Moderator and Speaker Biographies

Tom Clareson is Senior Consultant for New Initiatives at LYRASIS in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His areas of consulting expertise include statewide preservation and digitization, preservation management, disaster preparedness, digital program management, digital preservation, and cultural heritage market research. Mr. Clareson has taught more than 100 workshops on disaster planning for cultural heritage institutions across the United States and has organized and implemented four Alliance for Response Forums in Ohio and Pennsylvania. He was formerly a representative from the Society of American Archivists to the national Joint Committee on Archives, Libraries, and Museums. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Heritage Preservation.

Lisa Elkin is a Director of Conservation at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York. She received her M.A. in art conservation from the State University College at Buffalo in 1993 and stepped into a position as a conservator in the AMNH Anthropology department quickly thereafter. In 2001, she took on her current role, providing conservation oversight for all the museum collections. Among other things, this involves administration of the risk management and disaster preparedness program for the AMNH research and exhibits collections and ensures development of 1) an emergency response and disaster preparedness plan for the collections, 2) a continuous training program for staff and 3) a plan that fits within the larger, museum-wide program. The need to form relationships with the local community became obvious and in 2008 she took on the role as Chair for the NYC Alliance for Response initiative.

Lori Foley is Director of Preservation Services at the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), a nonprofit regional conservation center founded in 1973 that specializes in the preservation and digitization of paper-based materials for libraries, archives, museums, municipal offices, historical organizations, and private collections. Foley manages NEDCC’s ongoing education and outreach activities, including workshops, courses, and conferences; a reference service; publications; surveys; and disaster assistance—in the New England region and beyond. Lori was the project director for dPlan™, a free online template now used by over 2900 institutions, that guides users through the creation of a customized disaster plan. She was also the project director for COSTEP (Coordinated Statewide Emergency Preparedness) and serves on the COSTEP Massachusetts steering committee. She is a member of the state-level Massachusetts Emergency Management Team, the co-chair of the American Institute for Conservation’s Emergency Committee, and one of 61 trained responders on the AIC Collections Emergency Response Team. Prior to joining NEDCC in 2001, Foley worked at Harvard University, where she was responsible for the preservation of the anthropology library’s collections. Before changing careers, she spent 15 years in trade book production departments in the Boston area.

Dr. William F. Jenaway, CFPS, CFO is Executive Vice President of VFIS (the largest insurer of fire and EMS agencies) and is President of the Board of Directors of the Congressional Fire Services Institute. Bill holds A.S., B.S., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees. He has served as Fire Chief in East Bethlehem Township, PA and King of Prussia, PA, where he also chaired the municipal fire and rescue services board for 15 years. In 2001 He was named Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year at the annual IAFC Conference. An adjunct professor in Public Safety/Risk Analysis at St. Joseph’s University’s Graduate School in Philadelphia as well as the Legal Studies Graduate Program at California University of Pennsylvania, in California, PA. Jenaway has
authored over 200 articles, provided over 200 speeches, writes monthly magazine columns, and is the author of the text “Pre-Emergency Planning”. Bill also serves as Vice Chair of the Commission on Fire Service Accreditation, International. In 2010 he began his first term as an elected official, serving the 30,000 residents of Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania as Township Supervisor.

**Dennis T. Jones** is Assistant Director of the Chatham (County) Emergency Management Agency. He has extensive experience spanning 25 years of Incident Command and Emergency Response, coordinating response and recovery to a myriad of emergencies and disasters including 500-year floods, hurricanes, tornados, wildfires, droughts, hazardous materials, mass fatalities, and air crash incidents. In addition to his current responsibilities, he has been appointed to the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Hurricane Liaison Team which links the National Hurricane Center and Emergency Management Agencies across the region. Jones also serves as an Accreditation Manager, traveling nation-wide to evaluate State and local emergency management programs. He has authored numerous tabletops, functional and full-scale exercises to train, rehearse and evaluate the effectiveness of response by local, state and federal jurisdictions. He is a Georgia Certified Emergency Manager and a Certified Master Emergency Manager. He is a graduate of Saint Leo College and holds a BA degree in Business Administration. Jones has received three President’s Award for Meritorious Service and Outstanding Leadership from the Emergency Management Association of Georgia and was honored for Exceptional Humanitarian Efforts by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency.

**Valerie M. Jones, CFRE,** is CEO of Valerie M. Jones Associates. She has raised over $100 million for non-profits and developed philanthropic revenue streams for Fortune 500 companies. Jones counsels clients on sponsorship, board development, strategic planning, major, annual giving and capital campaigns. Whether you are seeking funds from individuals, corporations, foundations or government agencies, Jones is a renowned fundraising coach. She is an internationally recognized speaker on philanthropy and has presented at *The People’s Republic of China’s first New Technologies for Museums Conference, The International Special Events Society, The Association of Fundraising Professionals International Conference,* and the *Association of Zoos and Aquariums.* Jones’ service to historic preservation organizations and their collections is both wide and deep. Clients and past employers include The American Philosophical Society, The Calvary Center for Culture and Community, The Carpenters’ Company of the City and County of Philadelphia, The Chester County Historical Society, The Church of the Advocate, Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, The Free Library of Philadelphia, The Haverford Township Free Library, The Philadelphia Center for the History of Science (PACHS), The Wagner Free Institute of Science and the Zoological Society of Philadelphia (America’s First Zoo.)

**Rocky Lopes** has more than 28 years’ experience in Emergency Management and local government. He joined the staff of American Red Cross National Headquarters, Disaster Services Department, in 1987 and developed its Community Disaster Education Program. Lopes served as the Convener of the National Disaster Education Coalition from 1992 - 2004, getting 22 federal and not-for-profit organizations to agree on disaster preparedness messaging on 21 topics, resulting in production of *Talking About Disasters: Guide for Standard Messages.* He served as a Program Director at the National Association of Counties in Washington, DC from 2006 to 2010. He provided support to county governments nationwide and offered technical assistance to NACo members. Currently, Lopes serves as Manager of Outreach and Education for the National Tsunami Hazards Mitigation Program for a NOAA Contractor, ISS Management. The position is based at NOAA Headquarters in Silver Spring, Maryland. Lopes has degrees in Elementary Education and Microbiology from the University of Maryland, College Park. He has a Masters of General Administration from the University of Maryland, University College.
**Ruth B. Mascari,** Planning Director, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, has been employed with the agency since 1991 and advanced from Hurricane Planner to Director for Plans, supervising numerous programs, plans and projects including that of Planning Section Chief, overseeing all state emergency planning and programs including those in local jurisdictions. In times of disaster, she acts as SEOC commander and Deputy SCO. Mascari created and managed the first Recovery Program for Tropical Storm Isabel. She has published numerous articles and is an expert in local history and historic preservation, presenting lectures and programs and serving as adjunct professor in the community college system. Mascari is an active participant/chairman in preservation and conservation/land planning associations and has served on the Executive Board of the Baltimore County Historic Trust since 1986; she was Chairman and member of the Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Commission, 1986-1998. Mascari has created several historic sites nominations and is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preservation Maryland, and the Valleys Planning Council. She represented the State of Maryland at the First Lady's “Preserve America Summit” in New Orleans in 2006.

**Ross Nagy** is the Deputy Director, Preparedness & Planning in the Division of Emergency Management, Vermont Department of Public Safety. He is responsible for the coordination and integration of emergency management planning efforts from the state to local levels, as well as coordination of planning assistance with multiple Federal agencies. In addition to providing oversight in the coordination and development of the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, he is responsible for the State Emergency Operations Plan and the necessary integration of other state level emergency planning activities. Previous to assuming his duties for the State of Vermont, Nagy was a regional disaster specialist for the American Red Cross in Northern New England. During that time, he responded to major disasters in North Dakota, Georgia, Tennessee, Arkansas, the Virgin Islands and numerous Vermont incidents. He was also a member of the first National Weapons of Mass Destruction Task Force established by the Red Cross and was a member of the Aviation Incident Response (AIR) Team. Nagy was career field artillery officer in the U.S. Army where he served in Germany, Vietnam and various locations in the continental U.S. He retired as a Colonel in 1994.

**Liam O'Keefe** is the Deputy Managing Director of the Philadelphia Managing Director’s Office of Emergency Management (OEM). He oversees the day-to-day direction and operations of OEM, guiding emergency response and recovery activities for the agency, as well as managing and monitoring agency programs, activities and resources. Since joining the office in March of 2007, O'Keefe has assisted in overseeing a transformation of the city’s emergency preparedness program, focusing on developing operational emergency plans, conducting training and exercises for first responders, building partnerships with the private sector and community organizations, and providing the public with avenues to learn how to prepare for and stay informed during an emergency. Before joining Philadelphia OEM in 2007, he served as a management consultant to FEMA during numerous disaster declarations, including Hurricane Katrina, the Atlantic Hurricanes of 2004, Super Typhoons in Micronesia, and the World Trade Center disaster. From 2001 to 2003, O'Keefe served as an Emergency Preparedness Specialist with the New York City Office of Emergency Management where he assisted in the coordination of World Trade Center disaster response and recovery efforts.

**Beth Reiter** is a native and resident of Savannah, Georgia. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania she has devoted her 42 year career to Historic Preservation in both the private and public sectors. She recently retired as Director of Historic Preservation for the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission after 24 years with the City of Savannah. Among numerous awards Reiter has received the Georgia AIA Bronze Medal for Historic Preservation and the AIA Savannah Chapter Presidential Citation for Distinguished Service. She is currently serving as Chairman of the Savannah Heritage Emergency Response Committee and when not working on that she is pursuing a life-long
interest in watercolor and pen and ink painting, having been invited this month to exhibit in the Jepson Center Open Art exhibit as part of the Telfair Museum of Arts 16th Annual Art Fair.

Jack Sullivan has worked at FEMA since 1991: as Human Services Officer, Hazard Mitigation Grant Coordinator, and currently as Region I Environmental Historic Preservation Officer. As Emergency Services Branch Chief on 9/11, he coordinated the efforts of four Emergency Support Functions: Firefighting, Mass Care, Public Health and Medical Services, and Urban Search and Rescue. He has deployed to over 50 presidential declarations including Hurricane Andrew, the Northridge Earthquake, the Midwest Floods, and the Red River Flooding in Minnesota. Sullivan was a forward element on the Emergency Response Team that deployed for Hurricane Katrina prior to landfall and spent 7 nights at the Super Dome in New Orleans, starting the day after landfall. He returned to Louisiana in January 2006 and served as the Chief of Staff for the Environmental Historic Preservation Section as it delivered recovery services to the State Historic Preservation Office and the cultural community. His current emergency assignment is FEMA Point of Contact for ESF 11 – Protection of Natural & Cultural Resources and Historic Properties, and he serves as a FEMA representative on the Interagency Work Group for the National Recovery Framework developing the federal role in protecting cultural resources. Sullivan has been a tireless advocate for COSTEP in FEMA Region I.

MaryAnn Tierney is the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III office in Philadelphia, PA. She was appointed to this position on August 30, 2010. As Regional Administrator, she is responsible for coordinating FEMA’s emergency preparedness, mitigation, and disaster response and recovery activities in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. Prior to joining FEMA, she served as Deputy Managing Director for Philadelphia’s Office of Emergency Management. Tierney spent more than seven years with the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM), having served as the Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Preparedness. Tierney has extensive experience coordinating complex emergency response operations in the field and at Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). She has managed more than 60 EOC activations in New York and Philadelphia and has coordinated on-scene response activities for large-scale emergencies. In the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Tierney was responsible for coordinating the debris operation at the World Trade Center and the Fresh Kills Landfill. She oversaw New York City’s federal funding application for the reimbursement of response and recovery costs, which totaled more than $4.75 billion. She holds a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from American University and a Master’s degree in Public Administration from New York University. She graduated from the Executive Leadership Program, Center for Homeland Defense and Security at the Naval Postgraduate School.

Pamela L. Weeks graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Pam served in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged with the rank of Lieutenant. She served as the Schuylkill County Operations and Training Officer and a member of the county Local Emergency Planning Committee. Weeks joined the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) in February 1995 where she is currently the State Citizen Corps Program Manager. Since assuming that position in 2005, the program has grown to its current number of 30 counties with her assistance. She was implemental in the development of a state-wide Public Education and Outreach Strategic Plan. This plan includes outreach and education to local governments, populations with special needs, and businesses on the importance of being prepared for whatever type of disaster may affect your family, community and business. She is also the Program Manager for the Safe Schools program. Weeks co-chairs the Safe Schools Planning Sub-Committee which completed a planning toolkit for the public, non-public and private schools in the Commonwealth. She also sits on the Commonwealth’s Special Populations Steering Committee which is responsible for addressing emergency preparedness issues impacting residents with special needs.