



SPEAKERS



Dr. Holly Krutka, Executive Director, UW School of Energy Resources

Holly Krutka is the Executive Director of the School of Energy Resources at the University of Wyoming. She came to the university after serving as the Vice President for coal generation and emissions technologies at Peabody, the world's largest private-sector coal producer. Dr. Krutka has spent much of her career focusing on technology and policy pathways to advance carbon capture as well as identifying nontraditional coal-consumption opportunities. Before joining Peabody, she worked as a senior research and development analyst for Tri-State Generation and Transmission, an electric generation and transmission cooperative based in Westminster, Colo.; as executive editor of Cornerstone, The Official Journal of the World Coal Industry, employed by the Chinese state-owned energy company Shenhua Group; and as a research scientist and senior research engineer with ADA Environmental Solutions in Highlands Ranch, Colo., where she was tasked with launching a carbon capture research program.



Jacob Haseman, Esq., Shareholder, Beatty & Wozniak and Chair, University of Wyoming Professional Landman Advisory Board

Jacob (Jake) T. Haseman is a Shareholder Attorney at Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. in Sheridan, WY. He maintains an active energy and natural resource-based legal practice and has practiced law since graduating from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 2007. Jake's legal practice has traditionally focused on oil, gas, and water; particularly regulatory and administrative work in front of various state regulatory bodies, title examination and curative, litigation surrounding oil and gas, real property, contracts, and title issues, real estate transactions, eminent domain, and various title and contractual surface issues for a variety of parties in the energy and natural resources sector.



Joseph Icenogle, CPL

Joe is an oil and gas land and regulatory consultant. He has experience working as a Land Manager for Wave Petroleum in Wyoming and as Surface Land Manager with Apache Corporation in Tulsa. Previously, he was the Director of Environmental Affairs for Fidelity Exploration & Production Company, after completing nearly 19 years of service with Marathon Oil Company working in positions of increasing responsibility in land management, environmental and regulatory affairs. Joe was raised in Casper, Wyoming and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin, in 1981 with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree majoring in Petroleum Land Management.



Drew Shutts, President, Wyoming Association of Professional Landmen

Drew Shutts is a 2010 University of Wyoming Graduate who has worked in the Oil and Gas Industry as a Petroleum Landman since 2012. He is currently serving the WAPL as President for the 2024 calendar year and prior to taking the role of President, had the privilege of filling the roles of Treasurer and Vice President. As a third generation Wyoming native, Drew has a vested interest in being a part of developing the energy assets of Wyoming while also furthering the growth of the Oil and Gas Industry within the state.



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Will Reese, Shareholder, Williams, Port, Day & Neville, P.C.

Will earned his J.D. from the University of Wyoming College of Law in 2011. Following his law school graduation, he worked at Beatty & Wozniak, P.C. He focuses his practice primarily on the Oil and Gas Industry with a special emphasis on title examination, acquisitions and divestitures and representing clients in front of the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. Will joined Williams, Porter, Day & Neville, P.C. in 2015. Will is an active participant in the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation including authoring chapters in the Landman's legal handbook and the Law of Federal Oil and Gas Leases.



Kevin Stowe, CPL, President, K2 Land & Minerals Company / KR VENTURES, LLC

Kevin Stowe is an independent landman and president of K2 Land & Minerals Company where he performs a full-range of acquisition and prospect management activities throughout Rocky Mountains for oil, gas and mining projects. A Certified Professional Landman, Stowe has over 40 years of experience in energy resource management and development. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology and Earth Sciences from the University of Utah, and a BBA in Petroleum Land Management from the University of Oklahoma.



Edie Holmes, Independent Land Manager

Edie Holmes has spent over 25 years as an in-house oil and gas land manager and independent broker. As a company Landman, Edie worked for Quicksilver Resources, Inc., and as a Land Manager for Nerd Gas Company, an energy exploration, production, and investment company. Edie is a Certified Professional Landman (CPL) and is a past president of the WAPL and AAPL Board of Directors, and has served on various committees for WAPL and AAPL.



Kara Brighton Fornstrom, Director, Center for Energy Regulation & Policy Analysis, School of Energy Resources

Fornstrom has more than 20 years of experience in the utility regulatory and administrative law sectors. She earned her bachelor's degree in small business management from UW and her law degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Law. Her legal career began at the Wyoming Attorney General's Office in the Water Division and she was a founding partner of Hageman & Brighton PC, where she focused exclusively on water and natural resource issues. Appointed by former Gov. Matt Mead in 2013, she served on the Wyoming Public Service Commission for nearly eight years, the last two years as chairman. During that time, Fornstrom also served on the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Board of Directors and the Committee on Electricity, and she was the former president of the Western Conference of Public Service Commissioners. Prior to joining SER, she was the director of state regulatory policy for Southwest Power Pool (SPP).



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Donald Burkhart, Jr., Wyoming House of Representatives

A representative in the Wyoming Legislature for District 15, Burkhart assumed office in 2011. During his tenure, he has served on several high profile legislative committees including the Appropriations committee, Travel, Recreation, Wildlife & Cultural Resources committee, and the Minerals, Business & Economic Development committee which he currently chairs. He is a current member of the Energy Resources Council and the Enhanced and Improved Oil Recovery Commission. A champion of a diverse energy economy in Wyoming, He was recognized by the American Nuclear Society in 2023 for his leadership in encouraging nuclear energy to be a part of Wyoming's overall portfolio. Burkhart earned a B.S. in Physics from John Carroll University. Before assuming office, Burkhart worked as a safety engineer for BP America Production Compact and served on the Board of Directors of the Wyoming-Montana Safety Council.



Adam Sarvey, Vice President of Land and Business Development, Arena Resources LLC

Adam Sarvey is a seasoned professional in the energy sector, currently serving as the Vice President of Land and Business Development at Arena Resources LLC in the Powder River Basin, Wyoming. His experience spans over 13 years in the land profession, working on a number of land projects, including a large scale carbon capture and sequestration project in the Western US. Most recently, he served as the Land Manager at Thunder Basin Resources LLC in Denver, CO, for six years. Adam has served in various leadership positions inside of the Wyoming Association of Professional Landmen including serving as president for the 2022-2023 term. Adam's expertise also extends to the crypto-mining sector, where he served as the Executive Vice President of Business Development at JAI Energy.



Glen Murrell, Ph.D., Community and Regional Engagement Director, Idaho National Laboratory

Glen Murrell has worked in energy research and development during a career spanning over two decades. Before coming to Idaho National Laboratory, he served as executive director of the Wyoming Energy Authority. He worked with the University of Wyoming Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute to develop reservoir data programs and carbon dioxide analyses. Murrell has also served in a variety of leadership roles aimed at advancing projects and technologies in the oil and gas industry for General Electric and Baker Hughes. An active participant in regional initiatives, Murrell has been a key figure in the Western Inter-State Hydrogen Hub coalition and the Western Green Hydrogen Initiative. Murrell holds a doctorate in geology from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, along with bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from University of Waikato.



Bernard Bonifas, Manager, Nichols Ranch and Vice President of ISR Operations, Energy Fuels

Bernard Bonifas is a team lead and senior project manager with 30+ years of international experience in mineral mining, mine decommissioning, responsible waste disposal, mine reclamation and remediation. After a long career at Areva in various positions, he most recently spent three years at Cameco Resources as the General Mine Manager where he oversaw nuclear raw materials specifically planning, guiding, coordinating, executing and monitoring the exploration, mining and processing of uranium yellowcake. For the past years he has been mine Manager of the Nichols Ranch ISR Uranium Mines in Central Wyoming and Vice President of ISR Operations for ENERGY FUELS. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Geology and Earth Sciences from Aix-Marseille University and a Doctoral Research degree in Geology from Nancy University.



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Tara Righetti, Esq., CPL, Occidental Chair in Energy and Environmental Policies and Professor of Law, School of Energy Resources

Righetti, a law professor, teaches in both SER and the UW College of Law, where her research focuses on governance, property and administrative law issues related to energy development and carbon removal, including on split estates and federal lands. She joined the UW faculty in 2014 and was awarded tenure in 2020. Regularly sought for her expertise and aid on major energy and carbon storage projects nationwide, Righetti is a renowned expert on U.S. energy law, and her knowledge and contributions to the field of CCUS policy is unparalleled. Righetti has published peer-reviewed articles in leading law journals both nationally and internationally, where her scholarship is regularly cited. A Fulbright Scholar, she also co-directs the Nuclear Energy Research Center at the School of Energy Resources.



Olu Omotowa, Ph.D., Senior Engineer of Nuclear Safety & Licensing, TerraPower

Olu Omotowa is a senior engineer of nuclear safety and licensing for TerraPower. Omotowa completed his master's degree in environmental and energy engineering at the University of Sheffield in England and his doctorate at the University of Idaho. While earning his Ph.D., he was an invited fellow of the elite World Nuclear University Summer Institute held at Oxford University. His educational background offers a Pan-African-European-American perspective on nuclear energy. Omotowa's research is focused on optimizing the safety of next-generation nuclear reactor designs.



Bill Henderson, Wyoming House of Representatives

Bill Henderson is a representative in the Wyoming Legislature, assuming that role for District 41 in 2016. He is a member of the House Appropriations Committee, the State Employee Compensation Commission, and is the State Retirement Board Liaison. Prior to public office, Henderson served in the United States Navy and retired from military service to pursue a career in banking. He holds a B.S. in Economics and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Wyoming, his MBA from the Walker School of Business & Technology at Webster University.



Jacob Burns, student, Energy Resources Management and Development with a concentration in Professional Land Management, President, Student Chapter for Energy Resources

Jacob Burns is the current President of The Student Chapter of Energy Resources and a 2024 spring graduate majoring in Energy Resource Management and Development with a concentration in Professional Land Management. Jacob grew up in Wheatland Wyoming where his interest in the energy industry started. He is looking forward to graduating and starting his professional career as a Landman.



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Brooks Yates, CPL, President, American Association of Professional Landmen (AAPL)

Brooks Yates is senior vice president of A&D/land at Peregrine Petroleum Partners Ltd., an oil and gas exploration and production company with offices in Dallas and Houston and operations in Texas, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Louisiana. Prior to joining Peregrine, he spent over 15 years as vice president of land at Ventex Oil & Gas Inc. During the 1990s, he was land manager for The Rudman Partnership. A native of Mississippi and an alumnus of The University of Mississippi, Yates began his career in the oil and gas business as a landman in various land roles with Hunt Energy Corp. and Placid Oil Co. in the 1980s before being moved to Shreveport and ultimately Dallas. A member of AAPL since 1985, Yates has served in several leadership roles and is the current president for the organization.



Tom Walters, Wyoming House of Representatives

Tom Walters serves in the Wyoming Legislature as a representative for District 38. He assumed his role in 2013 and serves on multiple committees including the House Appropriations committee and the Energy Council. He earned a degree in Animal Science and Agricultural Business from the University of Wyoming. He works as the Manager of Bummer Land and Livestock. He served 10 years on Natrona County Conservation District Board.



Lon Whitman, Director, Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute (EORI)

Lon Whitman is the director of the University of Wyoming's Enhanced Oil Recovery Institute (EORI). Lon brings a wealth of experience to the School of Energy Resources, a collaborative leadership style; a commitment to accountability and Wyoming partnerships; and a unified vision for EORI to help increase production through improved and enhanced oil recovery operations. Whitman has a degree in petroleum engineering from UW and over 30 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. His professional career includes both offshore and onshore experience in reservoir engineering and business development. He has an extensive background in enhanced oil recovery principles and technologies and worked for nearly 10 years as a private consultant in enhanced and improved oil recovery projects in Wyoming, Texas and North Dakota. He also has professional experience in environmental due diligence as a consultant for oil and gas acquisitions and divestitures.



Tom Donaho, Esq., Energy Partner and Carbon Policy Lead, BakerHostetler, LLP

Tom Donaho is an energy partner and Carbon Policy Lead with BakerHostetler, LLP. He focuses his practice on complex commercial and business litigation and contractual risk management. Tom represents energy clients in a wide range of contract matters, business torts and real estate disputes. He specializes in helping clients shift risk through indemnity and insurance protections and has extensive experience navigating indemnity tenders and insurance claims in connection with oilfield litigation. As Carbon Policy Lead, Tom serves as a subject matter expert with respect to carbon capture, utilization and sequestration (CCUS) law and carbon markets. He regularly presents and publishes on emerging issues relating to CCUS regulations and incentives, the voluntary carbon market, and emerging disclosure laws relating to decarbonization. Tom earned his B.A. in Political Science from Duke University and a J.D. from The University of Texas School of Law in Austin.



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Tim Considine, Ph.D., Professor of Economics, School of Energy Resources

Tim Considine is a prominent energy and mineral economist. He has 42 years of experience conducting economic analysis of energy, mineral, and material industries, and has published a wide range of studies on applied econometrics, petroleum refining, crude oil markets, electricity regulation and cost structures, natural gas production, coal, and steel. With the majority of his career dedicated to academia, he joined the University of Wyoming in 2008 after having previously taught at Penn State University for 22 years. While at UW, he has taught courses in energy, economics and finance, and served as the Academic Director for the School of Energy Resources for two years. Dr. Considine also worked as an economist at Bank of America, and as the lead analyst for natural gas deregulation on the U.S. Congressional Budget Office. He received his Ph.D. from Cornell University, his .M.S. from Purdue University, and his B.A. from Loyola University.



Bo Biteman, CPL, Wyoming Senate

Senator Biteman is a Certified Professional Landman with over 20 years of experience, primarily in the Rocky Mountain Region. Specializing in title, leasing, due diligence, and project management related to energy and mineral development, he has worked on a wide variety of projects including oil, natural gas, pipelines, coal bed methane, uranium exploration, and more. Currently, he is Land Manager for Land Resources, LLC, and has served in the Wyoming Legislature since 2017 for District 21. In his current term, he is a member of the Senate Revenue and Senate Education Committees. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Grand Valley State University.



Clark Stith, Attorney, Wyoming House of Representatives

Clark Stith is a Wyoming attorney who manages his own firm in Rock Springs. He has practiced Law in the state since 1997, specializing in bankruptcy, business law and civil litigation. He is a member of the Wyoming Legislature, representing House District 48. In 2023, he was named House speaker pro tempore, the body's No. 3 leadership position. He serves on the Joint Appropriations Committee as well as the Management Council. He graduated from Georgetown University Law Center in 1991, and has over 30 years of experience as a lawyer, finding customized, creative solutions for his clients.



Cody Wagoner, Director of Land- Subsurface & New Ventures, Tallgrass Energy

Cody Wagoner is the Director of Land- Subsurface & New Ventures at Tallgrass Energy where he leads the company's land efforts supporting carbon dioxide sequestration projects. Mr. Wagoner has over 15 years of land experience, with the past 10 years spent at Tallgrass Energy managing the acquisition of property rights and land entitlements for oil, natural gas and water infrastructure, natural gas storage operations, and carbon sequestration projects across the Rockies and the Midwest. Mr. Wagoner's prior experience includes upstream subsurface and surface landman functions in exploration and development projects at both Anadarko Petroleum and ConocoPhillips. He holds a BBA in Energy Management from the University of Oklahoma.



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Jenne Dilts Miller, Rancher

Jenne Miller is a fourth generation sheep and cattle rancher and operates a ranch north of Douglas and also a ranch south of Lance Creek, Wyoming with her husband. They run sheep, cattle and yearlings and are raising two kids to hopefully continue the family tradition. Jenne graduated high school from Douglas, Wyoming and went on to earn her degree in Finance and Economics from Gonzaga University. She then worked for three years in Bozeman and Great Falls as a paralegal before returning to the ranch. She was able to sit in on negotiations for oil and gas surface use agreements as well as pipeline development with her dad, Steve Dilts, for several years to gain valuable insight into the process before he passed the ranch on to her and her two siblings in 2018. Jenne continues to negotiate surface use agreements for oil and gas development on the ranch as it progresses.



Derek Smith, CPL, Surface Landman, Devon Energy

Derek Smith, CPL, is currently a Surface Landman with Devon Energy in their Powder River Basin asset. Prior to joining Devon, he worked for Anadarko Petroleum Corporation and as an independent landman, starting his career during his senior year at the University of Wyoming College of Business and through a later MBA from Colorado State University. Throughout his career, he has gathered experience across the state of Wyoming and Mountain West in all aspects of the well life cycle, from initial leasing through final reclamation. During this experience, Smith has learned the value of open communication and collaboration with private owners and regulatory bodies alike. Currently a board member on the Wyoming Business Council and chair of Gillette Main Street, he believes in the value of giving back to the community and helping shape the growth of our state toward a bright & sustainable future. In his spare time, he enjoys adventuring with his wife, Revea, and two dogs, Teddy & Franklin, as well as working on various projects around his shop.



Temple Stoellinger, Esq., Associate Professor and Wyoming Excellence Chair, University of Wyoming Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources and College of Law

Temple Stoellinger is an associate professor and Wyoming Excellence Chair at the University of Wyoming with a dual appointment in the Haub School of Environment and Natural Resources and the College of Law. Professor Stoellinger coordinates the Haub School's JD/MA program in Environment and Natural Resources and teaches wildlife law, environmental and natural resources law and policy, public land law, a course on the National Environmental Policy Act. Her scholarship integrates thinking from the fields of law, ecology, economics, policy, and more to explore relevant approaches for decision-making around wildlife, land, energy, and other valued natural resources. Before joining the University of Wyoming, Professor Stoellinger served as a natural resource advisor to Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal, worked as legal counsel for Shell International B.V., and served as natural resource counsel for the Wyoming County Commissioners Association.



Bryan Leonard, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Environment and Natural Resource Economics, Arizona State University

Bryan Leonard is an Assistant Professor of environmental and natural resource economics in the School of Sustainability and a faculty affiliate in the Economics Department at Arizona State University. His research explores the efficiency and equity implications of different institutional responses to resource allocation problems, focusing on land, water, and other resources. Bryan is a Senior Research Fellow at the Property and Environment Research Center and an External Affiliate of the Ostrom Workshop at Indiana University. He earned his B.A. in Economics from Hillsdale College. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara and a Master's in Applied Economics from Montana State University.



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Phil Lowe, Attorney, United States Department of the Interior

Phil Lowe is an attorney advisor with the Department of the Interior's Rocky Mountain Regional Solicitor's Office. Formerly a hydrogeologist and environmental scientist in the environmental management and licensing section of a major electrical utility, he was also an attorney in the environmental practice groups at two large law firms in San Francisco and Denver. At the Regional Solicitor's Office, he advises Interior agency clients on legal and policy matters related to public land and minerals management and has extensive litigation experience before the Interior Board of Land Appeals and federal courts. Phil also advises Bureau of Land Management clients on NEPA and FLPMA issues associated with environmental impact statements and environmental assessments for a variety of land planning actions and project level records of decision. He also is a Board Member with the Foundation for Energy and Natural Resources Law and has a 1981 B.S. with honors from Rutgers University (where he won several athletic and academic awards) and a 1989 J.D. from the University of Texas at Austin.



Pete Obermueller, President, Petroleum Association of Wyoming

Pete Obermueller is President of the Petroleum Association of Wyoming, the state's only trade association that serves as the voice of Wyoming's primary economic driver - the oil and gas industry. A graduate of Natrona County High School in Casper, Wyoming, Pete holds a Master Degree in Public Policy from the University of Minnesota. Following several years of serving Wyoming as an aide to former United States Representatives Barbara Cubin and Cynthia Lummis, Pete moved back home to Wyoming in 2013. Pete is active in many organizations, including as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, a founding Board Member of the Western Caucus Foundation, and a Board Member for Union Telephone Company.