



DERONDA WILLIAMS, Founder/President, DWI Consulting Group, Long Grove. Ms. Williams has a national perspective and understanding of charter school finance and experience, having served as Network Finance Director for the highly regarded charter school organization, Knowledge is Power Program, “KIPP,” for 5 years. Before joining KIPP, Ms. Williams worked at Pearson Education as a business unit CFO of the K-12 and college divisions for over 11 years, ultimately becoming Vice President and Director of Finance for Scott Foresman. Currently, Ms. Williams is the Founder and President of DW, Inc., a national consulting firm that provides executive search, project management, professional development and financial analysis services to education and non-profit organizations. Ms. Williams has a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Northwestern University, and an MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. **Ms. Williams serves as the ISCS Chair and ex officio on all committees.**



JAIME GUZMÁN, Executive Director Chicago, Taproot Foundation Chicago. Mr. Guzman worked for some 15 years at the intersection of the private, public, and non-profit sectors. Previously at Big Shoulders Fund, Mr. Guzman managed next generation board leadership, volunteer engagement, and external relationships to support the mission of providing support to students to access high quality Catholic schools in the neediest areas of inner-city Chicago. Mr. Guzman has also served as Chief Advisor to the Board of Trustees of the City Colleges of Chicago. Mr. Guzman also worked in various leadership roles at the Chicago Public Schools, including as the Acting Officer of the Office of New Schools, managing the authorization of all district charter schools. Guzman’s non-profit experience includes having served Regional Director for Education for the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) and as Program Director of Teach for America-Chicago during its start-up phase. **Mr. Guzman serves on the ISCS as Chair of the Schools Committee.**



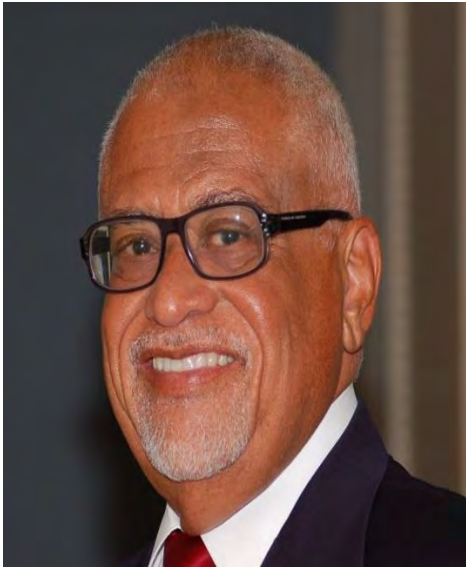
BILL FARMER, Teacher, Evanston Township High School Evanston. Mr. Farmer is a biology and chemistry teacher at Evanston Township High School. He began his teaching career in 2003. In 2009, he was elected as President of the district’s local affiliate of the Illinois Education Association and National Education Association. Outside of the classroom, he sponsors several student activities Science Olympiad Team and Gay-Straight Alliance. Additionally, Mr. Farmer serves as a Virtual Community Organizer for the Illinois New Millennium Initiative, a group of innovative, early-career teachers focused on promoting best practices through educational policy recommendations under the support of the for Teacher Quality. Mr. Farmer holds a B.A. in Biology with Center Secondary Certification from Northwestern University (2003) and an M.A. in School Leadership and Administration from Concordia University **Mr. Farmer serves as the ISCS Secretary and is a member of the Schools Committee.**



DR. KATHRYN ROBBINS, Retired Superintendent, Leyden High School District 212, Franklin Park. Dr. Kathryn Robbins is an educator with 34 years of service in public education, 10 as a high school business education teacher and 24 in administration. For the last 14 years, she served as Superintendent for Leyden High School District 212 in Franklin Park, Illinois. Dr. Robbins has been on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Association of School Administrators for eight years and served as president of the association in 2012-2013. She served on the Executive Board of the Illinois High School District Organization for twelve years, until her retirement from public education in 2013. Dr. Robbins also served as president of the Superintendents Round Table of Northern Illinois in 2007-2008. Dr. Robbins has a Bachelors degree in Business Education from Northern Illinois University, a Masters degree in Educational Administration from National Louis University, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Loyola University. In retirement, Dr. Robbins is a partner with School ExecConnect, a national educational search and consulting firm. **Dr. Robbins serves on the ISCS as a member of the Operations Committee.**



SYLVIA M. SYKES, Founder and President, Philanthropy with Impact, Chicago. Ms. Sykes brings over 25 years of experience in the areas of juvenile justice, child welfare, nonprofit consulting and philanthropy. In 2014, she founded Philanthropy with Impact/Filantropía con Impacto to assist foundations, nonprofit and corporations in building strong communities regionally, nationally and in Latin America. As a Cuban-American, Ms. Sykes is especially concerned with issues facing Latinos. Ms. Sykes was previously at the Chicago Community Trust, where she built its first population focused funds in the Latino and African American community and created the infrastructure for The Trust's geographic affiliates in Lake and Will Counties. In 2008, Ms. Sykes became the first full time executive director of The Lake County Community Foundation, building its operational infrastructure; implementing bold county-wide initiatives such as the Alliance for Human Services quintupling its assets in five years; and positioning the Foundation as the go to resource for donors and nonprofits. Ms. Sykes is a sought after public speaker on issues of diversity and inclusion; Latino demography; and the suburbanization of poverty and its impact on education and communities.



TROY RATLIFF, Vice President and Executive Director, Joseph Kellman Family Foundation, Chicago. Mr. Ratliff assumed this position upon retiring from a career in municipal and state government. The Kellman Foundation supported the creation of the Joseph Kellman Corporate Community School, and is often recognized as a forerunner of the corporate school initiative. Through the work of the foundation, Mr. Ratliff continues to play a role in providing financial support to innovative programs at the Kellman School. Mr. Ratliff has served as a director of the Noble Charter School Network for 10 years. As chairman of the network's facilities committee he brought his experience as an administrator in the City of Chicago's Building Department to the process of expanding the network, which has grown to encompass 16 campuses with plans to increase the number in the near future. Mr. Ratliff holds a Bachelors degree in Political Science and Masters Degree in Public Administration from Roosevelt University. **Mr. Ratliff serves on the IS CSC as Chair of the Operations Committee.**



CATHERINE RICH, Managing Director, Accelerate Institute, Chicago. Ms. Rich has dedicated her life to helping others realize their full potential. Because of that, she is a thought leader on leadership development, executive coaching, and team management. Following her own career as a highly-effective teacher and principal, she now plays a critical role developing leaders to hold the mindset and skill set to be transformational in the toughest environments in the nation. During her highly-successful 15-year career in education, Catherine has worked with over 65 leaders across the country from high-needs cities such as Chicago, New York, Newark, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Dallas, Los Angeles, Oakland, and San Jose. It is through this work that she and these leaders have founded and turned around schools to provide opportunities for the highest-needs students in this country, dramatically changing the trajectory of their lives. Ms. Rich expects to hold an E.D.D. from Roosevelt University in 2017, and currently holds an M.A. in Education Leadership from Roosevelt University, an M.A. in History from Eastern Michigan University, and a B.A. in History from Northern Illinois University. **Ms. Rich serves on the IS CSC as a member of the Schools Committee.**



ANEESH SOHONI, Project Director for Performance Management, TNTP, Chicago. Mr. Sohoni advises school districts and charter management organizations across the country on a variety of issues including human capital and academic strategy. Prior to joining TNTP, he was the Chief of Staff for Teachers and Leaders at the Tennessee Department of Education. In this role, he worked closely with the division's Assistant Commissioner to plan the division's strategic vision. The division's work includes teacher evaluation, talent development, strategic compensation, and leadership effectiveness strategy. Mr. Sohoni is also the vice-chair of the board for RePublic Schools, a network of charter schools in the Southeast. Mr. Sohoni started his work in education through Teach for America as a high school English teacher in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Minnesota and his M.P.P. from Vanderbilt University. **Mr. Sohoni serves on the ISCS as Chair of the External Relations Committee.**



RICHARD VAN EVERA, Civil Litigation Attorney, Barrick, Switzer, Long, Balsey & Van Evera, LLP, Rockford. Mr. Van Evera has been with the firm since 1978. He is admitted to practice in all State and Federal courts in Illinois. He represents businesses, insurance companies, and individuals in civil litigation matters involving injuries and damages cause by dangerous products, motor vehicle accidents, hazards and defects relating to buildings, property, and construction sites, and matters involving insurance coverage, employment disputes and workers' compensation. Mr. Van Evera has been recognized as a leading lawyer by the Leading Lawyers Network, a service that rates lawyers through peer reviews. Mr. Van Evera lives in Boone County and is involved in many community activities there and in adjacent Winnebago County, Illinois, including Growth Dimensions for Belvidere and Boone County (economic development organization), Belvidere Chamber of Commerce, Belvidere Foundation for Excellence (scholarships awarded to high school students), Boone County Community Foundation, the Rockford Area Economic Development Council Business Attraction Committee, Center for Sight and Hearing Development Committee, Belvidere Historical Museum Board of Directors, and the IOU Club of Belvidere. Mr. Van Evera received his B.A. in History and Political Science and was commissioned an Officer of the United States Air Force at Coe College. He served on active duty until 1974 and received his Juris Doctorate from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University. **Mr. Van Evera serves on the ISCS as a member of the External Relations Committee.**