

Credit Union Advisory Council

Member Biographies



Consumer Financial
Protection Bureau

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Chairperson, Kevin Foster-Keddie currently serves as President and CEO of Washington State Employees Credit Union in Olympia, WA. The Credit Union serves over 170,000 members through eighteen retail offices. Mr. Foster-Keddie has been CEO of a number of prominent credit unions during his career, including credit unions serving the employees of Farmers Insurance, Xerox, IBM, American Express, and Direct TV.

Vice Chair, Robin Romano currently serves as Chief Operating Officer of MariSol Federal Credit Union, a CDFI in Phoenix Arizona. She has been at MFCU for over 15 years. Previously Ms. Romano served as a Principal Examiner for NCUA for over 7 years. Prior to NCUA was the Loan Manager for Western Horizons Federal Credit Union in Mesa, Az. In addition to over 25 years in the Credit Union movement, Ms. Romano has worked in the banking and real estate industry. Ms. Romano also currently serves as a Board member of the Federation of Community Development Credit Unions.

Gail DeBoer is President and CEO of SAC Federal Credit Union, the largest credit union in Nebraska. She began her credit union career at SAC FCU in 1988, holding several positions before becoming President/CEO in 2007. Under her leadership SAC FCU has seen assets grow from \$312 million to over \$775 million and total membership growth to over 90,000. DeBoer currently serves on the NAFCU Legislative Committee, Boards of the Women's Fund of Greater Omaha, the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and the Omaha Ethics Alliance, to name a few. She has been honored with many awards and recognitions over her career such as NAFCU's CEO of the Year Award and most recently a 2015 Women's Center for Advancement (WCA) Tribute to Women Honoree. Gail's community involvement represents both her commitment to the community and to the credit union philosophy of "People Helping People."

Robert "Bob" Donley has been the Executive Vice President of Members Credit Union since July 1, 1995 and has been a member of the Board of Directors of Members Credit Union since March 1996. As the Executive Vice President, Mr. Donley has direct supervision of Branch Operations, Collections, Human Resources, Information Technology, Member Services, Lending and is Chairman of the Asset & Liabilities Committee. Members Credit Union has 18 North Carolina branches, has total assets of approximately \$273 million and serves over 52,000 members located all across the United States.

Robert Falk is the president and CEO of the Purdue Federal Credit Union. Purdue Federal serves the financial needs of over 60,000 members worldwide and holds over \$825 million in assets. Prior to joining Purdue Federal Credit Union in 2002, Bob held leadership positions with Elevations CU and CUNA Mutual Group. Bob is also very involved in several credit union industry organizations including the Filene Research Council, CUNA and the Indiana Credit Union League. Involvement in the community he serves is also very important as he holds leadership positions with local community organizations including the United Way, Greater Lafayette Commerce, Purdue University, Junior Achievement, and the NCAA/Purdue Athletics Affairs Committee.

Gregory W. Higgins is Senior Vice President/Chief Administration Officer/General Counsel of Wings Financial Credit Union, a \$4.1 billion institution headquartered in Apple Valley, Minnesota. Prior to joining the credit union, Mr. Higgins was a partner in a Fort Worth, Texas law firm, where he represented clients in real estate, lending, and corporate matters. Prior to his tenure with the law firm, Mr. Higgins was general counsel for a financial institution in Fort Worth, Texas.

Maria A. LaVelle is the Chief Executive Officer of Westmoreland Community Federal Credit Union. She has been the CEO of the credit union for the past fourteen years. The credit union currently serves over 14,000 members with \$66 million in assets. Mrs. LaVelle is currently serving as the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Credit Union Foundation. She served as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Credit Union Association from 2013-2015 and the Vice-Chairman from 2011-2013. Mrs. LaVelle has also served as the President of the Greensburg Chapter of Credit Unions.

Jason Lee currently serves as EVP / CFO for Orion Federal Credit Union. Orion is \$550 million in assets with over 55,000 members and 9 branch locations serving the Memphis metropolitan area. Prior to joining Orion in late 2010, he was the EVP and then the President and CEO of TexasOne Community Credit Union in Houston, TX for over 6 years. Additionally, prior to working in credit unions he served as a State of Texas senior credit union examiner.

Robin Loftus is the Chief Operating Officer of Heartland Credit Union in Springfield, Illinois, a credit union which is \$240 million in assets. Prior to joining Heartland, Robin was Executive V.P./Chief Operating Officer of Security Bank in Springfield, Illinois, a \$150 million Mutual Savings Bank. Robin also held positions of 1st VP of Mortgage Lending for First of America Mortgage Company and 1st VP of Retail Banking for Germania Bank, an \$800 million Savings and Loan

James McDaniel currently serves as the President/CEO of Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union in Charleston, SC which has \$484 million in assets and serves 44,000 members. Previously he was the President/CEO of Carolina Trust Federal Credit Union from 1996 to 2005 where in 2004 he was chosen by the National Association of Federal Credit Unions as its 'Professional of the Year' for that asset category. He started his credit union career in 1988 at Heritage Trust FCU where he held numerous senior management positions until 1996. Mr. McDaniel currently serves on the Board of Directors for the First Carolina Corporate Credit Union, the Greater Summerville/Dorchester Chamber of Commerce, and The Citadel Alumni Association where he is a Life Member and its current Treasurer.

Carrie O'Connor currently serves as the Chief Lending Officer for CommunityAmerica Credit Union, a community credit union based in Lenexa, KS and serving the Kansas City metro, where she is responsible for developing and driving the strategic vision for all areas of lending, credit/debit cards, and collections. The Credit Union serves more than 190,000 members and offers financial solutions for both individuals and businesses within its field of membership. Ms. O'Connor has been with CommunityAmerica for 3 years and previously served at Summit Credit Union in Madison, WI for nearly 20 years. Additionally, she has served on a variety of boards and advisory councils throughout her career, including her service as President of Center for Families, a high-impact nonprofit committed to partnering with parents to strengthen families, Member of WWBIC's Advisory Board, a CDFI focused on helping women and minorities achieve their financial goals and dreams through entrepreneurship, and Vice President of the Madison Area Chapter of Credit Unions.

Thomas O'Shea currently serves as President/CEO of Aspire FCU based in Clark, NJ. Mr. O'Shea has been at Aspire since 2005. Aspire serves the employees of over 200 companies and has more than 25,000 members located in all fifty states. Previously Mr. O'Shea was President/CEO of Raritan Bay FCU for 17 years. Raritan Bay is a community-charts credit union in central New Jersey. He was awarded the New Jersey Credit Union League "CEO of the Year" award in 2008, and the Leagues "Distinguished Service Award" in 1998. He was also the Sayreville, NJ Chamber of Commerce Business Leader of the Year in 1997. He received his Certified CU Executive designation in 1988. Mr. O'Shea is also a former board member of the NJ Credit Union League. His credit union career began in 1982.

Katey Proefke has been the Assistant Vice President, Compliance Officer for Chevron Federal Credit Union in Oakland, CA since 2008. Chevron serves over 103,000 members worldwide and holds over \$2.65 billion in assets. With over 30 years of experience in the industry, Ms. Proefke has been responsible for compliance for a number of financial institutions including San Francisco Federal Savings and World Savings. She currently serves as the Vice President of the Credit Union Compliance Professionals, an educational and networking organization for credit union compliance officers in southern California.

Ronald Scott is currently the President/CEO of Appalachian Community Federal Credit Union since 2010. Mr. Scott has 18 years of experience in Credit Union management. He currently serves on the TN Credit Union League Board of Directors as well as the Washington County Economic Development Council in TN. Previously, Mr. Scott served as a board member of the following on the boards of the Bay Area American Red Cross, Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute and was a member of Government Relations & Education Committees-San Mateo Chamber Commerce. Appointments held include: 2010 California/Nevada Credit Union League Government Relations Committee, 2008 Congresswoman Speier's Finance Services Advisory Comm.

David Seely has served as President and CEO of Kirtland Federal Credit Union, Albuquerque, New Mexico since 1990. His industry and community activities include serving as chairman of CU Anytime, LLC and CU ATM Services, LLC, and on the boards of Kirtland Partnership Committee, the Greater Albuquerque Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Central New Mexico, DataPrint Services, LLC as well as the Association for Commerce and Industry, and as the past president of the Rotary Club of Albuquerque del Sol.

James "Jim" Spradlin is the President and CEO of Park Community Credit Union in Louisville, Kentucky. He has been with park for over 20 years, previously holding several leadership positions in the organization including oversight of Lending, IT, and Finance. Park has over \$750 million in assets and is a progressive leader in innovative services to over 70,000 members. Mr. Spradlin currently serves as the Chairman of the Kentucky Credit Union Leagues PAC and is a member of the League's Governmental Affairs Committee and Emerging Leaders Committees. In addition, he is a committee vice-chair with the local Red Cross and has been involved in multiple local civic groups.

John "Bernie" Winne has been the President and CEO of the Boston Firefighters Credit Union since 2002. Prior to that he served as the Executive V.P. of Members Plus Credit Union for twelve years. He is a director and past Chairman of the Board of the Massachusetts Credit Union League and a member of the CUNA Government Affairs Committee. He has been employed in the credit union industry for more than 30 years.