



Panelist Biographies

Opening Remarks

Thomas Wheeler

Thomas Wheeler became the 31st Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on November 4, 2013. Chairman Wheeler was appointed by President Barack Obama and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate.

For over three decades, Chairman Wheeler has been involved with new telecommunications networks and services, experiencing the revolution in telecommunications as a policy expert, an advocate, and a businessman. As an entrepreneur, he started or helped start multiple companies offering innovative cable, wireless, and video communications services. He is the only person to be selected to both the Cable Television Hall of Fame and the Wireless Hall of Fame, a fact President Obama joked made him “The Bo Jackson of telecom.”

Prior to joining the FCC, Chairman Wheeler was Managing Director at Core Capital Partners, President and CEO of Shiloh Group, LLC, and co-founder of SmartBrief, the internet’s largest electronic information service for vertical markets. Chairman Wheeler was President of the National Cable Television Association from 1979 to 1984. Following NCTA, Chairman Wheeler was CEO of several high tech companies. From 1992 to 2004, Chairman Wheeler served as President and CEO of the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (CTIA).

Chairman Wheeler wrote *Take Command: Leadership Lessons of the Civil War* (Doubleday, 2000) and *Mr. Lincoln's T-Mails: The Untold Story of How Abraham Lincoln Used the Telegraph to Win the Civil War* (HarperCollins, 2006). His commentaries on current events have been published in the *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Newsday*, and other leading publications.

Presidents Clinton and Bush each appointed Chairman Wheeler a Trustee of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where he served for 12 years. He is also the former Chairman and President of the Foundation for the National Archives and a former board member of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS).

Chairman Wheeler is a proud graduate of The Ohio State University and the recipient of its Alumni Medal. He resides in Washington, D.C.

Thomas Power

Tom Power is the Chief of Staff of the Commerce Department’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration and is currently on detail to the Office of Science and Technology Policy, White House, as Deputy Chief Technology Officer for Telecommunications. Mr. Power provides managerial and policy support for a wide range of agency activities, including Internet policymaking, spectrum, and Recovery Act broadband grants programs.

Prior to joining NTIA in April 2009, Mr. Power served for nine years as General Counsel of Fiberlink Communications in Blue Bell, PA. From 1994 -2000, he served in several supervisory roles at the

Federal Communications Commission before being named Senior Legal Adviser to FCC Chairman William Kennard, advising the chairman on broadband, common carrier, and mass media matters. Before joining the FCC, Mr. Power was a telecommunications and litigation partner at Winston & Strawn. He received his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Virginia.

Panel One: The Vision

Clarence Anthony

As President of the National League of Cities (NLC), Clarence Anthony serves as the chief spokesperson of the oldest and largest organization of municipal officials in the United States, representing more than 1,600 cities and towns, as well as 49 state municipal leagues that are members of NLC. He also served as First Vice President of International Union of Local Authorities and as Founding Treasurer of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the international voice for local governments, for four years. He also served as the Interim Manager for UCLG.

Prior to his appointment at NLC, Mr. Anthony served as President of Anthony Government Solutions, a consulting firm focused on providing solutions to government and private sector organizations on issues affecting the community, strategic visioning, policy development, business development and management restructuring. He holds a Masters Degree in Public Administration with specialization in City Growth Management policy from Florida Atlantic University.

Dionne Mack

Dionne Mack is the Director of the El Paso Public Library (EPPL) system where she has served since January of 2011. She is the first African American to be director of EPPL.

During her tenure there she has increased hours of operation at the branches and has standardized hours and some programs so that the public can expect comparable service at all facilities. She successfully managed the administration of an \$8.4 million federal grant to improve broadband accessibility and the technological infrastructure of El Paso.

Ms. Mack began her career at Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) in 1996 as a librarian and became the director of BPL in 2007. She introduced several innovative projects including the Dweck Center for Contemporary Culture and the African-American Heritage Center.

Ms. Mack received a bachelor's in history and African-American studies from the State University of New York College at Brockport and a master's in Africana studies and a master's of library science from the University at Albany.

Chris Jowaisas

Chris Jowaisas has spent the past 18 years as a librarian tinkering with technology. Emerging from the University of Michigan in 1995 with a master's degree in Information and Library Science, he worked the reference desk at academic libraries before joining the precursor to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 1997, where he worked on implementing the US Library Program that trained and supported public library staff in offering public access computing services. In 2006, he joined the staff at the Texas State Library & Archives Commission to manage grant programs related to public libraries and technology. In 2010, he became the IT Specialist at the Texas Library Association. In 2012, he returned to Seattle and joined the Global Libraries team in a program officer role.

Panel Two: The Data

Larra Clark

Larra Clark is the director of the Program on Networks in the American Library Association's Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP). She also serves as Associate Director of OITP's Program on America's Libraries for the 21st Century. Ms. Clark previously worked in the ALA Office for Research and Statistics and as the manager of media relations, ALA Public Information Office. She completed her MLS at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

Miriam Jorgensen

Miriam Jorgensen is Research Director of the University of Arizona Native Nations Institute and of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. She is also Co-Director of the University of Arizona masters and certificate programs in Indigenous Governance, Affiliate Faculty at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, Adjunct Professor at the Washington University School of Social Work, and Professor of Indigenous Governance at the Melbourne University School of Government.

Dr. Jorgensen's work on Indigenous governance and development in the US, Canada, and Australia has addressed issues as wide-ranging as welfare policy, policing and justice systems, natural resources, cultural stewardship, land ownership, enterprise management, financial education, and philanthropy. Her books include *Structuring Sovereignty: Constitutions of Native Nations* (2014); *The State of the Native Nations: Conditions under US Policies of Self-Determination* (2008); and *Rebuilding Native Nations: Strategies for Governance and Development* (2007). Dr. Jorgensen received her BA in economics from Swarthmore College, MA in human sciences from the University of Oxford, and MPP in international development and PhD in political economics from Harvard University.

John B. Horrigan

John B. Horrigan is an independent communications and technology policy consultant. Dr. Horrigan's work focuses on consumers' adoption and use of information and communications technologies (ICT), as well as ICTs' impacts on states and localities. He is most recently author of a landmark report "The Essentials of Connectivity," which makes recommendations on how to accelerate broadband adoption and usage by examining broadband users enrolled in Comcast's Internet Essentials program. He also authored, for the Knight Foundation, "Adoption of Information and Communications Technologies in the United States: Narrowing Gaps, New Challenges."

Dr. Horrigan has served in senior positions at the Pew Research Center, the Joint Center for Political & Economic Studies, and TechNet. At the Federal Communications Commission in 2009-10, he led development of the broadband adoption and usage portion of the National Broadband Plan. Dr. Horrigan has a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Texas at Austin and an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia.

Panel Three: Moving Forward

Linda Lord

Since 2009, Linda Lord has served as the Maine State Librarian in which she oversees many of the state's library programs and projects. Prior to serving as the State Librarian, she has worked as the Deputy and Acting State Librarian in Maine. Ms. Lord also has experience working with the Maine

Department of Education as Distance Learning Project Manager and Instructional Technology Coordinator. Ms. Lord spent 16 years working at the Mount View Junior/Senior High School in Thorndike, Maine as the Library/Media Specialist and was awarded the Maine Education Media Association's Library Media Specialist of the Year in 1990.

During her career, Ms. Lord has worked with many commissions and taskforces dealing with technology, connectivity, and telecommunications including serving at the American Library Association's E-rate Task Force Chair in which she have become familiar with E-rate projects in other states. In 2013 she was awarded the Maine Development Foundation award for Leadership in Education, Technology and Leadership.

Ms. Lord received her B.A. from Colby College and a M.L.S from the University of Maine.

Eric Frederick

Eric Frederick joined the Connected Nation team in July 2011 as the State Program Manager for Connect Michigan. He has built and led a nationally recognized team that has produced the nation's first Certified Connected Community. The success of the Connect Michigan program has created communication opportunities to share Connect Michigan's success across the CN family, across Michigan, and into neighboring states.

Prior to joining Connect Michigan, Mr. Frederick worked for LSL Planning, Inc. as a Project Planner. In this role, he was responsible for comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance development, transportation planning, the development of specialized Cost of Community Services Studies, economic development and grants related projects, all for various cities throughout the state of Michigan and the mid-west. He holds a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from Michigan State University and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Planning and a minor in Geographic Information Systems from Northern Michigan University.

Gary Wasdin

Gary A. Wasdin is the Executive Director of Omaha Public Library. Since 2010 he has led the work of 12 busy libraries and an active and growing library foundation. Mr. Wasdin writes a monthly column for the Omaha World Herald on public libraries and serves on the board for the Omaha Summer Arts Festival and the Metro Omaha Prime Timers association. Mr. Wasdin is also a Board Member with the Urban Libraries Council.

Previously Mr. Wasdin was the Assistant Dean of libraries at the University of Alabama, and the Director of Staff Development at the New York Public Library. He has an MLS and an MA in English from Southern Connecticut State University, and a BA in Theater from Georgia Regents University-Augusta.

Mr. Wasdin was born and raised in Jacksonville, FL. He and his partner Luis have 3 children, 2 grandsons, and the world's cutest dog, Chico.

Closing Remarks

Reed Hundt

Reed E. Hundt currently is the Chief Executive Officer of the Coalition for Green Capital, a non-profit group that promotes the development of national and state green banks. He was Chairman of the FCC

from 1993 to 1997, and he was on Barack Obama's 2008-09 presidential transition team. He sits on the boards of directors of Intel Corporation; ASSIA, a communications software firm; SmartSky Networks, a wireless firm; and Level Money, a financial services firm. He also is on the board of the United Negro College Fund, the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority of Connecticut, and the Advanced Energy Economy Institute. He serves as an adviser to the Yale School of Management; Halo Neuroscience; DataMi; and Mytonomy, a social network for college planning.

Mr. Hundt has published several books including *You Say You Want a Revolution: A Story of Information Age Politics*, *In China's Shadow: The Crisis of American Entrepreneurship*, *The Politics of Abundance: How Technology can Fix the Budget, Revive the American Dream and Establish Obama's Legacy*, and *Zero Hour: Time to Build the Clean power Platform*.