

Marianne Walck, Ph.D.

Director

National Energy Technology Laboratory

U.S. Department of Energy



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Marianne Walck, Ph.D., manages the complete NETL complex, including delivery and execution of the Laboratory's mission and national programs in carbon-based energy and program support to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Offices of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; Electricity; and Cybersecurity, Energy Security and Emergency Response. Walck leads NETL's more than 1,300 employees and guides more than 1,000 R&D projects in 50 states with a total award value of \$5 billion. As director, Walck fosters strategic relationships with utility and academic institutions, state and local governments, and important carbon management stakeholders. Prior to joining NETL, Walck served as deputy laboratory director for Science and Technology and chief research officer at Idaho National Laboratory. Her prior experience includes 33 years at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), concluding as vice president for SNL's California laboratory and its Energy and Climate Program. She is a member of numerous societies and councils. Walck earned a doctorate and master's in geophysics from California Institute of Technology and a bachelor's in geology/physics from Hope College.

Mark de Figueiredo

Director

Office of Fossil Energy and
Carbon Management (FECM)
U.S. Department of Energy



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Carbon Management

Mark de Figueiredo is Director of the Office of Policy, Analysis and Engagement in the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Carbon Management. He oversees the office's work on technical and economic analysis, domestic and international engagement, and intergovernmental collaboration. Prior to joining the Department, Mark led carbon capture and storage policy and regulatory development for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air and Radiation, as well as the Methane Emissions Reduction Program and Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program teams. He was previously an associate with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. Mark received his S.B., S.M., and Ph.D. degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

J. Alexandra Hakala, Ph.D.

Acting NETL Chief Research Officer
Senior Fellow Geological & Environmental Systems
Research & Innovation Center
National Energy Technology Laboratory
U.S. Department of Energy



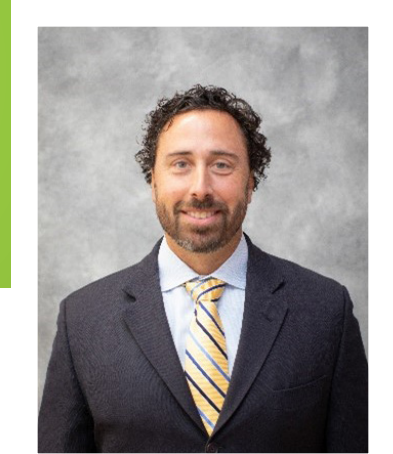
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As acting chief research officer, Alexandra Hakala, Ph.D., directs the organization's research activities and frames S&T strategic plans based on broad assessment and evaluation of current and emerging energy challenges. Hakala is a geochemist and leader of multidisciplinary geoscience and engineering research teams executing R&D focused on ensuring prudent development of natural resources for energy extraction, water management, and climate change mitigation. She has 15 years of experience in applied geoscience and engineering research at NETL (2008 – present), earned her doctorate in earth sciences (geochemistry focus) from The Ohio State University (2008) where she was a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science to Achieve Results Graduate Fellow, and earned her bachelor's cum laude in geosciences with a certificate (minor) in environmental studies from Princeton University (2003). She actively engages in strategic planning and initiative development across the NETL and Fossil Energy Carbon Management Headquarters, and with external industrial, academic, and federal lab stakeholders on multidisciplinary and multi-organizational geologic and environmental R&D. Hakala is NETL's representative on the Network of National Laboratories for Environmental Management and Stewardship (via DOE-Environmental Management and DOE-Legacy Management) and is active in geothermal R&D via DOE-Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Geothermal Technologies Office. She is the author of 70+ technical publications focused on multiple energy geoscience topics, including geologic CO₂ storage, unconventional oil and gas development, geothermal resources, produced water management, and environmental geochemistry, and has mentored 30+ students and postdocs. Hakala is a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (2017) and is an Oppenheimer Science and Energy Leadership Program Fellow (2023).

Bryan D. Morreale, Ph.D.

Associate Laboratory Director
Research and Innovation Center
National Energy Technology Laboratory
U.S. Department of Energy



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Bryan Morreale is the Associate Laboratory Director for NETL's Research & Innovation Center. Within this capacity, Dr. Morreale has the privilege of leading a diverse and dynamic workforce of several hundred scientists and engineers tackling some of the nation's most pressing energy challenges associated with effective energy production, efficient energy conversion and environmental sustainability.

Prior to his current role, Dr. Morreale has held numerous positions within NETL providing strategic, managerial, and technical leadership, including the Senior Technical Advisor to the Laboratory Director and the Director of the Molecular Science Division. During Dr. Morreale's professional career, he has contributed to over 100 publications and presentations in areas including hydrogen separation, membrane reactors, carbon capture, natural gas utilization and fluid properties at extreme and conditions. In addition, Dr. Morreale has been invested in numerous other activities, including academic roles at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, organizational roles for The Minerals, Metals and Materials Society and American Institute of Chemical Engineers, an Energy Ambassador for the National Academy, and a member of the Materials Genome Initiative's Strategic Planning Committee.

James R. Martin II

Vice Chancellor for STEM
Research and Innovation
University of Pittsburgh



James R. Martin, II, is Vice Chancellor for STEM Research and Innovation where he drives transformative initiatives ranging from the university's core STEM landscape to regional campuses. Focused on enhancing Pitt's \$1.3 billion research portfolio and expanding STEM access, he leads collaborations to spawn new research growth, builds innovation ecosystems, and connects rural areas to city centers via urban-rural research bridges. As a senior advisor and thought leader, he influences national action from the White House to major funding agencies to think tanks. Locally, he is a board member for Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority and was a foundational advisor for Neighborhood 91 at Pittsburgh International Airport.

Before assuming his current role, Dr. Martin served as U.S. Steel Dean of Engineering. Under his leadership, the Swanson School of Engineering achieved unprecedented milestones, including record research expenditures, PhD students, first-year enrollments, faculty and student diversity, retention, graduation rates, annual giving participation rates, and novel industry and government partnerships, including national labs. He played a pivotal role in the university's COVID-19 response, co-chairing the central task force with the provost.

Prior to Pittsburgh, Dr. Martin served as the Bob Benmosche Professor and Chair of the Glenn Department of Civil Engineering at Clemson University. His leadership resulted in the development of new curricula and degree programs, record research growth, and innovative partnerships with industry. He chaired the strategic plan for the engineering college, advocating for expansion of regional innovation campuses, and served as founding director of the Risk Engineering and Systems Analytics Institute (RESA), a pioneering collaboration between academia and industry.

Preceding Clemson, Dr. Martin served more than two decades at Virginia Tech as a professor of civil engineering and six years as a university center director. He built an international reputation for his work in geotechnical earthquake and risk engineering, creating major impacts on national building codes. Leading global field teams following major earthquakes, Martin contributed to field studies in Turkey, Japan, and throughout the U.S., and served as director of the Disaster Risk Management Institute at Virginia Tech. He has provided international engineering consulting for nearly 100 firms and government agencies on major infrastructure projects.

Dr. Martin received a B.S. in civil engineering from The Citadel, and earned his M.S. and Ph.D. in civil engineering from Virginia Tech. He has received numerous national, state, and university awards for research, teaching, scholarship, and service, including the American Society of Civil Engineer's Norman Medal, the highest honor for published work in his field. He was inducted into Virginia Tech's Civil Engineering Department's Academy of Distinguished Alumni in 2015. His dedication to broadening participation, fostering innovative collaborations, and regional engagement continues to shape STEM education, research, and innovation.

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Scott Johnson

Advanced Technology Engineering Leader
GE Vernova – Gas Power



Scott leads the Advanced Technology engineering activities at GE Vernova Gas Power with emphasis on developing emerging technologies for power generation and mechanical drive applications. He received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Tech with emphasis on mechanics of materials. Scott has spent over thirty years designing, developing and industrializing new products for the automotive, aerospace and power generation industries. Scott started his career as a tire designer for Michelin North America before spending several years as a turbine structural mechanics and component lifing engineer at Pratt & Whitney on next generation military jet engines. He joined General Electric as a gas turbine design engineer in 1999. In 25 years with GE, Scott has concentrated on new product turbomachinery design, performance, manufacturing and fulfillment, and for the last 7 years he has led the advanced technology engineering team while working closely with GE Vernova's Advanced Research Center and the national labs to convert emergent sciences into industrial product. Scott previously served on the Industrial Advisory Board for the NSF EPSCoR "Made in SC" program and currently serves on the Industrial Advisory Board for the Department of Material Science and Engineering at Clemson University.

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Edgar Lara-Curzio

Director

ORNL's Energy Transition
and Infrastructure Programs

ORNL's Fossil Energy and
Carbon Management (FECM)

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Edgar Lara-Curzio is a Distinguished Scientist in the Energy Science & Technology Directorate at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). As Director for Energy Transitions and Infrastructure Programs, he coordinates ORNL's engagement with programs in DOE's Office of the Under Secretary for Infrastructure. He also directs ORNL's Fossil Energy & Carbon Management Program.

Lara-Curzio received a B.Sc. in Engineering Physics from the Autonomous Metropolitan University (1986) and a Ph.D. in Materials Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (1992). He served as leader of the Mechanical Properties & Mechanics Group between 2000 and 2022, and as Director of the High Temperature Materials Laboratory between 2007 and 2012.

Lara-Curzio has authored or co-authored more than 260 papers, 10 U.S. patents, and has given more than 50 invited presentations at national and international meetings. His area of expertise is the development and characterization of functional and structural materials and components for power generation, and for the conversion, transmission, storage, and utilization of energy.

He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American Ceramic Society (ACerS) between 2013 and 2016, and he is currently a member of the External Advisory Board for the Institute for Materials at the Georgia Institute of Technology and of the Advisory Board of the Department of Materials Science & Engineering at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. Lara-Curzio is a Fellow of both ACerS and ASTM and a member of Alpha Sigma Mu the International Metallurgical Honorary Society.

Caleb Woodall

Program Manager
Office of Fossil Energy and
Carbon Management (FECM)
U.S. Department of Energy



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Caleb Woodall works at the US DOE in the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management, where he is a Program Manager for the University Training and Research Program. Caleb has a strong interest in enabling everyone to contribute to sustainability and carbon management, and has a broad background in policy and technical analysis of industrial decarbonization and carbon removal. In his free time, Caleb loves to travel, be outside, and spend time with family and friends.