

2009 NASASPS Conference Presenter Biographies

company private in June 2006 in a \$3.4 billion transaction with a consortium headed by Goldman Sachs Capital Partners, Providence Equity Partners, and Leeds Equity Partners. McKernan joined the company in June 1999 as Vice Chairman and a member of the company's Board of Directors. In March 2003 he became President of EDMC; in September 2003, he became Vice Chairman and CEO, and in June 2006, Chairman and CEO. He served in that position until February 20, 2007, when he became Executive Chairman. In January, 2009, he became non-Executive Chairman.

Since 1995, Governor McKernan has served as Chairman and CEO of consulting and investment firms McKernan Enterprises, Inc. and Nottingham Equity, Inc. in Portland, Maine. From 1995 until 1999 he served on the Board of the Bear Stearns Mutual Funds. He also served as Chairman of the Boards of C.F. Hathaway and of Jolly Gardener Products, Inc.

He served his native state of Maine for two terms in the United States Congress from 1983 to 1987 and then as Governor for two four-year terms from 1987 to 1995. From 1976 to 1981, McKernan practiced law at the Portland law firm of Verrill & Dana, where he was a partner and focused his practice on corporate, regulatory, and administrative law. He left the firm to run for the U.S. Congress in 1982. From 1973 to 1976, McKernan served in the Maine State Legislature and practiced law in Bangor, Maine from 1974 to 1976.

During his two terms as Governor of Maine, Governor McKernan won national recognition for leadership and innovation in education and human resources. The National Alliance of Business honored him in 1993 with the first annual School-to-Work transition award and in 1989 by naming Maine State of the Year. He was also recognized as Outstanding Governor in 1992 by the American Society for Training and Development.

During the Bush administration in 1991-1992 he served as member of the Secretary of Labor's National Advisory Commission on Work-Based Learning. He also chaired Jobs for America's Graduates, a nationwide school-to-work transition organization. In 1993 Governor McKernan replaced President Clinton as the Governors' Representative to the Scholastic, Inc. Advisory Board; and in 1994, he chaired the National Education Goals Panel.

He has served as Chairman of the Education Commission of the States, Coalition of Northeastern Governors, New England Governors Conference, and Republican Governors' Association, as well as the National Governors' Association's lead governor on telecommunications. He is also the author of Making the Grade, a book on youth apprenticeship.

Continuing his interest in education reform after leaving office, McKernan also served as Co-Chairman of the National School-to-Work Advisory Council in Washington, D.C. from 1995 to 1999 during the Clinton administration.

Governor McKernan is a graduate of Dartmouth College (B.A. '70) and the University of Maine School of Law. (J.D. '74)

He and his wife, U. S. Senator Olympia J. Snowe (R-Maine), reside in Falmouth, Maine and Washington, D.C.

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participation in the federal student financial assistance programs, accreditation, licensure, education tax benefits, and related regulatory matters.

Dr. Bob advises public and private colleges and universities, as well as private and publicly-traded companies. In this role, she provides clients with detailed technical guidance related to compliance with applicable statute and regulations. She regularly assists postsecondary educational institutions on issues relating to institutional eligibility, program eligibility, student eligibility, financial responsibility and administrative capability standards, changes of ownership, adding locations and programs, program reviews and compliance audits, and institutional responsibilities for the education tax benefits. Through training seminars and on-site reviews, she assists clients in complying with the federal requirements for administering federal student financial assistance. Dr. Bob has authored numerous articles on federal financial aid issues for *The Career Education Review*, *NASFAA's Journal of Student Financial Aid*, *NASFAA's Student Aid Transcript*, the *Career College Link*, and other higher education publications and frequently speaks at meetings of college officials and student aid administrators.

Dr. Bob received her undergraduate degree *summa cum laude* from the State University of New York at Buffalo and was elected to *Phi Beta Kappa*. She received her doctorate from the University of Maryland.

Powers Pyles Sutter & Verville is a Washington, D.C.-based law firm that focuses on health care, education, and the law of tax-exempt organizations.

General Session 3:	Myth Buster: What Arbitration Is & What It Isn't
Moderator:	Mary Jayne Fay Massachusetts Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
Presenters:	Jill A. DeAtley Vice-President of Regulatory Review Career Education Corporation
	Lynn Thrower Director Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education
	Patty Aronoff Consumer Services Manager Florida Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education
Date & Time:	Monday, April 27, 2009 – 3:00 P.M.

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Jill A. DeAtley has 20 years of experience as a regulator, a student ombudsman, and a compliance administrator. She began her career in private career education in 1989 with the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS) where she coordinated more than 200 evaluation visits and held responsibilities in nearly all operational aspects of the Council while serving as a member of the senior management team. This included responsibility for overseeing student complaints.

As the National Director of Student Relations for a national group of IT schools, she managed student issues, implemented a company-wide arbitration program, and represented the company in student mediations and arbitrations.

Jill joined Career Education Corporation (CEC) in 2001 and is currently Vice President of Regulatory Review where she manages compliance activities for CEC schools and provides technical assistance in interpreting state and accreditation regulations. She has developed and implemented standardized enrollment agreements for all CEC schools and has managed the regulatory aspects of new campuses. She also provides training on regulatory compliance issues to various internal and external constituencies.

In January 2009, she began her term as an elected Commissioner with ACICS where she serves on the Business Practices, Education and Evaluation Enhancement, and Governance Committees. She has been appointed to serve on several U.S. Department of Education IPEDS Technical Review Panels and is a member of the Governing Board of The Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Lynne Thrower is Associate Counsel to the Department of Postsecondary Education in Alabama. She is the Grievance Officer for the Alabama College System and Uniform Guidelines monitoring oversight, director of the Private School Licensure Agency and director of the State Approving Agency.

Lynne is also a former Director of the Legal Division of the Alabama Administrative Office of Courts and a municipal court judge.

She holds a law degree from Samford University and is a frequent lecturer for Alabama Judicial College, Alabama Circuit Clerks Association, Alabama School of Law Continuing Legal Education, Cumberland School of Law Continuing Legal Education, Chief Justice's Commission on Professional and the Alabama Community College System.

Lynne is also the proud mother of two daughters, ages 17 and 21.

Patty Aronoff is the Consumer Services Manager for the Florida Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education. She has served the Commission for five years with experience in licensure and consumer issues. Ms. Aronoff has over twelve years experience in higher education as an administrator and educator.

She holds a master's degree in Adult Education and master's certification in Human Resource Development from Florida State University. In addition to Ms. Aronoff's position at the

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A native Washingtonian, Dr. Sabatini's higher education experience spans more than 30 years. Dr. Sabatini has an earned doctorate from The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Sharyl Thompson has been employed at Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota since 2000 and has led the university through eighteen approvals to operate. She is the university's leader in guiding executives and academics through state regulatory matters and serves as the chief compliance officer. In 2005, Sharyl challenged herself and earned a Master in Science in Organization and Management from Capella University, which has expanded her knowledge and understanding of business operations and solidified her commitment to higher education.

Daniel P. Litteral serves as Vice President and Associate General Counsel of Apollo Group, Inc. He leads the Education and Regulatory Law Practice Group of Apollo Legal Services and is responsible for all education and regulatory law issues for University of Phoenix, the Nation's largest accredited University, as well as for Western International University, College for Financial Planning, Institute for Professional Development, Universidad de Artes, Ciencias y Comunicacion (Chile), Universidad Latinoamericana (Mexico), Meritus University (Canada), and Insight Schools, a provider of online high school programs. He also serves as Vice President for Regulatory Affairs of University of Phoenix. Prior to assuming duties at Apollo Group, Mr. Litteral served as Vice President and General Counsel of University of Phoenix after spending nearly twenty years in private practice in the Washington, DC area primarily representing educational institutions at the K12 and postsecondary levels. He received his B.A. in Political Science from Wake Forest University and his J.D. from the University of North Dakota School of Law. Mr. Litteral is admitted to the practice of law in Arizona and Maryland.

General Session 5: **Financials 102: Financial Stability of Postsecondary Institutions – Why Does it Matter?**
Moderator: **Jacqueline Johnson**
Kansas Board of Regents

Presenters: **Roger Swartzwelder**
Executive Vice-President
Education Corporation of America

Joseph J. Vaughan, Partner
Dow Lohnes, PLLC

Date & Time: **Tuesday, April 28, 2009 – 10:30 A.M.**

Roger Swartzwelder is the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer, and General Counsel of Education Corporation of America, the parent corporation of Virginia College and Golf Academy of America. Virginia College is a system of 11 residential campuses and an

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online division operating in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas. Virginia College annually enrolls more than 12,000 students in a broad range of undergraduate and graduate programs in fields including business, allied health, culinary arts, personal care, criminal justice, paralegal, automotive technology, interior design, and information technology. Golf Academy of America annually enrolls more than 1,000 students in four campuses in Arizona, California, Florida, and South Carolina in an associate's degree program in golf complex operations and management.

Prior to joining ECA in April 2005, Roger was counsel at Dow Lohnes PLLC, a Washington-based law firm, from February 2002, where he specialized in higher education matters, including federal and state regulatory and accreditation issues such as distance education, change of ownership transactions, and other substantive changes. He also advised educational institutions on appeals of regulatory and accreditation adverse actions and provided a number of services designed to help institutions achieve and maintain compliance with accreditation requirements. Before joining Dow Lohnes, Roger worked at the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools for more than 13 years, including more than eight years as Associate Executive Director and Associate Executive Director/In-House Counsel.

Roger received his J.D. from George Washington University in May 2000, and he is admitted to the Virginia State Bar and the D.C. Bar. He also holds an M.B.A. in International Business from George Washington University and a B.A. in History from Dickinson College. On January 1, 2007, Roger began a three-year term as an elected commissioner at ACICS, where he serves on the Executive Committee and the Audit Committee and chairs the Financial Review Committee

Jay Vaughan joined the Education Practice Group at Dow Lohnes in Washington, D.C. in 2002 specializing in higher education matters and became a Member in 2008. Mr. Vaughan assists institutions to understand state, accreditation, and federal laws regulating the field of postsecondary education, specifically focusing on standards of financial responsibility, mergers and acquisitions, and other substantive changes. He also works with institutions responding to negative actions from regulatory authorities, represents clients in hearings before accrediting bodies, and works proactively with institutions to prevent adverse actions.

Prior to joining Dow Lohnes, Mr. Vaughan worked as a manager for the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools, with primary responsibility for the financial review of accredited member institutions, change of ownership and nonmain campus applications, and administrative appeals. During his seven-year tenure at ACICS, Mr. Vaughan completed hundreds of on-site evaluations of accredited and applicant institutions.

Mr. Vaughan received his Juris Doctor degree from George Washington University and his Bachelor of Science degree from James Madison University. He is admitted to practice law in Virginia and Washington, D.C.

General Session 6:

The New NASASPS website

Moderator:

David Dies, NASASPS President

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Presenters: **Christopher Eckels, Managing Partner**
Timothy Laseke, Managing Partner
Jonathon Phillips, Managing Partner
Cyanna Education Services

Date & Time: **Tuesday, April 29, 2009 – 1:00 P.M.**

Christopher R. Eckels is Managing Partner of Cyanna Education Services LLC. Mr. Eckels Currently Chairs The Cyanna Compliance and Government Relations Consulting Practice. Prior to founding Cyanna with partners Jon Phillips and Tim Laseke, Mr. Eckels was Counsel and Senior Vice President of Government Relations for TechSkills, a large, privately held post secondary, proprietary school with thirty (30) campuses in seventeen (17) states for which he oversaw accreditation, compliance, regulatory and government affairs for the entire network. In previous work, Chris Eckels was the Director of Government Affairs for the Printing Association of Florida, successfully spearheading the passage of two pieces of legislation (1999 – HB 643 and 2000 – CS/SB 290) for Florida’s largest manufacturing industry. Mr. Eckels is a licensed attorney admitted in the State of Ohio, having a private practice in Columbus, Ohio early on in his professional career. He is a member of the American Bar Association and the Ohio State Bar Association.

Timothy Laseke is Managing Partner of Cyanna Education Services LLC. Mr. Laseke currently chairs the Cyanna Curriculum and Academic Affairs Consulting Practice. Prior to founding Cyanna with partners Chris Eckels and Jon Phillips, Mr. Laseke served for 9 years as Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs for TechSkills, a 30-campus national private postsecondary institution. For three years prior to joining TechSkills, Mr. Laseke was General Manager of US Operations for Wiechers & Partner, a German industrial automation software company. Mr. Laseke has held Executive Account Manager and engineering positions at Eaton Corporation and Motorola Inc. and is the named inventor on several US patents related to electronic appliance control.

Jonathan R. Phillips is Managing Partner of Cyanna Education Services LLC. Mr. Phillips currently chairs the Cyanna Admissions, Marketing and Business Operations Consulting Practice. Prior to founding Cyanna with partners Chris Eckels and Tim Laseke, Mr. Phillips served for 5 years as Executive Vice President of Marketing and Division President for TechSkills LLC, a privately held, national, postsecondary institution with 30-campus in 17 states for which he oversaw campus operations, admissions and marketing practices for the entire network . Prior to joining TechSkills, Mr. Phillips was a co-founder Edgia, Inc., an Internet Software company, where he served as President and CEO leading Edgia through two corporate acquisitions. Prior to founding Edgia, Mr. Phillips lead an internet training and development group as Director of Product Development at Course Technology, a Thomson Learning Company, now known as Cengage Learning. Mr. Phillips, previous work included, Executive Brand Manager, with MacMillan Publishing USA - part of Pearson Education. Additionally, during his career in the Technology, Media and Publishing sectors, Jon has served in various brand management, corporate marketing and operations management roles. Mr.

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Phillips received a Bachelor of Science – Communications and Marketing from Ball State University.

General Session 7: Professional Development for Career College Professionals

Moderator: John Ware
Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools

Presenter: Amir Moghadam
Executive Director
MaxKnowledge, Inc.

Date & Time: Wednesday, April 29, 2009
9:00 A.M.

Dr. Amir Moghadam is the founder and CEO of MaxKnowledge. He has 20 years of experience in career education, serving in many capacities including professor, director of education, academic dean, director of student affairs, campus director, college president/owner, and international training consultant. Prior to forming MaxKnowledge, he served as the CEO of Aerolearn, an online training and e-learning service company that he founded and sold to Northrop Rice USA.

Dr. Moghadam serves on the International Advisory Council of the Career College Association and the Advisory Board of Career College Central, a media outlet that has recognized Moghadam as a Sector Leader. He also serves as the Senior Education Advisor for the Education for Employment Foundation. He is a member of the American Society for Training & Development and his accomplishments have been recognized in Who's Who in American Education and Who's Who in the World. He earned his PhD in Engineering from the University of Cambridge at the age of 22.