

## **Santa Susana Field Laboratory Community Advisory Group**

### **Selection Panel Biographies** (rev. 3/7/13)

#### **Cathy Costin**

Cathy Costin is Professor and Chair, Department of Anthropology, California State University, Northridge. The Anthropology Department at CSUN has a major focus on Public Archaeology and Heritage Management. Professor Costin is an archaeologist, working in the Andes on craft production, particularly pottery and textiles. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association and is the general series editor of *Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association*.

#### **Dr. Jim Haw**

Dr. Jim Haw has held the Irani Chair in Chemistry at USC since 1998 and has been the Director of the Environmental Studies Program since 2007. For 30 years Dr. Haw was a prolific researcher in coal, oil, natural gas and plant derived fuels and chemicals, nuclear magnetic resonance, reaction mechanisms in chemical catalysis, and chemical instrumentation. In his current administrative role Dr. Haw is creating a cutting edge interdisciplinary doctoral program in Environmental Science and Policy uniting the efforts of Earth Scientists, Biologists, Economists, Political Scientists, Psychologists, Philosophers and Historians. In the last several years he has created an innovative interdisciplinary undergraduate Environmental Studies major which is growing rapidly on the strength of some of the very best students at USC. In January 2013 Dr. Haw launched a second undergraduate major, Environmental Science and Health -- an environmental degree for students preparing for the health professions. Dr. Haw teaches the undergraduate core course in Energy and Air Sustainability. He is co-leader of the USC Micronesia Expedition that every year trains two dozen undergraduates as American Academy of Underwater Sciences divers and takes them to Palau to monitor coral reefs for the government of Koror State in support of the UNESCO Rock Islands Southern Lagoon World Heritage Site. Dr. Haw sometimes volunteers as a science diver at the USC Wrigley Marine Science Center on Catalina assisting in the deployment and evaluation of marine engineering systems and the operations of autonomous underwater vehicles.

#### **David Karchem**

I was a software engineer and data analyst for 30 years in the healthcare insurance industry, until May, 2009 when I had a right-brain ischemic CVA. I became a volunteer/consultant for CSUN Student Affairs I.T.; then began as a volunteer, and later became a consultant/mentor in the Rancho Los Amigos robotic therapy program; as a robotic therapy consultant to Northridge Hospital Rehabilitation Department; and a consultant in the Rancho Los Amigos/USC ICT Human Engineering Laboratory. I continue my active support for the US Soccer Federation as a referee-instructor, and assignor, helping to train new and improve experienced soccer referees. I'm a patient/volunteer for the CSUN Physical Therapy graduate students and for the USC Neuro Consortium for the Neurologic Examination Toolbox Course to provide direct experience with patients' evaluation and post-stroke treatment, and for the Neurorehabilitation Laboratory, Division of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy at the School of Dentistry Interaction Lab, Department of Computer Science, USC Viterbi School of Engineering. I am also active in the USC OPTT-RERC (Optimizing Participation Through Technology) - Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center for Technologies for Successful Aging with Disability Programs, including development of Virtual Reality software for rehabilitation. In September, 2010 I was selected as an at large member for the State of California SSFL Public Participation Group, applying my research and analysis skills to review the Toxic Cleanup Project analysis, results and plans for the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (a toxic ground and groundwater site affecting the San Fernando and Simi Valleys). I'm a member of the USC Dept. of Kinesiology and

Physical Therapy Board of Councilors. I will begin an M.S. in Assistive Technology Engineering and Human Services program at CSU Northridge, in Spring, 2013.

### **Maria Elena Kennedy**

Maria Elena Kennedy is an Environmental Justice Advocate who works with Disadvantaged Communities throughout the state. Some of Ms. Kennedy's more notable projects include the Enchanted Heights Sewer Project which is located in the City of Perris. Ms. Kennedy worked with the Spanish speaking residents to find a resolution to the serious problem the residents faced—failing septic tanks which allowed raw sewage to run in the streets. As a result of Ms. Kennedy's work, the residents are now getting a sewer built in their community. Because of the progressive nature of the facilitation work Ms. Kennedy did in Enchanted Heights, she has received several awards for her work including the League of CA Cities' Helen Putnam award, the National League of Cities Show Case Cities award, the Municipal Management Association of Southern California' Organizational Excellence award and two Public Relations Society Awards for the Enchanted Heights project. Ms. Kennedy is currently working in the City of Beaumont to help secure the funding to build a sanitary sewer system in one of their Disadvantaged Communities. Ms. Kennedy works with local, state and federal officials to ensure that residents of Disadvantaged Communities participate in the process of finding a solution to the problems they face. Ms. Kennedy is the Disadvantaged Community Co-Chair for the California Water Plan Update 2013; she is also the DAC Coordinator for the Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Watershed Management Plan and the DAC/Tribal Co-Chair for the Santa Ana Watershed Integrated Watershed Management Plan.

### **Luhui Isha Waiya**

Luhui Isha, Cultural Resources & Education Director, Wishtoyo Chumash Village

Luhui Isha is a tribal member of the Barbareño Chumash Council. She began her work in Humaliwu (Malibu) with Wishtoyo's Chumash Village in July, 2008 as the Cultural Resources & Education Director. Her Cultural Resources work includes input on such recent cases against the Tejon Mountain Village Resort and of the Massive Newhall Ranch Development on the Santa Clara River. Luhui currently serves on the Chumash Women's Elders Council which is charged with Wishtoyo's Tribal Wave Youth Program, Chumash Marine Stewardship Program in partnership with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary & California State Parks, the Women's Spiritual Wellness Center, Chumash Basketry Preservation Program and International Indigenous Gatherings where Luhui has coordinated gatherings at the Village with Spiritual Leaders and Traditional Doctors from the Pacific Islands, Amazonia and throughout Indian Country (USA). She Co-founded the Chumash Maritime Association in Santa Barbara in 1997 and participated in the building of the first Chumash community owned tomol (traditional canoe) which made its journey across the Santa Barbara Channel from the mainland to Limuw (Santa Cruz Island), September 9, 2001--the first time in over 150 years. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Barbareno Chumash Council from 2002 – 2006 and is the first Chumash Representative Seat on the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council 2004 -2008, 2011 to present. Luhui has dedicated much of the past 20 years providing cultural and environmental education programs for local schools throughout Santa Barbara, Ventura & LA Counties, educating & advocating for underserved students & their families.

### **Christina Walsh**

As an environmental advocate, and lead **SSFL** CAG petitioner, Christina Walsh founded [cleanuprocketdyne.org](http://cleanuprocketdyne.org) in 2001 when she first became aware of the concerns about the clean-up of Santa Susana Field Lab and the public health concerns for the surrounding communities. Living at the two-mile mark from the lab with her husband and fifteen year old son, Walsh has been an active stakeholder and leading advocate for cleanup for more than a decade. As an equestrian and wildlife photographer, she has been able to gain an intimate understanding of the eco- systems and topography of the area surrounding the site and the need to address its far-reaching environmental impacts, including

migration pathways to surrounding communities. Ms. Walsh's goal is to assure a responsible, health-protective site clean-up that considers the technical history of the site as well as assures the protection of a number of well-preserved Chumash cultural sites. In order to assure that these goals are met, Ms. Walsh initiated the **SSFL Community Advisory Group (CAG)** petition and believes that the membership selection process is a critical aspect to building an inclusive, collaborative, transparent process that gives the public long needed answers to their concerns about the site. She believes that a well-formed CAG can be a holistic approach that crosses jurisdictional gaps to enable the polarized ends to come together to collaboratively create an implementable solution that respects both the past and the future. Ms. Walsh has assembled a very comprehensive photographic library of ground and aerial site views, including the topography of the site for use in the site cleanup process. She has also actively participated in a number of site cleanup activities, including, among others: development of the definition of "background" used by the EPA for cleanup purposes; providing technical comments for each area of the site (re: surficial soil, surface and groundwater) throughout the RCRA investigation and subsequent Administrative Order of Consent processes, including NEPA alternative cleanup solutions, a groundwater contaminant flow study, substantive recommendations for interim source removal actions, sampling and placement of some storm water monitoring outfalls, and provided evidence resulting in the Northern Drainage cleanup. Ms. Walsh also teaches martial arts focused on physical rehabilitation and restorative techniques, and trains and exercises horses keeping her outdoors and connected to the environment she has fought to protect.

***Biographies were provided in their entirety by the members of the SSFL CAG Selection Panel to the United States Institute of Environmental Conflict Resolution (UDALL). DTSC is not responsible for the accuracy or content of the biographies provided.***