood product trade associations.



Ethan Martin – WoodWorks
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Ethan is a licensed engineer in several states with experience ranging from civil engineering and land development to residential, commercial, and educational building design. He earned a BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Cornell University specializing in structures. As the previous owner of a structural engineering firm in North Carolina, Ethan has worked on projects that range from small renovations to a 470,000-square-foot, \$125 million central school for the Cherokee nation. He has also worked on national accounts such as Home Depot, Chili's, McDonald's and Honda.



Iain Macdonald, Director, TallWood Design Institute
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Iain joined the TallWood Design Institute in 2016. He has worked in business development and training roles in the forest industry for 19 years, prior to which he was involved in export marketing of forest products to Asia Pacific markets. Macdonald led the Centre for Advanced Wood Processing (CAWP) at University of British Columbia, Canada (UBC) for nine years, during which time he was a key player in efforts by the Province of British Columbia to stimulate and support the use of mass timber products following the passing of the Wood First Act. Iain holds degrees in marketing and professional education. He has significant experience globally in the design and delivery of technical and business education to workplace and professional learners, and in creating programs to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and business development. He is a director and past chair of the Wood Manufacturing Council.



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Amy Croover Payette - Strategy and Communications Manager, Business Oregon
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Amy started her professional career in the fast paced world of political campaigns. After electing U.S. Senator Jon Tester from Montana she went to work for him handling Native American Affairs. She has a bachelor of science in restoration ecology from Salish Kootenai College and after working for the Senate moved to Portland in 2013 to attend the Executive Master of Public Administration program at Portland State University. While in Portland she has continued her public service at Metro Regional Government and currently works for Business Oregon leading their Strategy and Communications Division.



Brad Raffle, Conservation Capital LLC
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Brad Raffle is an attorney with forty years of experience in environmental and conservation law. Conservation Capital, the company Mr. Raffle founded in 2006, is one the nation's first companies to focus on land conservation projects designed to capture the economic value of ecosystem services. He has extensive experience in public-private collaboration.



Judith Sheine, Professor, Department of Architecture, University of Oregon
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Judith is the Director of Design for the TallWood Design Institute, a collaboration between the University of Oregon's College of Design and Oregon State University's Colleges of Forestry and Engineering focused on the advancement of timber manufacturing and design. Sheine is also an award-winning architect whose projects have been published internationally and she has been recognized as the leading authority on the work of R.M. Schindler; her publications on the architect include R.M. Schindler (Phaidon Press, 2001) and her most recent book, Schindler, Kings Road and Southern California Modernism (University of California Press, 2012), co-authored with Robert Sweeney.



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Evan Schmidt, Outreach Coordinator, TallWood Design Institute (TDI)
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Evan joined the TallWood Design Institute in 2018 after the completion of his M.S. in Wood Science at Oregon State University (OSU). His research focused on moisture monitoring of CLT building components, and was divided between laboratory simulations and field monitoring of the new Forest Science Complex. Evan received a bachelor's degree in architecture, and prior to attending OSU he worked as an independent contractor providing design, drafting and permitting services. Evan's interest in renewable materials, wood and architectural design has been long-standing, but his discovery of mass timber catalyzed a love embedded in his fascination with the interface of the natural and built environments--something captured by mass timber in the holistic span of forest to frame.



Stefan Schneider, CutMyTimber
Cutmytimber.com

Stefan Schneider grew up in Switzerland as the son of a Swiss Master Timber Framer. After receiving his degree in Timber Engineering, he moved to North America where he worked for 8 years integrating CAD/CAM technology into many of the leading mass timber companies in Canada and the U.S. At CutMyTimber, Stefan continues to be passionately involved in mass timber and digital fabrication.



William Silva, Preconstruction Manager, Swinerton
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William is a seasoned construction veteran who manages all aspects of design and preconstruction management for Swinerton Builders in Portland, Oregon. A graduate of Oregon State University with a B.S. in Construction Management, William is a passionate advocate for mass timber buildings with a knack for finding efficient and eloquent solutions to project challenges, having applied those skills to successfully deliver numerous projects.



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Erica Spiritos - Mass Timber Preconstruction Manager, Swinerton
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Following her Civil & Environmental Engineering studies at Carnegie Mellon University, Erica discovered mass timber structures and their potential benefits to the construction industry. She joined a major mass timber supplier and became a cornerstone of the mass timber movement in the Pacific Northwest, educating the AEC industry and facilitating solutions to deliver eight projects, including both the tallest and the largest CLT projects in the USA. With Swinerton, Erica provides project-specific expertise to support appropriate and optimal mass timber design, estimating, BIM integration and procurement strategy.



Lori Stephens, Broadleaf Architecture PC
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Lori Stephens, architect with Broadleaf Architecture PC, in Corvallis, Oregon, is part of the non-profit Cascadia Seismic Strategies, Inc (CSSI). CSSI was awarded a grant to conduct a case study using CLT's in the seismic retrofit of a URM building. Lori will give a brief history and update of the project.



Terry Whitehill, Building Official, City of Portland – Bureau of Development Services
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Terry is a Certified Building Official with the International Code Council and has been the Building Official for the city of Portland since 2006. Is involved in the code development process at the national, state and local levels. Is responsible for building code appeals to approve the use of alternate materials and methods in the city of Portland.

