



**Jill Baker is Superintendent of Schools for the Long Beach Unified School District.** Prior to her appointment as superintendent, she worked for 28 years at LBUSD as a successful teacher, principal and central office administrator. Dr. Baker enjoys multiple connections with local organizations, foundations and universities, all of which continue to support efforts in the school district. She also serves on two non-profit boards that support the community. In 2005, Dr. Baker completed her tenure as a fellow in the Board Urban Superintendents Academy. She earned her doctorate in educational leadership at the University of Southern California in

2004, master's degree in school administration at California State University, Long Beach in 1999, and her bachelor's degree in sociology at University of California, Irvine in 1991.



**Holly Jean Buck is an Assistant Professor of Environment and Sustainability at the University at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York,** where she teaches courses on environmental justice and emerging technologies and sustainability. She previously worked at UCLA, and still works on projects related to California's climate change goals. Her research programme focuses on rural futures and participation in environmental future-making. *After Geoengineering: Climate Tragedy, Repair and Restoration*, her recent book, explores how to remove carbon from the atmosphere, and her forthcoming book looks at options for phasing out fossil fuels. She holds a Ph.D. in Development

Sociology from Cornell University, and a M.Sc. in Human Ecology from Lund University in Sweden.



**Kelly Colopy is the Director of the Health and Human Services Department for the City of Long Beach, CA.** The Department has over 350 employees, \$150 million budget and 40 programs in the areas of public health, family preservation, violence prevention, homeless services, and the housing authority. These teams work with government, community and business partners to improve the health, wellness and resiliency of people in Long Beach. Ms. Colopy has spent the past 30 years working at the Federal, State, County and local levels to design and implement systems and services that build wellness and resiliency for communities, families and individuals. She has a successful history of designing and implementing cross-agency and community initiatives,

organizational and community facilitation, leadership development efforts, strategic planning and performance measures. During her tenure in Long Beach, the Department has expanded to include the City's Office of Equity and Language Access Program, My Brothers' Keeper, trauma and resiliency informed efforts, violence prevention and alternatives to incarceration planning and coordination, human trafficking prevention program, fatherhood program, early childhood education strategic plan, and healthy aging center. Kelly holds a master's degree in Public Policy from Duke University, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science, with a minor in Mathematics, from Smith College.



**Annissa Davis, MD, MPH is City Health Officer for the Long Beach Dept. of Health and Human Services.** Dr. Davis grew up in Long Beach and graduated from in 1987. She obtained a BA in History at UCLA, then attended Stanford School of Medicine, graduating in 1998 with her MD. She returned to Long Beach to complete a residency in Family Medicine, from 1998-2001. She then completed a Master's in Public Health at UCLA in 2002 and worked for the LBDHHS as a public health physician specializing in biological bioterrorism agents from 2002-2005. In 2005 she left the city to begin a career in Los Alamitos as a family physician, providing primary medical care to adults and children, which she did for eleven years. She returned to LBDHHS in

September 2016 as the City Health Officer. She's married and has two wonderful sons, 10 and 13. She loves reading and all things books.



**Celeste Dewald is Executive Director of California Association of Museums.** She has over 25 years of experience working in the museum field and is an advocate for museums and helping them become more relevant and effective organizations. While pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Art History at UC Santa Cruz, she was introduced to museum work when she assisted with the development of a mobile art museum that traveled to elementary schools. She became fascinated with the vibrant role museums can play in communities in learning about history, science, and the arts. She interned at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African Art and the San Jose Museum of Art. Celeste's first regular position in the museum field was at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History where she had a hand in both administration and education programs and assisted with a merger between two organizations. She worked as the Director of Education and Public Programs at a start-up museum, the National Steinbeck Center in Salinas, where she developed K-12 and public programs and cultivated partnerships with social service organizations. Celeste has a Master's Degree in Museums Studies from John F. Kennedy University.



**Daniel Ives is a Managing Director and Senior Equity Research Analyst covering the Technology sector at Wedbush Securities since 2018.** Dan has been on Wall Street for two decades covering the software and the broader technology sector. He spent the first few years of his career as a financial analyst at HBO and then received his MBA in Finance before becoming a well-known technology equity research analyst and Managing Director with FBR Capital Markets for 16 years, focusing on the enterprise software/hardware sectors including cyber security, cloud computing, big data technology, and the mobile landscape.

Dan is a highly sought after tech expert globally, has been a keynote speaker across the US, Europe, and Asia and regularly makes television appearances on networks such as CNBC, Bloomberg, BBC, ABC, CNN, and Fox to provide commentary related to his technology experience. Dan is often cited around the world by publications such as The Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Investors Business Daily, Los Angeles Times, The Telegraph, San Francisco Chronicle, Time Magazine, The Washington Post, The Guardian, South China Morning Post, Barrons, Financial Times, The Sydney Morning Herald, and New York Times, among others. He holds a BS in Finance from Penn State University and an MBA from the University of Maryland.





**Peter Kareiva, Ph.D. is President and CEO of the Aquarium of the Pacific.** He is the former director of the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA, Pritzker Distinguished Professor in Environment & Sustainability and Chair, Doctorate of Environmental Science and Engineering program. Prior to UCLA, Kareiva was the Chief Scientist and Vice President of The Nature Conservancy, where he was responsible for maintaining the quality of over 600 staff engaged in conservation science in 36 countries around the world. Kareiva studied political science and zoology at Duke University for his bachelor's degree and ecology and applied mathematics at Cornell University for his Ph.D. He is the author of more than 150 scientific publications and author or editor of eight books, including a textbook on conservation science



**John Keisler is the Economic Development Director for the City of Long Beach.** The mission of the department is to increase economic opportunities for workers, investors, and entrepreneurs in Long Beach through workforce, business, and property development programs. After completing bachelor degrees in Philosophy and Religion at St. Olaf College, he joined Teach for America, teaching middle school literacy and civics in Newark, NJ. To address the chronic community challenge facing his students, he turned to a career in city management, with the League of California Cities and completing his MPA at the USC Price School of Public Policy. In 2005, John was hired as a Management

Assistant by the City of Long Beach, and rotated through four departments. Over the next decade, he led multiple change-management projects throughout the City, serving as the Animal Care Services Bureau Manager, Business Operations Manager for the Parks, Recreation & Marine Dept., CFO for the Police Dept., and the City's first Innovation Team Director. John lives in Long Beach with his wife and two sons (11 and 13), where he serves on a number of civic board and coaches youth sports.



**Nicole Meek is currently the Director of Visitor Operations at the Aquarium of the Pacific**, where she has worked since it opened in 1998. This includes oversight of the Aquarium's Guest Services, Security, Housekeeping, and Guest Support Center departments. Prior to working at the Aquarium, she was Director of Guest Services at the California Science Center and Operations Manager at the Richard and Karen Carpenter Performing Arts Center on the campus of California State University, Long Beach. Very early in her career, Nicole spent time working in various live performance venues across Southern California where she was introduced to live theater/events and operations

management. Nicole holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theater from United States International University, and studied Arts Administration at New York University. She is a graduate of Leadership Long Beach (2017), is a member of Toastmasters International (ACB), and serves on the Board of Directors of Camp 4 Kids, a nonprofit dedicated to providing children of all backgrounds the opportunity to enjoy a week of resident camp in the Big Bear Mountains every summer.



**Kathie Nirschl is Vice President of Human Resources for the Aquarium of the Pacific.** Prior to joining the Aquarium in 2002, Kathie worked in human resources at the Screen Actors Guild and Day Runner, Inc. She has volunteered for a number of organizations, has provided pro-bono human resources consulting for several non-profits, and co-founded the Aquarium of the Pacific Wave Makers Toastmasters club. She enjoys painting, music and lifelong learning about a number of subjects. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from UCLA in Geography.