



*SURF Cultural Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair:*

## George Campbell



Date reappointed: January 1, 2019

George Campbell serves as the Chair of SURF's Cultural Advisory Committee, a committee he established when he was the cultural coordinator for SURF. Campbell spent several years traveling South Dakota to meet with and gain the trust of Tribal members and Leaders.

Campbell is also the Vice President and Treasurer for the Hawaiian Ocean View Estates Road Maintenance Corporation, Chair of the Salary Commission for the County of Hawaii, and Lay Leader and Worship Leader for the Naalehu United Methodist Church.

Campbell was the Deputy Associate Director for Safety, Security and Environmental Protection, the Department Head for Hazards Control (safety), and the Deputy Department Head for Environmental Protection at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In addition, he served as Laboratory Emergency Duty Officer for several years.

*SURF Cultural Advisory Committee (CAC) Members:*

## Pat Lebrun



Secretary/Treasurer

Date Appointed: August 9, 2004

Pat Lebrun is a member of the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority (SDSTA) Board of Directors and SDSTA representative to the Cultural Advisory Committee.

is president of Lebrun Investment Management, Inc., a post she has held since 1988. Prior to that, she was vice president of Simmons Financial Management, Inc. Other work experience included teaching vocal music in public schools in Northwood, N.D., and Rapid City, S.D., and as serving as Executive Director of the Rapid City Symphony. She also has been a private music instructor.



Lebrun was a member of the South Dakota Board of Regents from 1987 through March 2005. She served as president, vice president, secretary, chairman of the Committee on Budget and Finance and chairman of the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs. She chaired the most recent presidential search committees at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology and Northern State University.

Lebrun also is a member of the South Dakota 2010 Research and Commercialization Council, a member of the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee and the Rushmore Rotary Club. From 1994 to 2005 she served on the South Dakota Research Excellence: A Critical Hallmark (REACH) Committee's Board of Directors. The REACH Committee is a liaison with the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). She also served on the Board of Directors of Rushmore Bank and Trust, on the Policy and Priorities Committee of the Education Commission of the States, on the Rapid City Area School District Advisory Council, on the Rapid City Frontiers "Forging Our Future" steering committee and on the Governor's Task Force on Education. Lebrun attended the First Japan-America Grassroots Summit Invitation Conference in Tokyo and Kyoto, Japan. She has made presentations to universities, investment clubs and higher education commissions.

A member of the First Congregational Church in Rapid City, S.D., Lebrun has been involved with PEO, the Rapid City Fine Arts Council, the Rapid City Legal Auxiliary and the Rapid City Service League. She is married and has two sons.

She earned a B.S. from the University of North Dakota and an M.B.A. from the University of South Dakota.

## Kay Jorgensen



Date Appointed: February 1, 2010

Kay S. Jorgensen has dedicated her life to public service. A former District 26-31 Legislator, Kay served in the South Dakota House from 1978 to 1984 and again from 1992 to 1998. She also served a term with Spearfish School Board and was chair of the South Dakota Centennial Committee between 1984-1992. For nearly 20 years, Kay worked with Black Hills Corp, where she was the lead Director for two years and spent 10 years on the board of Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

In addition to serving on the Cultural Advisory Committee for Sanford Lab, Kay recently became the President of the Mt. Rushmore Society where her focus will be leading the educational and financing efforts supporting the preservation of Mt. Rushmore. She also serves on the Educational Telecommunication Board for South Dakota Public Broadcasting, the Crazy Horse Foundation, the Black Hills Area Community Fund and the Spearfish Foundation for Public Education.



Kay works in land development in Spearfish with her children Merideth and Christopher Pangburn and her brother, Joe Jorgensen. A graduate of the Black Hills State University, Kay was recently named to the 100 Outstanding Graduates during BHSU's Centennial celebration and is a 2014 inductee to the South Dakota Hall of Fame.

Her motto in life? "Seize the day, serve the best you can and love your family."

## Mato Standing High



Date Appointed: January 1, 2016

Mato Standing High is an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and currently lives in Rapid City, South Dakota. A licensed attorney in South Dakota and Colorado, Mato is a founding partner and attorney for Standing High Lochen LLP, a firm specializing in the practice of Indian Law. He has dedicated the bulk of his law career to a practice dedicated to assisting Tribal Nations with strengthening court systems and economic development, to name a few areas.

He recently served as the Director of Indian Education for the State of South Dakota, where he had a hand in the development and delivery of a program that addresses crucial needs for South Dakota youth through the Native American Achievement Schools Grant and the Para Professional Scholarship Program. Mato has taught classes at Black Hills State University in Spearfish, South Dakota, both online and in class, was co-owner of Owl Nest Consulting and, between 2012-2015, delivered more than 20 sessions to tribes across the country to train prosecutors, defenders and judges. Mato served as Attorney General for his tribe, the Rosebud Sioux, from 2007-2012 and served as Tribal Attorney in 2006.

A graduate of the University of Montana Law School, Mato has a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing from the University of Wyoming and graduated from Spearfish High School.



## LaFawn Janis



Date Appointed: January 1, 2018

LaFawn Janis is a seventh generation member of the Oglala Lakota Tribe, born on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and a longtime resident of Rapid City where she lives with her two sons. An alumni of Black Hills State University, she graduated with a B.S. in Education. Lafawn is committed to giving her expertise and time to impactful community projects. Lafawn has served on numerous boards and committees with the intent to help bring South Dakota communities together. She gave a Tedx talk called "A Tribe Called Respect," and received a national award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, 40 under 40 in 2019.

## Shankar Kurra



Date Appointed: November 18, 2021

Shankar Kurra is Vice-President of Medical Affairs at Monument Health Hospital in Rapid City, South Dakota, a position he has held since August 2018. As the VPMA he oversees the Medical Staff of Monument Health Rapid City Hospital.

Dr Kurra's previous healthcare positions include being Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs of Fisher-Titus Medical Center in Norwalk, Ohio, and Medical Director of Ohio River Basin Accountable Care Organization (ACO).

Dr Kurra received an MBA from the George Washington University in DC in 2010 and completed his residency in Internal Medicine from Indiana University Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Indiana. He also completed a fellowship in Geriatric Medicine from IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital. He obtained his Medical Degree from Gandhi Medical College, Hyderabad, India in 1991.

Dr Kurra has held faculty appointments as Assistant professor of Internal Medicine at Ohio university Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine and currently serves in that role at the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine.



During the past 24 years, Dr Kurra has practiced in Emergency Medicine, Hospital Medicine and Geriatric care.

In the local communities where he has lived, Shankar has served on multiple nonprofit organization boards, including WellFully Rapid City; South Dakota Mines Pre-Health Professions External Advisory Board; Kendal at Oberlin, Ohio; and Bexley Educational Foundation in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr Kurra also served as Councilor on the Physician Leadership Council of Ohio Hospital Association (OHA), and the Physician Council of Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA).

Dr Kurra grew up in India and moved to USA in 1995. Shankar lives in Rapid City, South Dakota, with his wife, Suneetha. He has two daughters, Vahni (23) and Rax (14). Outside of work he enjoys golf, cooking, travel, astronomy, photography and music (especially Jazz, Blues, and Folk).

## Kay Schallenkamp



Date Appointed: November 18, 2021

Kay Schallenkamp served 41 years in higher education prior to her retirement in 2014. She served as President of Black Hills State University (SD) from 2006-2014 and President of Emporia State University (KS) from 1997-2006. Prior to that, she served as Provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater and Provost at Chadron State College (NE). She started her higher education career at Northern State University (SD) as a faculty member of communication disorders and later served as department chair and dean.

Dr. Schallenkamp serves on the Career and Technical Education Board of Trustees, Board of Directors for the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation, Board of Trustees for Baker University (KS), the SD American Indian Education Committee, and the Cultural Advisory Committee for SURF. She previously served on the SD Board of Education Standards, and the SD Board of Junior Achievement. Throughout her career, she was professionally active at the state and national levels.

She previously served as a member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the North Central Association (now the Higher Learning Commission) the Board of Directors for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), and the Renaissance Group. In addition, she served as chair of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), the Presidents Council for NCAA Division II, and the National Teachers Hall of Fame, as well as the steering committee for the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment.



Dr. Schallenkamp served as a Consultant Evaluator for the Higher Learning Commission for 25 years. During that time she conducted over 30 site visits, serving as chair for many teams. She also led a team to evaluate international sites in Japan and England and was a member of an HLC team to assist the Minister of Education in the United Arab Emirates. She was a member of the task force to develop assessment of student outcomes for the HLC.

Dr. Schallenkamp is married to Ken and together they have two daughters, Heather (Shad) and Jenni (Danny), four grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

## Curtis Petersen



Appointed: July 21, 2022

Curtis Petersen is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. Petersen grew up in Parade, South Dakota, just nine miles from Eagle Butte. His parents work in the Eagle Butte School District, his mother as a principal and his father as a history teacher. His family's careers in education influenced his decision to pursue a bachelor's in mathematics education at Black Hills State University (BHSU), his parents' alma mater. His anticipated graduation date is May 2023. Petersen is also pursuing an Earth science teaching endorsement and a minor in American Indian studies. For Petersen, teaching is far more than a job; teaching is a way to invest in his community and to help people each day.

As outreach officer for the BHSU chapter of Lakota Omnicoye, Petersen works to bridge the gap between Native and non-Native people on campus. The group's outreach efforts include fundraising for and planning an annual powwow at BHSU. Petersen revived the BHSU chapter of the nationwide American Indians in Science and Engineering Society and now serves as the chapter's president. Petersen is an assistant with the BHSU Center for Native American Studies, where he tutors students in math, science, computer applications and business. Each December, Petersen volunteers with the Red Shirt Cultural Exchange program to coordinate a Christmas gift drive at BHSU.

Through his participation in multiple opportunities for undergraduate students, Petersen has robust, first-hand experience with SURF's mission to advance world-class science and inspire learning across generations. In 2019, Petersen was selected as a Davis-Bahcall Scholar, a program that connects science-curious students with peers and mentors while exploring the modern world of STEM research. In 2020, he took part in the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Through the REU program, Petersen worked with Dr. Andy Johnson to investigate inquiry-based learning and examine the misconceptions BHSU students had about radiation. In 2022, Petersen interned with SURF's Education & Outreach team. The same summer, he took part in the five-week BHSU GEMADARC program, which



gives students the opportunity to explore future careers in STEM. The group visited research centers in the United Kingdom, including Boulby Underground Lab, University College London and University of Edinburgh.

## Eric Zimmer



Appointed: July 21, 2022

Eric Zimmer is a historian from the Black Hills of South Dakota. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and is currently the A.B. Hammond Visiting Assistant Professor of Western United States History at the University of Montana.

Zimmer spent six years as a senior historian at the consulting firm Vantage Point Historical Services, Inc., where he worked on a variety of narrative, digital, oral, and exhibit-based history projects for clients across the United States. Since 2015, he has been a volunteer historian for the Rapid City Indian Boarding School Lands Project, an Indigenous-led community research initiative in his home town of Rapid City, South Dakota. He is also at work on a book called *Red Earth Nation: Reclamation and Recovery on Meskwaki Land* (University of Oklahoma Press). That project explores the remarkable story of the Meskwaki Nation, a Native American tribe in Iowa that bought back some of its homeland in 1857. The Meskwaki story offers context and insight for anyone interested in the modern movement to reclaim Indigenous lands in the U.S. and elsewhere.

Zimmer's scholarship and the collaborative projects with which he is affiliated have received high honors from the Western History Association, the Midwestern History Association, the National Council on Public History, the American Society for Environmental History, the American Association for State and Local History, and more. He has served as the primary grant author or co-PI on several projects, securing funding support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Windrose Fund, Monument Lab, the American Philosophical Society, the American Historical Association, the State Historical Society of Iowa, and the Center for Global and Regional Environmental Research at the University of Iowa. His work has appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *Indian Country Today Media Network*, and in several scholarly journals.



## Erin Strauss



Appointed: July 21, 2022

Erin Strauss has spent the past 30 years working in STEM education in the K-12, informal, and higher education sectors. Over the course of her career, Strauss has continually explored the relationships between culture, beliefs about humanity's relationship to nature, learning, and the formation of robust communities that can work and learn effectively together despite the individual differences between their members.

Strauss has Master's degrees in Chemistry and Curriculum and Instruction from the University of California Riverside. She resides in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where she works as a consultant, provides care for her elderly parents, and continues to learn about the generosity of the plant kingdom with her local craft community.