



BIOMASS 2014:
GROWING THE FUTURE
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Biographies**

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David Danielson

Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy



Dr. David Danielson leads the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) within the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). As Assistant Secretary, he oversees a broad energy portfolio that is intended to hasten the transition to a clean energy economy.

Previously, he was the first program director hired by DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). At ARPA-E, he developed and led research and development programs with a budget of more than \$100 million that focused on high-risk, high-reward, disruptive clean energy technologies.

Prior to joining ARPA-E, he was a clean energy venture capitalist at General Catalyst Partners, a Boston-based venture capital fund. He co-founded the firm's clean energy investment practice and helped build and grow startups in various clean energy technology areas including solar power, wind power, advanced biofuels, bio-gas, carbon capture and storage, and advanced lighting.

He was a co-founder of the New England Clean Energy Council. He has authored more than 20 scientific articles in the field of advanced materials. While at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), he was the founder and President of the MIT Energy Club and a founding Director of the MIT Energy Conference. For his work in building a strong multidisciplinary energy community at MIT, he was awarded the Karl Taylor Compton Prize, MIT's highest student award. He holds a Bachelor of Science, summa cum laude, in materials science and engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Kate Brandt

Federal Environmental Executive; Council on Environmental Quality,
Executive Office of the President



Kate E. Brandt was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Administration's Federal Environmental Executive on April 23, 2014. In this capacity, she is responsible for promoting environmental and energy sustainability across federal government operations, including 360,000 buildings, 650,000 vehicles, and \$460 billion annually in purchased goods and services. The Office of the Environmental Executive works collaboratively with the Executive Office of the President and each of the federal agencies to implement the President's Executive Order on Federal Sustainability (EO 13514) and the GreenGov initiative.

Prior to her appointment, Kate served as a senior advisor at the U.S. Department of Energy in the Office of the Under Secretary for Science and Energy, where she played a key role in establishing the office and executing the President's Climate Action Plan. Before that, she was a director for energy and environment in the Office of Presidential Personnel at the White House, where she recruited, interviewed, and managed the presidential appointment of Senate-confirmed and senior candidates for energy and environment federal agencies.

Prior to her work in the Office of Presidential Personnel, Kate served as the Special Advisor for Energy to the Secretary of the Navy. She advised the Secretary on Navy energy policy and strategy and was the Policy Director for the report to the President entitled "America's Gulf Coast: A Long Term Recovery Plan after the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill." Before her work at the U.S. Department of Defense, Kate was a Policy Analyst in the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change. She also worked on the Presidential Transition Team for Dr. Susan Rice and the National Security Agency Review Team.

Kate received a master's degree in international relations from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Gates Cambridge Scholar. She graduated with honors from Brown University. In 2013, Kate was awarded the Harry S. Truman Extraordinary Impact Award. She is a New Leaders Council fellow and a member of the Women's Council on Energy and the Environment.

Jennifer Holmgren
Chief Executive Officer, LanzaTech



Dr. Jennifer Holmgren is the Chief Executive Officer of LanzaTech. Jennifer has more than 20 years of experience in the energy sector, including a proven track record in the development and commercialization of fuels and chemicals technologies. Prior to joining LanzaTech, she was Vice President and General Manager of the Renewable Energy and Chemicals business unit at UOP LLC, a Honeywell Company. In that role, she led UOP's renewable business from its inception through to the achievement of significant revenues from the commercialization of multiple novel biofuels technologies.

Dr. Jennifer Holmgren holds a Bachelor of Science from Harvey Mudd College, a doctorate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago. She currently serves on multiple external advisory boards. She is the author or co-author of 50 U.S. patents and 20 scientific publications and is the 2003 recipient of the Council for Chemical Research's Malcolm E. Pruitt Award.

Paul Woods

Founder, Chairman, Chief Executive Office and President, Algenol Biofuels Inc.



Paul Woods invented Algenol's "Direct to Ethanol® Technology" in 1984 while attending the University of Western Ontario near Toronto, Canada. This technology targets producing ethanol using proprietary algae, sunlight, non-arable land, and carbon dioxide with operating costs of \$1.27 per gallon and production rates of 7,000 gallons of ethanol per acre per year. Waste algae are then processed by hydrothermal liquefaction and HT in gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel for an additional 1,000 gallons. Woods and Algenol currently hold 36 patents and have 61 patents pending.

Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senate (D-MI)



Debbie Stabenow is the junior United States Senator from Michigan. Before her election to the U.S. Senate, she was a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing Michigan's 8th congressional district from 1997–2001. She previously served as a member of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, Michigan House of Representatives, and Michigan Senate. Stabenow currently serves as Chairwoman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. She was re-elected to the seat for a third term in November 2012.

Before her current committee assignments, Senator Stabenow also served on the Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee and the Special Committee on Aging.

Stabenow also co-founded the Michigan Leadership Institute Inc. and gave leadership seminars.

Cathie Woteki

Undersecretary for Research, Education, and Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture



Dr. Catherine Woteki is Under Secretary for the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Research, Education, and Economics (REE) mission area, as well as the Department's Chief Scientist. Her responsibilities include oversight of the four agencies that comprise REE: the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Economic Research Service (ERS), and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The National Agriculture Library and National Arboretum also fall under this mission area.

Since returning to USDA, Dr. Woteki has followed the direction established by Congress, developing the Office of the Chief Scientist, the USDA Science Council, and other coordinating programs. She has been called upon to lead scientific delegations to China and the first Meeting of Agricultural Chief Scientists held under the auspices of the G-20 leader, Mexico. Dr. Woteki is an advocate for building the platforms necessary to enhance domestic and international research for building the platforms necessary to enhance domestic and international agricultural research that include open access to scholarly publications, open access to germplasm collections and genetic and genomic data; accelerated innovation and technology transfer in the agricultural arena; and improved agricultural statistics.

Before joining USDA, Dr. Woteki served as Global Director of Scientific Affairs for Mars, Incorporated, where she managed the company's scientific policy and research on matters of health, nutrition, and food safety.

From 2002–2005, she was Dean of Agriculture and Professor of Human Nutrition at Iowa State University, where she was also the head of the Agriculture Experiment Station. Dr. Woteki served as the first Under Secretary for Food Safety at USDA from 1997–2001, where she oversaw U.S. government food safety policy development and USDA's continuity of operations planning. Dr. Woteki also served as the Deputy Under Secretary for REE at USDA in 1996.

Prior to going to USDA, Dr. Woteki served in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy as Deputy Associate Director for Science from 1994–1996. During that time, she co-authored the Clinton Administration's policy statement, "Science in the National Interest." Dr. Woteki has also held positions in the National Center for Health Statistics of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1983–1990), the Human Nutrition Information Service at USDA (1981–1983), and

as Director of the Food and Nutrition Board of the Institute of Medicine at the National Academy of Sciences (1990–1993). During her tenure as Director of the Food and Nutrition Board, she had direct responsibility for twenty-seven studies and co-authored a nutrition book entitled “Eat for Life” that became a Book of the Month Club selection.

Dr. Woteki's research interests include nutrition, food safety policy, risk assessment, and health survey design and analysis. She is the author of more than 60 refereed scientific articles and 12 books and technical reports.

In 1999, Dr. Woteki was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, where she has chaired the Food and Nutrition Board (2003–2005). She received her M.S. and Ph.D. in Human Nutrition from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1974). Dr. Woteki received her B.S. in biology and chemistry from Mary Washington College (1969).