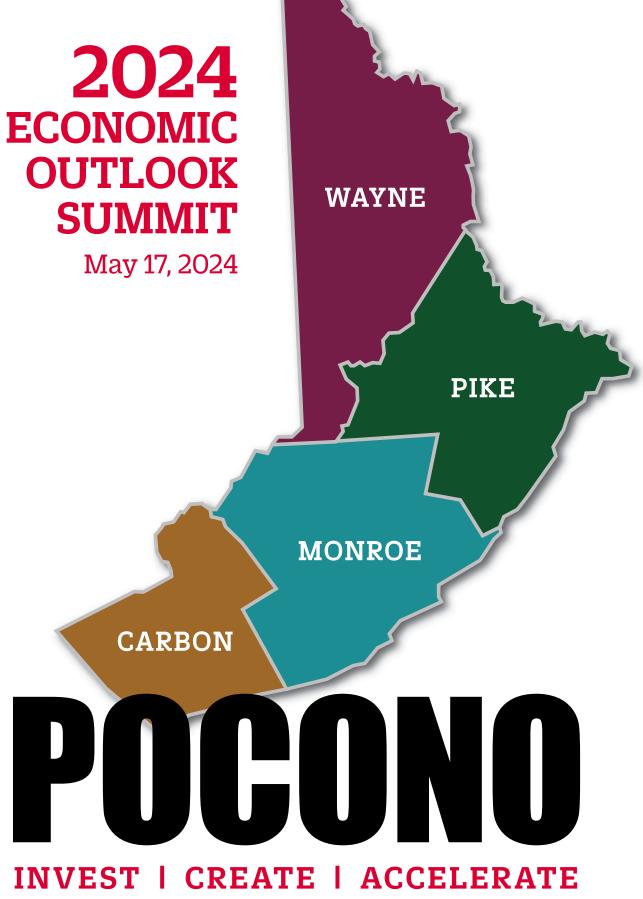


EAST STROUDSBURG UNIVERSITY



AGENDA

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7:30 a.m.	Breakfast & Networking
8:30 a.m.	Poconos: Year in Review 2023 Video
8:40 a.m.	Welcome and Opening Remarks
	Kenneth Long President, East Stroudsburg University
8:50 a.m.	Keynote Speaker
	Balancing Ethics and Innovation: How to Harness Generative AI for Business Transformation
	Tarun Chopra Vice President, Integration Executive for IBM
9:25 a.m.	Pocono Economic Scorecard Data Presentation
	Ryotaro Tashiro Outreach Economist and Advisor, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia
9:55 a.m.	Governor's Economic Development Plan for Pennsylvania
	Jennifer Gilburg Deputy Secretary, Technology and Entrepreneurship, PA Department of Community and Economic Development
10:15 a.m.	Networking Break
10:30 a.m.	Housing Statistics and Real Estate Market Trends
	Matt Christopherson Director, Business and Consumer Research, National Association of Realtors, Washington, D.C.
10:50 a.m.	Entrepreneurship in the Poconos Video
10:55 a.m.	Entrepreneur Showcase
	Facilitators:
	Patrice Dume, Director, ESU Business Accelerator and Entrepreneurship
	George Boudman, Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Stourbridge Project
	 Carbon County — Jerry McAward, Owner, Lehighton Outdoor Center
	Monroe County — Olga Diachuk, COO, Mosqitter
	 Pike County — Chris Morgan, Owner, M&S Septic Services, Morgan Excavation Services, and Back Road Brewery and Restaurant
	• Wayne County — Jason Deron, Owner, Fly Leaf Printing
11:20 a.m.	Rail Service: New York to the Poconos
	Eliot Hamlisch Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer, Amtrak
11:50 a.m.	Closing Remarks
	Kenneth Long





Kenneth Long

President East Stroudsburg University

Kenneth Long was appointed president of East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania by the Board of Governors for Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education, effective November 2, 2022, after serving more than two years as the interim president. Long brings more than 35 years of progressive experience in higher education to the position. Prior to the interim appointment, which began July 31, 2020, Long served as the University's chief administrative, financial, and operations officer. Among his many accomplishments at ESU, he has been responsible for: stabilizing the University's financial condition; increasing the University cash reserves and reducing capital debt; lowering costs and increasing availability and access to student health services by partnering with a regional medical center; initiating the University's first academic space utilization study; enhanced campus accessibility; coordinated the development of an athletic master plan and upgrading athletic facilities, including adding air conditioning and a generator in Koehler Fieldhouse, painting and branding Eiler-Martin Stadium, replacing the turf for all outdoor sports, and partnering with the local municipality and little league for baseball and softball facilities; coordinating the construction of a new student housing building which included new counseling and testing centers and the offices of the Dean of Student, Student Conduct, Accessibility Services and Title IX; and facilitated the land development plans for a new student center.

Prior to joining ESU, Long held leadership positions at two other Pennsylvania State System institutions, Kutztown and Cheyney universities. He served five years as assistant vice president of administration and finance at Kutztown University and during that time he worked six months as interim vice president for finance and administration at Cheyney University, in a loaned executive capacity. Long has served on a number of taskforces, committees and workgroups over his 14 years in the State System, including: Tuition Alignment Committee, System Appropriation Funding Review Committee, State of PA 529 Advisory Board, co-chaired the State System Budget and ESU Sports Alignment Taskforces, and Kutztown University General Education Committee.

Prior to coming to the Pennsylvania State System, Long held multiple leadership positions at the University of Toledo and University of Toledo Physician Practice Group and played an instrumental role in the merger of the University of Toledo with the Medical University of Ohio. Long started his career in higher education at DeVry University – New Jersey where he worked for 18 years beginning as an assistant director of the office of student accounts and working his way to the chief administrative and financial position of the New Jersey campus. As one the most senior administrative and financial officers in the northeast region, Long assisted with the opening and staffing of DeVry locations in New York, Florida, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Long earned his bachelor's degree in math and political science from Drew University in Madison, N.J., and an M.B.A. from Monmouth University in West Long Branch, N.J. He has experience teaching college courses in business administration, financial accounting, and managerial accounting and statistics, and during his career has made numerous presentations at regional and national meetings and conferences. In 2013, Long was selected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers (EACUBO) and in 2017 he was selected as the association's treasurer, which he served until 2022.

Since being appointed into the University's chief executive role in 2020, President Long has been recognized by the Governor's Advisory Commission on Latin Affairs, the Monroe County NAACP, the Pocono Mountains United Way, and the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce. While serving as interim president, he was selected to serve as the chairperson of the PASSHE Freedom of Speech and Title VI Task Group. Presently, President Long serves as the Presidential Liaison for the PASSHE Board of Governor's Governance Committee and the Presidential Lead on the PASSHE Enrollment Management Playbook Task Force.

Long is married to Evelyn and has three daughters, Alysha, Peyton, and Taylor.



Keynote Address



Tarun Chopra *Vice President, Integration Executive IBM*

Tarun Chopra is responsible for delivering cutting-edge generative AI, machine learning, data, and analytics capabilities to address some of the world's most complex problems through IBM's latest AI and data platform, watsonx. He is also responsible for advancing the multi-billion dollar data and AI software business comprised of leading brands such as Db2, Cognos Analytics, Planning Analytics, InfoSphere, and Cloud Pak for Data.

Previously, Tarun was Vice President of IBM Z Hybrid Platform, as he boasts more than 19 years of experience in IBM Z, holding several worldwide leadership roles, developing and managing market leading solutions.

Tarun works closely with clients and partners from all over the world to accelerate their adoption of IBM solutions as a critical element in their transformation strategy to achieve their organizational business objectives.

He holds an undergraduate degree from East Stroudsburg University, a Master's in Business Administration from Pace University, a Master's in Computer Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and a Master's in Data Science at University of California, Berkeley. He lives in the U.S. with his wife and two children.

2024 Economic Scorecard Data Presentation



Ryotaro Tashiro

Outreach Economist and Advisor Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia

As an outreach economist and advisor, Ryo Tashiro travels across the Third District, speaking to various groups about the economic outlook and the functions of the Federal Reserve. He tries to avoid using economic jargon so that those without economic backgrounds can participate in the conversations.

Ryo views these interactions with the public as two-way streets. Not only does he see the importance of informing the public about what is going on with the economy and at the Fed, Ryo also thinks it is important to hear what individuals across the District are experiencing in the economy. Many of the research topics Ryo has pursued were inspired by these conversations with the public. Those topics include his two main areas of focus, labor economics and demographics. Among his many contributions to the Bank, Ryo is notably responsible for the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia Economic Outlook Survey.

Prior to joining the Bank in June 2016, Ryo was a business analyst for Bloomberg, where he conducted research on issues related to equity data quality. He has a Master's degree in economics from the University of Michigan–Ann Arbor and a Bachelor's degree in economics from Kenyon College.



Governor's Economic Development Plan for Pennsylvania



Jennifer Gilburg

Deputy Secretary, Technology and Entrepreneurship PA Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED)

Jennifer Gilburg joined the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in September 2023 as Deputy Secretary of Technology and Entrepreneurship. She has decades-long experience in technology and advanced manufacturing in the private sector. She has been on the forefront of such high growth technologies as data security and artificial intelligence, and has worked in advanced technologies for automotive, medical and robotics industries.

Most recently, she served as Vice President of Business Development for a developer of AI-driven technology for use in autonomous vehicles and robotics. As Deputy Secretary of Technology and Entrepreneurship, she will focus on implementing the Shapiro Administration's and DCED's vision of attracting, fostering, and investing in people and companies focused on technology and innovation across multiple sectors, and throughout the state. She has an undergraduate degree from Syracuse University and a Master's degree in Management from Villanova University.

Housing Statistics and Real Estate Market Trends



Matt Christopherson

Director, Business and Consumer Research National Association of Realtors (NAR), Washington, D.C.

Matt Christopherson, Director of Business and Consumer Research at the National Association of REALTORS[®] (NAR) in Washington, D.C., plays a pivotal role in shaping the organization's research landscape. With his extensive expertise, he conducts member and consumer survey research, contributing to flagship reports like the Profile of Home Buyers & Sellers and the Member Profile. His work covers a wide array of topics impacting real estate, including firm operations, international buyers, and emerging issues like marijuana and real estate. Christopherson's research provides actionable insights that help members and consumers navigate these complex market dynamics.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and Global Supply Chain from the University of South Carolina and a Master's in Marketing Research and Analytics from Michigan State University. A seasoned expert in survey design, results analysis, and strategic communication, Christopherson ensures that NAR members are equipped with data-driven tools to thrive in an ever-evolving market.

A lifelong learner, he stays ahead of emerging trends, refining his skills and strategies. His dedication to education and market intelligence underscores NAR's commitment to empowering members and housing consumers. Christopherson's insights offer a valuable lens through which to understand the real estate sector's economic outlook.



Rail Service: New York to the Poconos



Eliot Hamlisch

Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Amtrak

Eliot Hamlisch is Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer for Amtrak, serving in this role since September 2023. He is responsible for Pricing and Revenue Management, Customer Analytics, Product Development, Marketing, eCommerce, the Contact Center, Schedule and Consist Planning, and the Northeast Corridor, State Supported and Long Distance service lines.

Eliot leads Amtrak's continued transformation of the customer experience, focused on delighting customers at every step of their journey with America's Railroad. Through collaboration with federal, state and other stakeholders, the company aims to expand service in existing and new markets, doubling ridership by 2040.

Before joining Amtrak, Eliot served as EVP and Chief Marketing Officer of AMC Entertainment Holdings, Inc., the world's largest theatrical exhibition company and an industry leader in innovation and operational excellence. Prior to AMC, he served as EVP, Loyalty and Revenue Optimization at Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world's largest hotel franchising company with 9,000+ hotels across nearly 100 countries and 22 iconic brands. His oversight spanned the company's award-winning loyalty program, customer engagement, credit card, partnerships, distribution and revenue management functions.

Eliot graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and earned his Master's in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.



Entrepreneur Showcase



Patrice Dume

Director ESU Business Accelerator and Entrepreneurship



George Boudman

Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Stourbridge Project



Carbon County

Jerry McAward, Owner Lehighton Outdoor Center

Jerry McAward's outdoor adventure tourism education started with a college class whitewater raft trip on the Lehigh River in 1979. A two-day class in whitewater kayaking in 1982 started the derailment of a perfectly good career in New York City, and

he moved to Jim Thorpe, Pa. in 1987. His formal education includes an Associate's degree in Recreation from the State University of New York. After an 11-year "semester off", he returned to college, and received a Bachelor's in Exercise Physiology from East Stroudsburg University.



Monroe County

Olga Diachuk, COO Mosgitter

Olga Diachuk, Mosqitter's cofounder and COO, has held multiple C-level positions in both the public and private sectors. She has a track record of establishing new partnerships and improving existing ones, while successfully executing

long-term operational goals for the companies she has been a part of. One of her roles prior to joining Mosqitter included working at the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine and Parliament of Ukraine. At Mosqitter, together with her cofounder Anastasiia, she successfully launched to the markets of Ukraine, India, Brazil, and the United States. She oversees operations, sales, and marketing.



Pike County

Chris Morgan, Owner M&S Septic Services, Morgan Excavation Services, and Back Road Brewery and Restaurant

Chris Morgan is a serial entrepreneur who specializes in developing companies specifically in the fields of

infrastructure construction and maintenance, commercial and residential real estate, site development, and waste hauling. His most recent investment, Back Road Brewing Co., dives into the world of craft brewing. Back Road Brewing Co.'s new venue boasts a 5,000 sq.ft. tap house situated on 13 acres in historic Milford, Pa.



Wayne County

Jason Deron, Owner Fly Leaf Printing

Jason Deron is a seasoned entrepreneur and visionary leader with a deep-rooted passion for print & packaging. With over 25 years of extensive experience in print & packaging, Jason has finely tuned his expertise in Vendor & Print

Management. His journey commenced at Innerworkings & HH Global, where he skillfully managed client relations and print buyers for esteemed clients such as AstraZeneca, AmeriHealth, AutoZone & Bayer.



Carbon County Commissioners



Wayne E. Nothstein; Mike Sofranko, Chair; Rocky Ahner

The mission of the County of Carbon is to provide governmental, economic, social, cultural, emergency and recreational services to improve the vitality of the community and the lives of its citizens, while being fiscally responsible to the taxpayers. As the stewards of this mission, the Commissioners are dedicated to reducing barriers to human services, addressing the struggles of the unsheltered community and those facing substance abuse, while aggressively identifying services to address the needs and to improve the quality of life in Carbon County. The Commissioners listen to the concerns of environmental groups with the goal of preserving valuable natural resources and partner with boroughs and townships to promote sustainable economic development to maintain a fiscally resilient county.

Monroe County Commissioners

The Monroe County Commissioners have numerous priorities for 2024. They include the completion of the County Courthouse Project, renovation of the county parking deck, replacement of a county bridge in Hamilton Township, preparation of bid for rehabilitation of Goose Pond and Leavitt Branch Dams, and a safe and secure 2024 Election. The county will also work for additional treatment programs for our courts and corrections, economic development, expansion of broadband service, cyber security upgrades, continuation of the digitizing of all county records, and make plans for the reuse of the former county jail and assessor's office at courthouse square.



Sharon S. Laverdure; John D. Christy, Chair; David C. Parker

Pike County Commissioners



Matthew M. Osterberg, Chair; Christa L. Caceres; Ronald R. Schmalzle

The Pike County Commissioners are continuously working on initiatives to help better meet the needs of their residents. The expansion of medical services continues to be a high priority. The Commissioners have been successful in decreasing ambulance response times by 70%, and recruited a premier healthcare provider to bring urgent care facilities to the county. A Medical Foundation Fund was also established to further the goal of building a Community Hospital. Other pressing issues that are on the agenda include longterm housing for adults with disabilities, sewer expansion, enhanced public transportation, and thoughtful economic development projects. The Commissioners have wonderful plans for the future of their beautiful county and look forward to bringing their plans to fruition.

Wayne County Commissioners

Wayne County strives to be the most innovative and successful rural county in Pennsylvania — the county that other counties across the state and nation look to for inspiration. By building on Wayne County's rich history, by protecting long-time, deep-rooted, ideologies that have been cultivated for hundreds of years, Wayne County has a strong foundation for future growth. Wayne County, through Wayne Tomorrow, will build a robust multi-dimensional economic and cultural ecosystem that will effectively address the current and future need of the region while preserving the essence of what makes the county valued by the businesses and people who call Wayne County home.



James Shook; Jocelyn Cramer; Brian W. Smith, Chair



Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA)





Tyler Day Community & Economic Development Manager

Jeffrey K. Box President & CEO

Kurt R. Bauman, MBA Vice President, Community & Economic Development Services Executive Director, Nonprofit & Community Assistance Center (NCAC)

The NEPA Alliance provided the data and analytics for the 2024 Pocono Mountains Economic Scorecard.

The NEPA Alliance, a regional community and economic development agency, serves the seven counties of Northeastern Pennsylvania including Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Schuylkill and Wayne. NEPA Alliance services include federal and state grant assistance, business financing, government contracting assistance, international trade assistance, nonprofit assistance, transportation planning and research and information.

For more information about NEPA Alliance, visit **www.nepa-alliance.org** or call 866-758-1929. "This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."



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ESU's new University Center is slated to open in Fall 2025 and will be a dynamic, modern studentcentered hub in the heart of campus. The 156,033 sq. ft., four-story building replaces the existing facility, built in 1968 when ESU's enrollment was roughly 2,400 students. The current 5,000-plus students will all benefit from the new structure that will house a large ballroom, bookstore, theater, food court, and offices for students, clubs, organizations and services in an environmentally-friendly, state-of-the-art facility.



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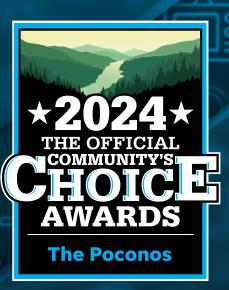
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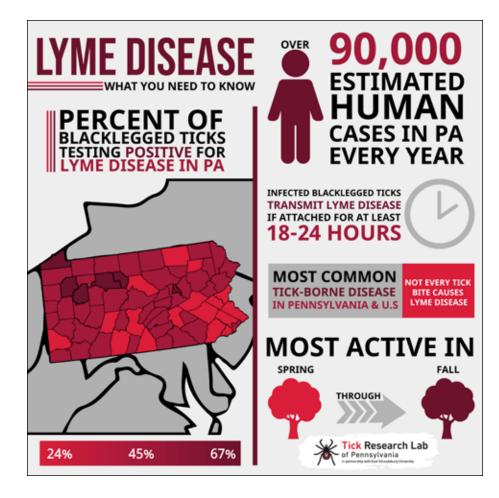
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ESU's Award-Winning Student Entrepreneurs



ESU

Diaa Meqdadi

Diaa Meqdadi, a senior majoring in computer science and computer security with a minor in mathematics, won first place in the PASSHE Startup Challenge for his business Mercial, LLC. The company simplifies data management and digital marketing solutions using an innovative approach to develop drag-anddrop customizable database API software. Diaa received a \$10,000 award for his presentation.



Stelios Melekos

Stelios Melekos, a senior majoring in business management with a concentration in entrepreneurship, won first place in the tecBRIDGE Business Plan Competition Collegiate Division and a \$10,000 award, and also won the Wild Card award and an additional \$5,000. His business, Blitz Performance, LLC, provides anglers with the highest quality and most innovative lures and apparel for both saltwater and freshwater fishing.



Thank You and Recognition

East Stroudsburg University extends its sincere appreciation to the Economic Outlook Summit Committee, to the event sponsors and to the supporting partners who assisted in marketing and planning the event.

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- Wayne Economic Development Corporation
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