Title IX 50th Anniversary Conference
Speaker Biographies

David J. Dausey, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Provost, Duquesne University

David J. Dausey, Ph.D. is the Executive Vice President and Provost of Duquesne University. Prior to joining Duquesne, Dausey served as Executive Vice President and Provost of Mercyhurst University where he rose through the ranks as a former Dean, Department Chair and Public Health Institute Director. Dausey also served as a policy researcher with the RAND Corporation and a program analyst at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Dausey has an honorary faculty appointment at Carnegie Mellon University as a Distinguished Service Professor, where he formerly served as a full-time faculty member and the senior director of health programs and initiatives.

An internationally recognized epidemiologist, Dausey was appointed a fellow of the American College of Epidemiology in 2012. He has worked closely with senior health officials in more than twenty countries and experts at international organizations and foundations such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations, the Global Health and Security Initiative and the Rockefeller Foundation. Domestically, he has collaborated with health agencies in every region of the country and with large federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He has led and directed more than $10 million in externally funded research grants and has written over 100 books, research papers and reports including research articles in top-tier journals such as the American Journal of Public Health, Health Affairs, and the American Journal of Psychiatry.

Dausey is regularly consulted as a health expert by regional, national and international news media providers on a wide variety of health issues. He has served as a guest commentator on health topics for national and international television news providers including CNN, BBC, and Canadian Television. He has also served as a guest commentator on health topics for national and international radio news providers such as NPR, BBC and Beijing Today. Dausey is a guest writer on health topics for regional and national newspapers including USA Today, the Washington Post, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and the Buffalo News.

Dausey is an award-winning professor and teacher. He began his teaching career at Yale University where he was a teaching fellow. His first role as a professor was at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine where he was a Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry. At the University of Pittsburgh, Dausey was actively engaged in the Center for Research on Health Care. During this time, Dausey made significant contributions to the literature in the fields of Psychiatry and health services research.
Dausey’s teaching focuses on health systems, health policy, program evaluation and epidemiology. He was recognized for teaching excellence at Carnegie Mellon when he was awarded the Martcia Wade Teaching Award in 2010. Dausey was awarded both the Alpha Theta Mentorship Award and the Panhellenic Intrafraternity Council Role Model Award for his active role in mentoring and advising students. He has extensive experience teaching distance learning courses and teaching study abroad and experiential learning courses.

A Pittsburgh native, Dausey grew up in Jefferson Hills, Pennsylvania. He earned both his master’s degree and doctoral degree in epidemiology from Yale University. He completed post-graduate training in higher education administration at Harvard University.

Amy L. Piccola, Esq.

Partner, Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr

Amy Piccola advises institutions of higher education on matters involving issues of compliance, policy and liability, particularly with regard to student conduct matters, Title IX and other civil rights and discrimination statutes, and the Clery Act. Her experience includes handling litigation, responding to U.S. Department of Education and OCR investigations and complaints, and conducting internal fact-finding investigations and audits on behalf of colleges and universities. Amy also provides proactive assistance, including drafting student codes of conduct, handbooks and policies on issues ranging from sexual harassment and hazing to cyberbullying and program and department operations. In addition, Amy provides on-campus training to administrators, judicial boards, and others in university and college communities regarding implementation of these policies, as well as on compliance with civil rights laws and the Clery Act.

Sandra Harrell

Director of Field and Capacity Building, Activating Change

Sandra Harrell is the Director of Field and Capacity Building at Activating Change and her work focuses on helping individuals, organizations and communities across the country address violence against adults and children with disabilities. Sandra has worked closely with the 85 communities funded by the Office on Violence Against Women’s Disability Grant Program, helping them to build multi-disciplinary collaborations to address the gaps within and between their systems to ensure that survivors with disabilities get the support they need. Additionally, Sandra leads Activating Change’s efforts to address trafficking of people with disabilities, and serves as an internal advisor to all projects focused on the intersection of disability and violence. She has also delivered trainings on violence against women with disabilities at multiple venues across the country, co-authored reports on the topic, and coordinated roundtables and meetings to expand the field.

Since 2006, Sandra has worked within over 150 communities to build collaborations between disability organizations and victim services organizations, helping them to create
innovative solutions to complex issues that emerge at the intersection of victimization and disability. She joined Activating Change in July 2022.

**Jasmine Rivera**

*Director of Victim Response, Pittsburgh Action Against Rape*

Jasmine Rivera received her bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from the Pennsylvania State University and later her master’s Degree in Criminal Justice Administration Management from Point Park University. She began her career at a dual diagnosis methadone clinic in Philadelphia while she also worked as a youth advocate. She later moved to Pittsburgh and worked as a drug and alcohol counselor at Cornell Abraxas center for adolescent females before beginning her career at Allegheny County Adult probation. Jasmine worked as a probation officer for roughly 7 years, most of which she spent supervising convicted sexual offenders. She was later promoted to supervisor of the Special Services Unit, charged with supervising convicted sex offenders, Domestic Violence and the high impact Unit. Jasmine worked closely with Pittsburgh Action Against Rape toward the establishment of Sex Offender Court in Allegheny County. After roughly 13 years at Allegheny County Adult Probation Jasmine moved on to become the Director of Victim Responses at Pittsburgh Action Against Rape in September of 2018.

**Alicia M. Simpson**

*Title IX Coordinator and Director of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response, Duquesne University*

Alicia Simpson is the Title IX Coordinator and Director of Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Response. In her role, she is responsible for responding to reports and for developing prevention programming and education aimed at the reduction of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. In addition, Simpson serves as the internal consultant and subject matter expert on Title IX, Title IX Sexual Harassment, and non-Title IX Sexual Misconduct prevention and response, ensuring that members of the University community understand prohibited conduct.

Prior to joining Duquesne, Simpson worked as an attorney, specializing in special education and disability rights, representing students who suffered disability, sex and race discrimination in school. Simpson worked with school districts to ensure her clients were provided with appropriate educational accommodations and school environments were free from discrimination and harassment. She holds a bachelor’s degree in political science, history and English literature and a juris doctorate from the University of Pittsburgh.
Elizabeth Rosemeyer

Assistant Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator, Carnegie Mellon University

Elizabeth H. Rosemeyer serves as Carnegie Mellon University’s Assistant Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion & Title IX Coordinator. In this role, she oversees implementation and monitoring of appropriate policies, procedures, grievance processes and training programs related to and in compliance with Title IX. In addition, Rosemeyer assists in the processing of student, faculty, and staff inquiries or complaints of Title IX violations.

Rosemeyer spent the first part of her career working with community-based groups in the United States and abroad. She holds a bachelor’s degree in international relations from Randolph-Macon Woman’s College and a juris doctorate from the Washington College of Law at American University.

Vincent Rugani

Assistant Director of Title IX, Equity and Inclusion, Point Park University

Vince Rugani is the Assistant Director of Title IX, Equity, and Inclusion at Point Park University. Prior to his current role, he served as the Coordinator of Student Conduct and facilitated LGBTQ+ Safe Zone trainings at Point Park, worked briefly in the for-profit sector as a technical consultant, and worked in various capacities in Residence Life at Duquesne University. Vince received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree and a Master of Science in Education degree, both from Duquesne University.

Jacqueline Smith

Title IX Coordinator and 504 Coordinator, Carlow University

Jacqueline Smith has more than 30 years of experience in education encompassing five k-12 teaching certifications, a master’s degree in Special Education, Basic Adult Literacy education, and she has been the Director of Disabilities Services at Carlow University in Pittsburgh, PA since 2012. Jaqueline has a certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorder training. She is the Title IX Coordinator and 504 Coordinator for Carlow University. Jacqueline holds certifications from ATIXA in Investigator and Coordinator Roles. She is a member of the Association for Disability and Higher Education (AHEAD) and consults with other Independent Colleges and Universities on topics of accessibility and inclusion and regulatory compliance. Jacqueline is a member of her University’s BIT and CARE Teams.
Dr. Karen Hall  

*Founder, Leadership Learning Labs*

Dr. Hall is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She navigates careers in leadership, education, communication, and athletics. She is the author of *Ten Tremendous Leadership Lessons: A Guide to Leadership Learning*. Presently she is a professor at two local institutions, ESPN3 and ESPN+ Color Analyst for College Women’s Basketball, Host, “*The Hall Pass*” Podcast Show, Athletic Director at Oakland Catholic, and Assistant Executive Director for Ozanam, Inc. She is an advocate of teaching others how to create and maintain healthy lifestyles.

Dr. Hall has many athletic “firsts” including, becoming the first woman to Play, Coach, Win Back-to-Back Championships in the prestigious Connie Hawkins Men’s Summer Basketball League. Her story was covered by *USA-Today*. Dr. Hall is a former Head Women’s and Assistant Men’s Basketball Coach with over 20-years of NCAA collegiate coaching. She took her phenomenal basketball talents to the University of Nevada Las Vegas, where she helped the Lady Rebels earn three NCAA post-season tournament bids, three conference championships, and a host of individual academic and athletic awards.

Academically, she earned her bachelor’s degree from the University of Nevada Las Vegas, master’s Degree in Organizational Leadership from Geneva College, and Doctorate Degree in Education in Leadership and Administration from Point Park University. Dr. Hall is an expert in leadership and team development.

**Tanya Garcia, Ph.D.**

*Deputy Secretary and Commissioner for Postsecondary and Higher Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education*

Tanya Garcia, Ph.D. is Deputy Secretary and Commissioner for Postsecondary and Higher Education at the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). In this position, she oversees long-range planning for higher education in Pennsylvania, the implementation of statutory and regulatory responsibilities governing postsecondary education, and educator certification.

Before joining PDE, Dr. Garcia served as Associate Director of Postsecondary Policy Research and Associate Research Professor at the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. Prior to Georgetown University, she held various roles in state government, national nonprofits, and philanthropy where she dedicated her work to improving policies and practices for all students from high school to postsecondary to the workforce.

A first-generation student, Dr. Garcia earned a B.A. in Philosophy and a B.S. in Biology at Florida International University. Her M.A. in Higher Education Administration is from
The George Washington University. She earned a Ph.D. in Public Administration at American University.

Chief Eric Holmes

Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety, Duquesne University

Eric Holmes is the Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety at Duquesne University. Holmes brought to Duquesne 25 years of law enforcement, security, risk management, and administrative experience, including deep expertise in campus and community relations-driven approaches to public safety. He started his career in higher education public safety working as a police officer at the University of Pittsburgh. Holmes also has extensive experience in higher education risk management and law enforcement.

Holmes served as site liaison for the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police when, in 2014, was one of six pilot sites selected to take part in the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice. He also served on the My Brother's Keeper Allegheny County/City of Pittsburgh committee. Holmes currently serves on the Pitt Institute of Politics Criminal Justice Racial Disparities study working group, having been appointed by Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald to serve this important effort.

Holmes oversaw the implementation of data-driven, intelligence-led policing in Pittsburgh with the establishment of the Bureau of Police Crime Analysis Unit and Real Time Crime Center. He currently serves on the Major Cities Chiefs Intelligence Commanders Committee. Additionally, Holmes has taught courses as adjunct faculty at local universities.

In addition to a bachelor's in communication from Slippery Rock and a master's in criminal justice administration from Point Park University, Holmes is a graduate of The Advanced Leadership Institute in partnership with the Carnegie Mellon University Tepper School of Business; the Executive Research Forum Senior Management Institute for Police, Session #77; and the Naval Post Graduate School Executive Leaders Program. He also is an executive fellow with the National Police Institute.

Detective Bryan Sellers

Detective SVU Unit and Title IX Detective, City of Pittsburgh Bureau of Police

Bryan Sellers joined the Army right after High School and spent 9 years in the Army. He became a Pittsburgh Police Officer in 1994. In 2010, Sellers became a Detective in the SVU unit (formally Sex Assault/Family Crisis Unit).

In 2014, Bryan became the Title IX Detective for the Pittsburgh Police and forged a working relationship with the colleges and universities in the City of Pittsburgh. Sellers currently serves on the Board of Directors for Pittsburgh Action Against Rape.
Deputy Chief Holly Lamb

Deputy Chief, University of Pittsburgh

Lamb graduated from the Allegheny County Police Academy in 1996 and began her career with the University of Pittsburgh Police Department. Lamb worked as a patrol officer and a member of the bicycle unit before being promoted to Sergeant in 2000. Lamb then served as Detective Sergeant in the Investigations Unit. In 2008, Lamb accepted a promotion to Lieutenant and was subsequently elevated to Administrative Lieutenant. In January of 2014, Lamb was promoted to her current rank, Deputy Chief. In November of 2014, Lamb was recognized by the American Society for Industrial Security for her outstanding contribution to the public safety and security communities. Currently, Lamb responsible for the oversight of over 150 members of the police department.

Lamb graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice from Ohio Dominican University, located in Columbus, Ohio and was also a member of the women’s basketball team.

Lamb is originally from the Cleveland, Ohio area and is still an avid Browns fan! Lamb currently lives in North Fayette Township with her husband, Randy who is also in law enforcement and their two children, McKenzie and Cooper.

Detective Sarah Adams

Detective, Carnegie Mellon University

Sarah Adams is a University of Pittsburgh Alumna who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice in 2012. Upon completing the Municipal Police Academy at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in 2014, she began a law enforcement journey with the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Police Department. While at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg she discovered a strong passion for community engagement, preventive/safety education, and investigations criminal in nature and investigations geared towards the Office of Title IX. In 2017, she began working at Carnegie Mellon University in hopes of new challenges in a larger diverse population. Holding several roles with Carnegie Mellon University Police Department she has been awarded numerous opportunities within. Currently assigned to the Special Investigations Unit she works closely with the CMU Office of Title IX on related incidents. As a recent graduate from California University of Pennsylvania with a Master of Science degree in Legal Studies, she knows the importance of Title IX and gender equality awareness. She is thankful for her campus partnership with the CMU Title IX Office and enjoys collaborating with their team to ensure student safety and proper measures are being taken during any investigation.
Lisa Hernandez

*Chief Human Resources Officer and Title IX Coordinator, Robert Morris University*

Lisa Hernandez is the Chief Human Resources Officer and Title IX Coordinator at Robert Morris University in Moon Township, PA. She is passionate about creating a positive experience and sense of belonging for both students and employees. Lisa is a seasoned civil rights litigator who came to higher education after serving for thirteen years as a Senior Trial Attorney with the Pittsburgh Area Office of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In that capacity, she enforced and brought federal actions against employers under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (as amended), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and other federal anti-discrimination statutes. Prior to her tenure at EEOC, Lisa clerked for federal and state court judges, and worked as an associate at Reed Smith. She received both her JD and BA (International Relations) from the University of Pennsylvania. She lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, son, and two dogs.

Ryan Sabolcik

*Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Assistant, Duquesne University*

Ryan Sabolcik is the Title IX and Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Assistant for Duquesne University. In his role, Sabolcik assists the Title IX Coordinator in creating and implementing sexual violence prevention programming; serves as a first point of contact to students, employees, and faculty who are involved in sexual harassment/sexual misconduct matters; and assists in the investigative process for Title IX matters. Prior to joining Duquesne, Sabolcik worked as an Educator for Pittsburgh Action Against Rape where he developed and implemented programming for educational institutions in Allegheny County and trained college staff on best practices for sexual violence prevention. Sabolcik is passionate about educating and training college-aged students in an effort to prevent sexual violence on campus.

Sabolcik earned a Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education with a concentration in Human Performance from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 2014.

Stephanie Shea

*Case Manager & Program Coordinator of the Office of Title IX Initiatives, Carnegie Mellon University*

Stephanie Shea has been the case manager in the Office of Title Initiatives at Carnegie Mellon since 2018. She previously worked in University Advancement and in foster care/adoption. Stephanie has a B.A., Human Services Administration from Chatham, and a master’s degree in Social Work from Pitt.
Darlene Weaver, Ph.D.

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Duquesne University

As Associate Provost, Dr. Weaver is responsible for supervising the Center for Community-Engaged Teaching and Research, the Center for Teaching Excellence, Bridges Core Learning Experience, Pre-Medical & Health Professions Programs, Undergraduate Education and Student Success, the Pre-Law program, and the University Honors College. She chairs the University Graduate Council and the Campus Community Risk Team. Additionally, she coordinates University-wide assessment and accreditation activities. In her role, Weaver works directly with the Title IX Coordinator in the implementation of supportive measures under Title IX.

Weaver earned her B.A., with honors, from Carnegie Mellon University in 1991. Weaver subsequently earned an M.A.R. at Yale Divinity School and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago.

Jamie Edwards-Pasek

Jamie Edwards-Pasek is an educator, attorney, mediator, and violence prevention specialist. She has been working on preventing and responding to sexual and interpersonal violence for over 15 years, including 7 years in the Title IX space. Most recently, Jamie served as the Associate Director for Education and Outreach at Carnegie Mellon University, where she founded the stand-alone Title IX Office. Previously, she worked as a commercial litigator at McGuireWoods LLP, and clerked in Family Court in New Jersey. She received her J.D. with a Certificate in Public Health from the University of Pennsylvania and a B.S. from Carnegie Mellon University in Political Science, History & Policy, and Gender Studies. Jamie develops and facilitates engaging, effective, and research-based programs on a variety of topics including Title IX, sexual harassment, identifying and avoiding common pitfalls in consent, and healthy versus unhealthy versus abusive relationships. She is open to contract and consulting work; you may contact her at jedwardspasek@gmail.com.

Carrie Benson

Senior Manager for Prevention and Education, Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, University of Pittsburgh

Carrie Benson (she/her) currently serves as the Senior Manager for Prevention and Education within the Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the University of Pittsburgh. She is responsible for coordinating Pitt’s sexual violence prevention efforts for students, staff and faculty. Carrie joined Pitt as a Title IX Specialist in May 2015. She has worked in higher education for the last fourteen years and has extensive experience working in sexual violence prevention and response, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and student affairs. She earned her master’s degree in education from Pitt in 2012.
Kathy Sekula, Ph.D.

Professor, School of Nursing, Duquesne University

Kathleen Sekula, PhD, PMHCNS, FAAN is a Professor at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh PA. She created the graduate forensic programs (MSN, DNP, and PhD) which have advanced the recognition of forensics as an important specialty area in health care. In response to the need for better care for victims of sexual assault she was awarded two 3-year HRSA Advanced Nursing Education/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner grants (2018-2021 and 2021-2025) and established the collaborative group for collaboration among grantees.

Alison Colbert, Ph.D.

Professor, School of Nursing, Duquesne University

Dr. Alison Colbert is an Associate Professor at the Duquesne University School of Nursing and a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Public/Community Health, She has taught public health and forensic content extensively in the undergraduate and graduate programs. Dr. Colbert is the Project Director for a DOJ grant on campus Sexual Assault and the Academic Coordinator for a HRSA grant on increasing the number of certified SANES in rural and underserved areas. She is also an Associate Editor for the Journal of Forensic Nursing.

Dr. Elizabeth Miller

Professor, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

Dr. Miller is Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, Public Health, and Clinical and Translational Science and holds the Edmund R. McCluskey Chair in Pediatric Medical Education at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She is also Director of the Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine and the Medical Director of Community and Population Health at UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. Her research addresses interpersonal violence prevention and adolescent health promotion in clinical and community settings.