

<https://epscor.nebraska.edu/nsfepscorconf>



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OMAHA

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AGENDA

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SPEAKERS

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POSTERS



# 28th NSF EPSCoR National Conference

OCT. 13-16, 2024 IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA



Join Us October 13 - 16, 2024

- ▶ At Hilton Omaha ... welcoming project researchers, students, and staff from 28 EPSCoR jurisdictions -- plus leaders with the National Science Foundation's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

*Connect and Collaborate to Keep Science Flowing*

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! CLICK [HERE](#) TO REGISTER

Early bird pricing ends June 30. Registration closes September 15.

[Book your room](#) before September 22 to take advantage of discounted rates.



This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation, Award # 2336404.

[Event Code of Conduct](#) | [Meet the Event's Planning Committee](#)

*Photo courtesy of Visit Omaha*

# REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the NSF EPSCoR 28<sup>th</sup> National Conference at Hilton Omaha: Sunday-Wednesday, Oct. 13-16, 2024

- Scan and open QR (above), or type in your browser:
- <https://epscor.nebraska.edu/nsfepscorconf>
- Early bird rates (end June 30):  
\$100 (student) or \$200 (faculty/staff/professional)  
After July 1, all registrations are \$300
- POSTER ABSTRACT DEADLINE: AUGUST 1
- REGISTRATION CLOSES: SEPTEMBER 1





***Hilton Omaha***  
***38,537 sq. ft. of total event space***  
***Located near historic Old Market –***  
***dining, entertainment, shops***



# Hilton Omaha

- Room Block: \$189/night
- Attendees staying for the conference will receive the group rate for 3 days before the event and for 3 days after the event
- Hotel block cut off date is September 22, 2024
- Amenities include: On-site restaurant, Indoor pool, Fitness center and...
- Free shuttle service is available from Omaha's Eppley Airport to/from the hotel
- Airport is only 3 miles from the hotel; Uber, Lyft, taxis also available





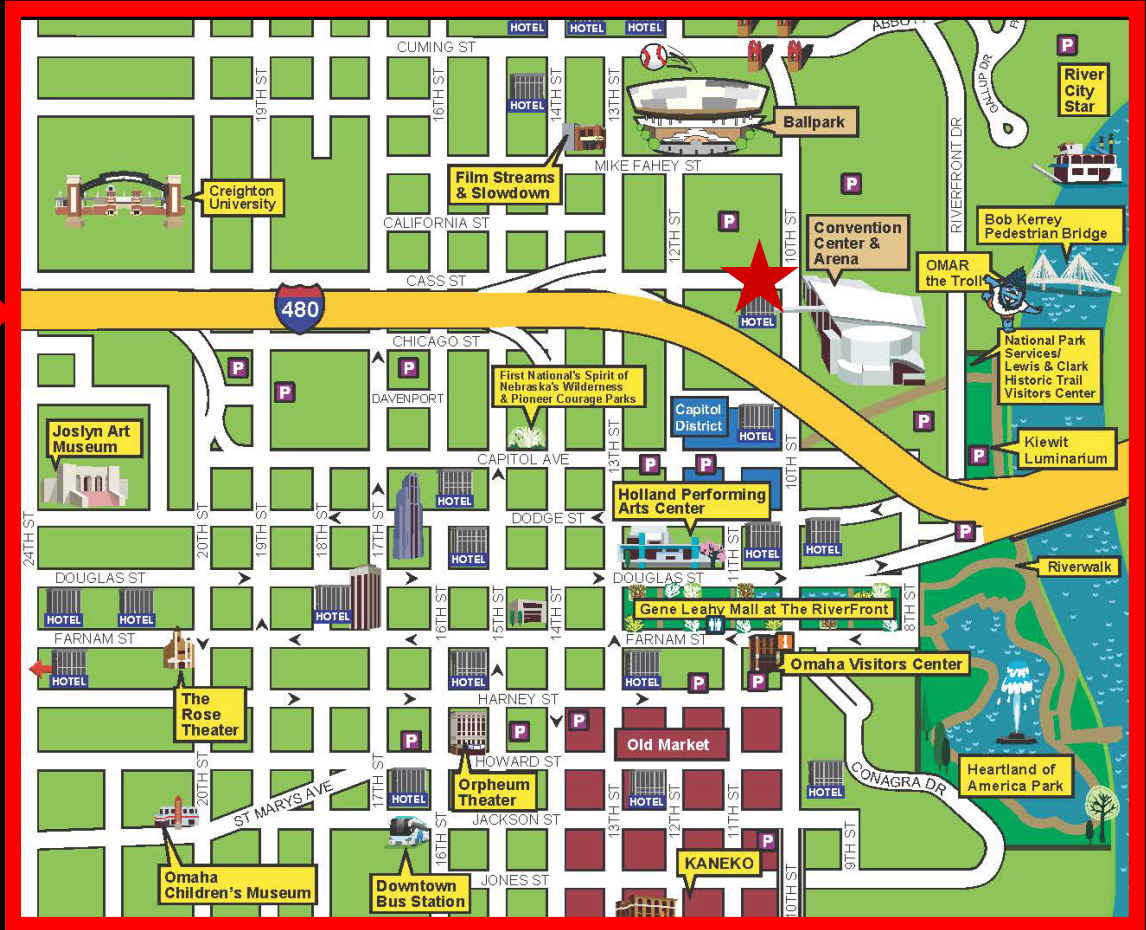
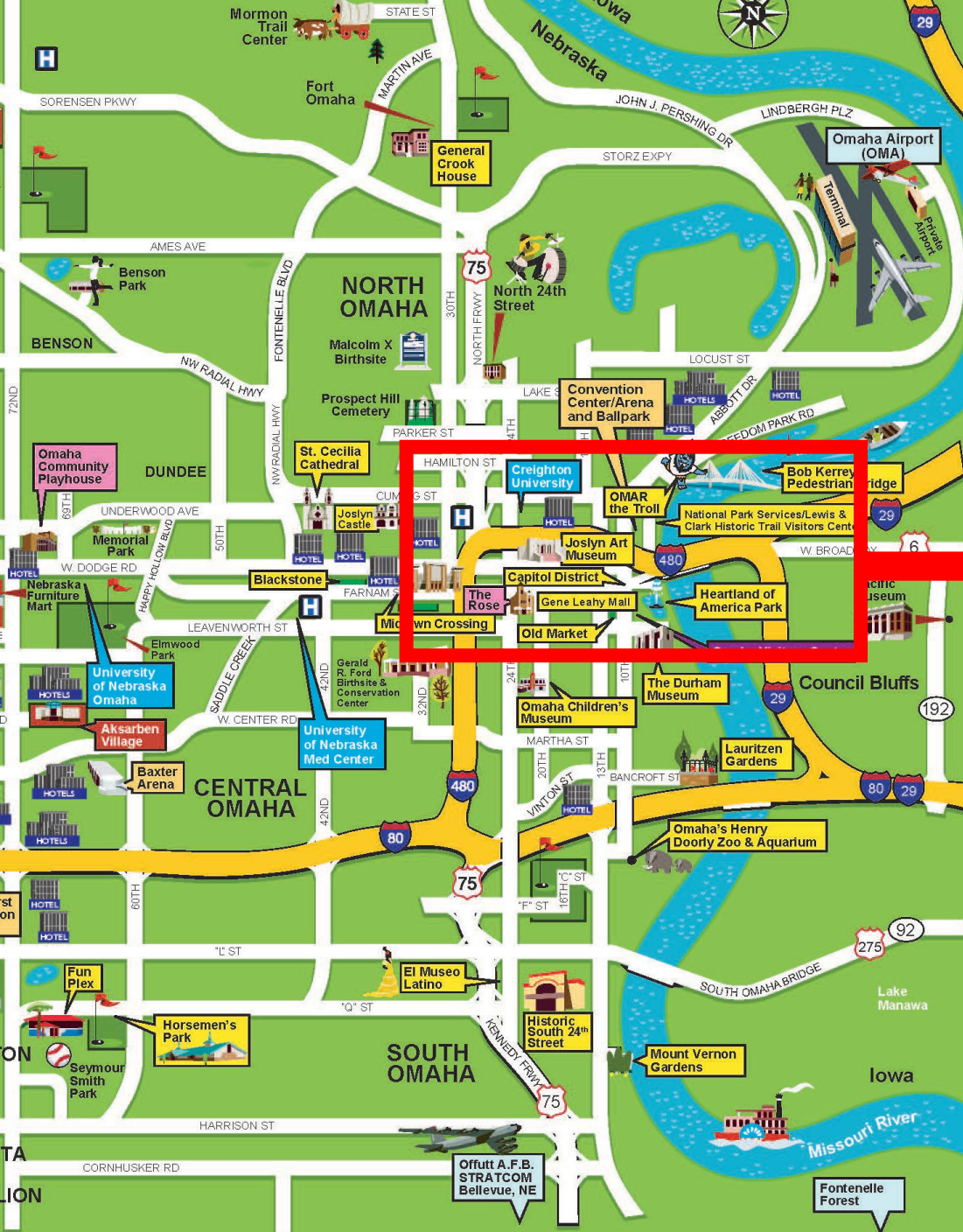


*O(maha), the places you'll go!*





Omaha's downtown has something for everyone!





# Welcome from the National Science Foundation

PRESENTER:

Dr. Sandra Richardson, Section Head –  
Research Capacity and Competitiveness (RCC),  
Office of Integrative Activities (OIA), NSF







# National Geographic Photo Ark

PRESENTER: Cole Sartore

While assisting his father, Nebraska photographer Joel Sartore, in building the National Geographic Photo Ark for 12 years, **Cole Sartore** helped create portraits of an estimated 12,000 species of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles. The Photo Ark helps raise awareness of and find solutions for some of the most pressing issues affecting wildlife and their habitats. In addition to documenting every species living in the world's zoos, aquariums and wildlife sanctuaries, the project aims to inspire action through education and help protect wildlife by supporting on-the-ground conservation efforts.







# Conference Welcome

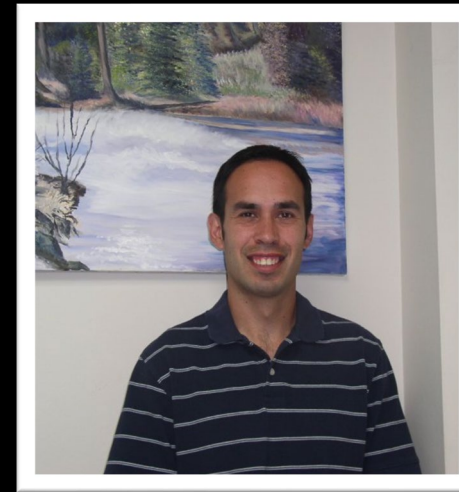
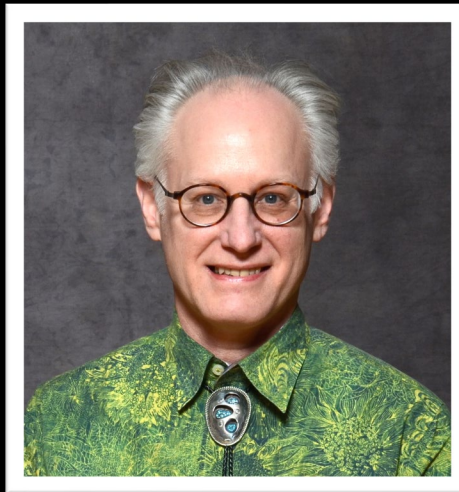
Rodney D. Bennett, Ed.D. – Chancellor,  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Joanne Li, Ph.D., CFA – Chancellor, Barbara  
and Wally Weitz Endowed Chair in Higher  
Education Leadership, University of Nebraska  
at Omaha





# Working with American Indian Communities in EPSCoR Jurisdictions



## PRESENTERS:

Mark Griep – University of Nebraska-Lincoln (organizer)

Tara Borland – University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Aaron Thomas – University of Montana

Selena Connealy – University of New Mexico

Sheridan McNeil – North Dakota State University

Tarissa Spoonhunter – University of Wyoming







# AI Applications in Education and Outreach in EPSCoR Jurisdictions

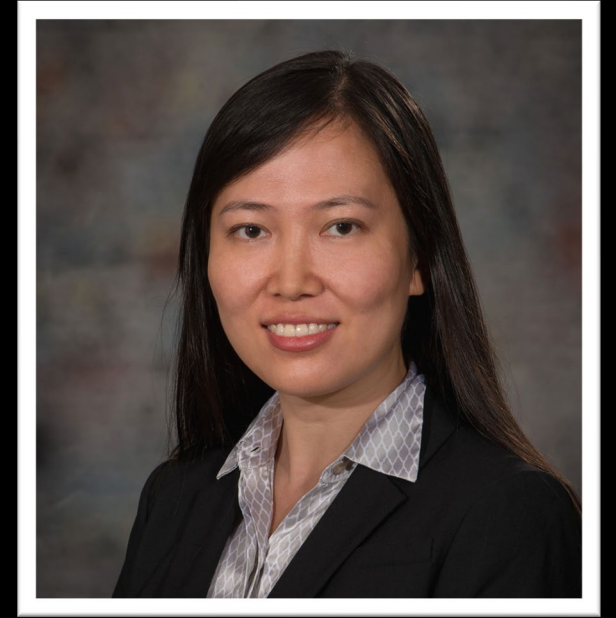
## PRESENTERS:

Regina Toolin, University of Vermont

Juan Cui, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Peter Schilling, University of Maine

MODERATOR: Bernard F. "Chip" Cole, Vermont EPSCoR





# Science Communication on the Front Lines

## PRESENTERS:

Brittney Van Der Werff – New Mexico EPSCoR  
(organizer)

Bethann Garramon Merkle – University of Wyoming

Jocelyn Bosley – University of Nebraska-Lincoln







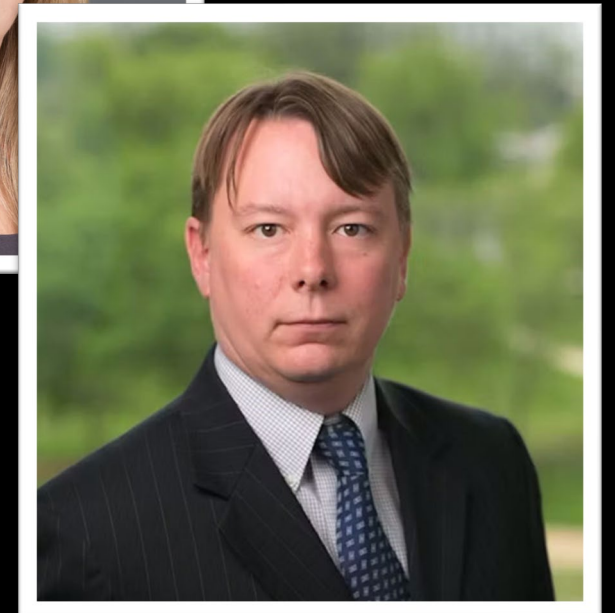
# Equipping You for Advocacy: Interacting with Elected Officials

## PRESENTERS:

Matt Hammons – University of Nebraska Federal Relations  
(organizer)

Amanda Greenwell – NSF Office of Legislative & Public Affairs

John Fuller – van Scoyoc & Associates





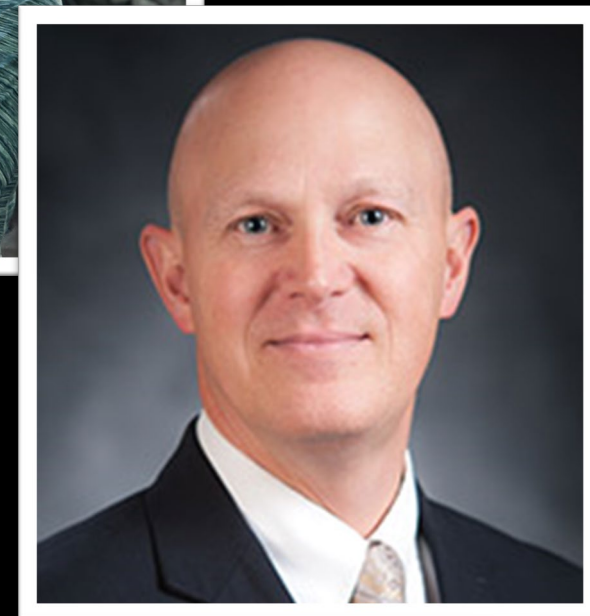
# Postdoctoral Research Development

## PRESENTERS:

**April Heyward**– SC EPSCoR Program Manager, South Carolina Research Authority (organizer)

**Selena Connealy** – Associate Director, NM EPSCoR

**Rick Schumaker** – Associate Project Director, Idaho EPSCoR







# Advances in Use-Inspired Research and Education (UIRE)

PRESENTERS:

**Jennifer Forbey**, Boise State University  
(organizer)

**Michael Muszynski**, University of Hawaii

**Zoey England**, University of Connecticut

AND MORE!





# Closing the Gender Gap in STEM: How the 'Professor Sko Science Show' seeks to attract and keep more girls in STEM fields

PRESENTERS:

**Mark Thompson** – Nebraska Wesleyan University, Assistant Professor of Education (organizer)

**Brenda Skoczelas** – Lake Sumter Community College, Physics Professor







# NSF's Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure

MODERATORS\*:

**Chinonye Nnakwe Whitley** – Program Director, Office of Integrative Activities, National Science Foundation

**Jonathan Friedman** - Physical Science Administrator/Program Director, OIA, NSF

- Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI)
- Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-1 (Mid-scale RI-1)
- Mid-scale Research Infrastructure-2 (Mid-scale RI-2)



**\*AND A PANEL OF MID-SCALE RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AWARDEES, TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH THE PROGRAM.**



**For questions contact:**

**[epsconatlconf24@nebraska.edu](mailto:epsconatlconf24@nebraska.edu)**

*We look forward to seeing you in Omaha!*