

## Speaker Biographies – Education & Health Response



**Moderator: Gilbert Resendez**

*Broadband Program Specialist*

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Gilbert Resendez joined the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in July 2019 as a broadband program specialist with the BroadbandUSA program after completing his Master of Science in Public Policy & Management at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy. At Carnegie Mellon, he specialized his studies in technology and information policy. During his time at Carnegie Mellon, Mr. Resendez was an editor on the Heinz Policy Journal on the leadership board for Heinz's ICMA student chapter. Mr. Resendez works on BroadbandUSA's partnerships team coordinating partnerships and outreach with state and local governments on broadband topics and policy issues. Prior to graduate school, Mr. Resendez earned his Bachelor of Business Administration in entrepreneurship & innovation management in 2014 from the University of Portland and worked as a legal assistant.



**David Witkowski**

*Executive Director, Civic Technology Initiatives*

Joint Venture Silicon Valley

David Witkowski is an author, advisor, and strategist who works at the intersection between local government and the telecommunication industry. He is a Fellow in the Radio Club of America, an IEEE Senior Member, the Founder & CEO of Oku Solutions LLC, and is the Executive Director of the Wireless Communications Initiative at Joint Venture Silicon Valley. After serving in the U.S. Coast Guard and earning his B.Sc. in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, he held leadership roles for companies ranging from Fortune 500 multi-nationals to early-stage startups. He serves as Co-Chair of the Deployment Working Group at IEEE Future Networks, Co-Chair of the GCTC Wireless SuperCluster at NIST, and as an Expert Advisor to the California Emerging Technology Fund.





**Chris Walker**

*Telecommunications Director*

Northwest Open Access Network

Chris has been with NoaNet since 2001 and has acted as department head for many of NoaNet's critical functions, including Network Operations and Engineering, Outside Plant Construction, Network Operations Center, Professional Services, and Community Outreach. Currently as the Telecommunications Director, he delivers on network growth and expansion, strategic planning, capital development of the outside plant, and broadband planning for emerging public benefit networks. He was the executive director of the NoaNet BTOP construction build-out and sets the architectural direction of the network facilities throughout

	<p>the state. Prior to NoaNet, Chris served 12 years in the armed forces in various management and leadership roles.</p>
	<p><b>Danae Wilson</b>  <i>Manager</i>          Nez Perce Tribe Department of Telecommunications Services</p> <p>Danae Wilson has been in the technology field working to bring technology services to regions and communities where service does not exist or is extremely limited. She lives and works on the Nez Perce Reservation in Northern Idaho. She is currently the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Telecom &amp; Technology Co-Chair, the FCC Native Nations Communication Task Force Committee Co-Chair and she sits on the FCC Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, and she's also on the Native Public Media Advisory Board. Danae serves as the National Congress of American Indians representative to the FirstNet Authority, Tribal Working group and SAFECOM. Danae sits on the State of Idaho Broadband Task Force.</p>
	<p><b>John Griffith</b>  <i>Principal Artificial Intelligence Engineer</i>          MITRE Labs</p> <p>John Griffith is a Principal Artificial Intelligence (AI) Engineer and Deputy Site Leader at MITRE's University of Virginia Health site. John has worked across the federal government in areas including computational linguistics, data science, and science and technology analysis. His focus is on making the world a healthier place through health information technology. John's approach involves identifying and nurturing new technologies and their creators by building bridges to the innovation ecosystem and partnering with international standards organizations to promote interoperability and adoption of transformational technologies.</p>