

## Speaker Biographies – Welcome & Introductions



### **Jean Rice**

*Senior Broadband Specialist*

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Jean Rice is a telecommunications expert and advisor who works with federal agencies, tribal, local and state governments, industry, universities and non-profits on smart cities and communities projects and provides technical assistance to support the widespread deployment of broadband infrastructure. Ms. Rice focuses on the development of cutting-edge, cross-sector smart cities and broadband projects and collaborations and leads NTIA's partnership with the National Institute of Technology and Standards' Global Cities Team Challenge program. She focuses on smart agriculture and rural, smart buildings, wireless, smart states, inclusion and smart regions. She is a member of the Networking and Information Technology and Research and Development Program's Cyber-Physical System's Interagency Working group and the federal Fast Track 5G Committee and had been a member of the prior NITRD Federal Smart Cities and Communities Task Force. Ms. Rice co-founded and coordinates the Smart Cities and Communities Leadership Forum hosted by NTIA, NIST, NSF, and DHS S&T. Ms. Rice has received several awards including an award from the Commerce Department for leadership in smart cities. She has developed numerous publications, including a number of Toolkits for NTIA, including "Powering a Smart City Through Partnerships; a Toolkit for Local and Tribal governments". For 25 years, Ms. Rice was the CEO of a telecommunications consulting company for US cities and states. NTIA is responsible for advising the President on Telecommunications and Information Administration policy issues. NITA's programs and policy making focus on expanding broadband internet access and adoption in the US, expanding the use of spectrum by all users, and ensuring that the Internet remains and engine for continued innovation and economic growth.



### **Sokwoo Rhee**

*Associate Director for CPS Innovation*

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Sokwoo Rhee is Associate Director for Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS) Innovation at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), U.S. Department of Commerce. He is leading smart city and Internet of Things (IoT) innovation programs at NIST, including the Global City Teams Challenge (GCTC) and the Smart Cities and Communities Framework (SCCF) program. He previously served as a Presidential Innovation Fellow on CPS, a program by the White House. His work and achievements have been recognized through multiple awards including MIT Technology Review's Top Innovators under 35. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from MIT.



**Maci Morin**

*Program Coordinator*

National Association of Regional Councils

Maci Morin is responsible for NARC’s economic and community development portfolio. She represents regional councils on Capitol Hill while keeping members up to date on the latest news from Washington. She works through conferences, webinars, newsletters, and more to connect members to one another and share regional best practices. Her latest federal projects include the GCTC Smart Regions Collaborative and the USDA Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant program. Previously, she carried out policy and communications work for the City of San Antonio City Council and researched governmental use of data, social media, and innovative online tools at the University of Texas at San Antonio.



**Glenn Ricart**

*Founder and CTO*

US Ignite

Glenn Ricart is founder and CTO of US Ignite, the smart and connected communities nonprofit. He’s also been a contributing member of GCTC from the very first meetings at NIST. He holds an adjunct appointment in the School of Computing at the University of Utah and previously was President and CEO of National LambdaRail. He’s a Pioneer Member of the Internet Hall of Fame for creating the first Internet interconnection point.