

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Alaska Student Loan Corporation Director Biographies

Joshua Bicchinella - Chair, ACPE Representative

Josh Bicchinella is a Special Education Teacher Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District. Josh holds a MS in Management and Leadership from Western Governors University and is actively pursuing a Doctorate in Public Administration.

Born and raised in Alaska, Josh is an avid Alaskan embracing all things outdoors. When not actively engaged in work, community activities, or public service, Josh enjoys hunting, fishing, camping, and of course hiking.

Donald Handeland - Vice Chair, ACPE Representative

Donald Handeland is a Professional Engineer who has worked on a variety of construction projects across Alaska. Most of his work involves transportation projects in south-central Alaska. He was born in raised in Nome and graduated from Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka. He earned a B.S in Civil Engineering and Finance from Oregon State University and an MBA from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

While a high school student, Donald served on the Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development and the Alaska Advisory Task Force on Higher Education and Career Readiness as the student member.

Adam Crum – Commissioner, Department of Revenue Bio to come

Julie Sande - Commissioner; Commerce, Community and Economic Development Commissioner (DCCED)

A lifelong Alaskan, Commissioner Sande grew up in the remote logging camps of Southeast Alaska. She brings extensive experience in both the public and private sectors to the role of Commissioner and is focused on building stronger, more resilient communities and growing Alaska's economy for the benefit of Alaskans.

Commissioner Sande spent much of her 20 years of healthcare experience working with the pioneers and elders of Alaska and credits many of her values and passion for Alaska's history to the inspiring individuals she has been privileged to care for. Most recently, she served as the Director of the Ketchikan Pioneer Home and as a member of the governing board for the local hospital in Ketchikan. She earned a bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Montana and a

master's degree in health administration from the University of Southern California. She was appointed to the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority board and the Alaska Energy Authority board in 2019 and elected Vice Chairman in 2021. Commissioner Sande is also a business owner, whose companies provide services across a range of industries including engineering, construction, tourism, retail, and mariculture. She believes in finding creative solutions when faced with challenges and is grateful to come from a state that is abundant in natural resources—the most valuable of which are the people who live and work in Alaska.

Paula Vrana - Commissioner, Department of Administration

Commissioner Paula Vrana is a fourth generation, lifelong Alaskan, raised in the southeastern Alaska community of Skagway. Ms. Vrana holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Juris Doctorate degree. Prior to joining the Department of Administration, Ms. Vrana practiced law and served as the managing attorney for the law firm of Brena, Bell, and Clarkson for thirteen years. She has also served as the Chief Executive for two Alaskan nonprofits in the health industry. Ms. Vrana lives on a farm in the Matanuska Valley with her husband and two sons, where they raise horses and cattle and enjoy all the outdoor activities that Alaska has to offer.

Designees

Dave Donley – Deputy Commissioner, Department of Administration B.S. Political Science, University of Oregon, 1976 Law Degree, University of Washington Law School, 1979. Deputy Commissioner Donley worked on the Alaska Pipeline construction as a firefighter, construction worker, and logger. Mr. Donley represented Spenard in the State House from 1987-1992. He was a State Senator from 1993-2002. Beginning in 2003, he served as Chief of Adjudications and Hearing Officer for the State of Alaska. He retired from the State of Alaska and Laborers' Local 341 in 2008.

Since his retirement, Mr. Donley has worked for Hope Community Resources, Inc. and practiced law. He has been an officer in the Alaska State Defense Force since 2009 and is currently a Lieutenant Colonel and the Staff Judge Advocate. He was most recently a member of the Anchorage School Board. He is a certified BBB arbitrator, Federal Emergency Management professional, and Military Police/State of Alaska Constable. Mr. Donley is a recipient of the Alaska State Community Service Medal. He and his wife Jamie have three children.

Anna Latham – Deputy Commissioner, Department of Commerce, Community and Enconmic Development Bio to come

Geneveive Wotjusik - Division Director, Department of Revenue

Genevieve Wojtusik is the Division Director of Permannent Fund Dividend Division within the Department of Revenue. Genevieve was born and raised in Anchorage and moved to Juneau in 2016. Prior to this role, Genevieve was a Legislative Aide for many years in Juneau and Anchorage.