



SURF Cultural Advisory Committee (CAC) Chair:

George Campbell



January 1, 2019

George Campbell is Chair of the Cultural Advisory Committee for SURF. Campbell helped establish this Committee when he was the cultural coordinator for the Facility. 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), the Deputy Department Head for Environmental Protection at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In addition, he served as Laboratory Emergency Duty Officer for several years.

CAC Members:

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."

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 has an MBA from the George Washington University in DC which he completed in 2010. Dr Kurra 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 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, Bexley Educational Foundation in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr Kurra also served as Councilor on 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 currently 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).

LaFawn Janis



Date Appointed: January 1, 2018

LaFawn Janis is a 7th 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. She is alumni of Black Hills State University, where 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”, as well as received a national award from the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development, 40 under 40 in 2019. LaFawn is a Business Development Specialist, with Bluebird Consulting.

Pat Lebrun



Date Appointed: August 9, 2004

Pat Lebrun 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.

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.