



Center for Railway
Research and Education

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Railway Management Certificate Program XX

Week/Module 3: Railway Technology, Research, and Development

September 22 - 26, 2025

Presenters

BIOGRAPHY: Gregg Mitchell

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Gregg Mitchell currently serves as Executive Vice President of Leasing & Services for Trinity Industries, based in Dallas, TX. Prior to his current role, he served as Chief Commercial Officer from November 2019 through January 2024.

Trinity Industries, Inc., headquartered in Dallas, Texas, owns businesses that are leading providers of rail transportation products and services in North America. Our rail-related businesses market their railcar products and services under the trade name TrinityRail ®. The TrinityRail integrated platform provides railcar leasing and logistics services, to include newly developed digital technologies, as well as railcar manufacturing and maintenance services.

Gregg joined Trinity industries in 2007 as President of Trinity Logistics Group, Inc., delivering premier, multi-industry logistics services to internal Trinity Industries business units and the external market with consistent reliability, safety and innovation. In 2010, he was named President of Trinity Highway Products, where he led the only full-line manufacturer of highway guardrail and crash cushions in the United States. This included the subsidiary of Energy Absorption Systems, Inc., the leading provider of crash cushions, truck-mounted attenuators and other transportation related products. He served as President from 2010-November 2019 and Chairman of Trinity Highway Products & Logistics Group, Inc. from September 2018–November 2019.

Gregg has more than 25 years of experience across major retail and manufacturing organizations. Prior to Trinity, he served as Senior Vice President, Supply Chain for Glazer's Corporation where he led all "end-to-end" Supply Chain Operations. Prior to Glazer's, Gregg was Vice President of Gap International Logistics where he led all logistics strategic operations related to Gap Brands across European, Canadian and Asian operations.

Gregg graduated with a BS Degree in Business from Missouri Southern University. He currently lives in Celina, Texas, with his wife Christi and family.

He is a board member of RailPulse, a coalition promoting digital technology in the rail industry. He has served as the Chairman of the Highway Users Alliance.

BIOGRAPHY: Kevin Poet

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Kevin Poet joined Trinity as Executive Vice President of Support Services in 2020. In 2021, Kevin's role expanded to include Rail Product Manufacturing and Maintenance responsibilities. His role today is Executive Vice President of Operations and Support overseeing all manufacturing and support organizations.

He came to Trinity from Charlotte, North Carolina, where he served as the Vice President of Operations for the Power Generation business for Siemens AG. In 2019, Kevin led the North American Operations at Siemens Energy, creating a leading company in conventional power generation and power supply from renewable energies.

Prior to joining Siemens in 2016, Kevin worked in numerous roles with Ford Motor Company and Visteon including running a two million square foot plant with over \$1 billion in annual revenue. Kevin's 26-year career at Ford Motor Company began as an Industrial Engineer, Process Engineer and Systems Design Engineer.



BIOGRAPHY: Aaron Gooding

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Aaron Gooding is currently serving as Senior Vice President of Trinity Rail Maintenance of Operations. He oversees five U.S. factories and all MRU and terminal operations, managing approximately 1,400 employees.

Previously, Aaron held multiple leadership roles at Siemens, including Head of Gas and Steam Turbines in Charlotte and Plant Manager in Fort Payne. He notably led Project Cardinal, establishing a major gas turbine manufacturing facility from the ground up. His career began with engineering roles at Rolls Royce

Aerospace / Allison Engine Company.

Aaron holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (1995–1999) and is known for his customer-focused mindset, collaborative leadership style, and passion for innovation. Outside of work, he enjoys snowboarding, cycling, motorcycles, and woodworking, and cherishes time with his wife Maria, and daughter Mia.



TRINITY INDUSTRIES

BIOGRAPHY: Jeremiah Handley

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Jeremiah Handley is Vice President of Mobile Repair at Trinity Industries, a strategic leader with over 17 years of experience in the railcar industry. Known for his ability to stabilize and grow complex operations, Jeremiah has consistently delivered strong business results through process standardization, technology deployment, and ERP system integration.

His career spans multiple leadership roles, including Plant Manager, Director of Business Operations, and Director of Production Planning at Trinity Rail Products (TRP), as well as key positions in Portfolio Management at Trinity Industries Leasing Company (TILC). He holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science Engineering with a minor in

Supply Chain Management from Michigan State University.

Jeremiah is recognized for cultivating a top-tier safety culture, growing business volumes by over 75% in three years, and developing a multi-mode business model to navigate market fluctuations. Outside of work, he is a dedicated coach and mentor in youth sports.



BIOGRAPHY: Jack Todd

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Jack Todd serves as Vice President of Public Affairs for Trinity Industries, Inc., a diversified industrial company that owns market-leading businesses providing products and services to the energy, transportation, chemical, and construction sectors.

Mr. Todd's primary role is to lead and manage all public affairs, government relations, and internal and external communication efforts for the Company. He focuses his time on federal and state legislative and regulatory matters that directly impact manufacturing and conducting business throughout the Trinity enterprise.

Mr. Todd has been at Trinity for more than 15 years and also serves as the President of Trinity Industries Employee Political Action Committee. He previously served for 20 years as an officer in the United States Navy, retiring in 2006. During his time in the Navy, Mr. Todd managed public affairs and media, serving in numerous foreign theaters.

Mr. Todd currently serves as: Southwest Regional Vice Chair, NAM, National Public Affairs Steering Committee; Board of Directors, American Tort Reform Association; Executive Board Member, Texas Association of Manufacturing; Board of Directors, American Maritime Partnership; Board Member, Oklahoma State Chamber; Government Relations Committee, American Traffic Safety Services Association; Board Member, Texas Taxpayers & Research Association; Freight Advisory Committee member, Texas Department of Transportation.

Mr. Todd has a B.A. in History from Texas A&M University and a M.A. in Journalism from The American University. He has been married to his wife, Connie, for 27 years and has three children: Jake, Samantha, and Jessica.



BIOGRAPHY: Josh Oakley

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Josh Oakley is currently serving as the Plant Manager for 192 at Trinity and leads a team of 300 direct reports. He is a seasoned operations leader with over 18 years of progressive experience in the rail manufacturing industry. Josh has spent 16 years with the company, holding various leadership roles across multiple business units. His career at Trinity includes positions such as Senior Director of Operations, Senior Director of Fleet Maintenance (Leasing), Assistant Plant Manager, and various analyst roles in lean, finance, operations, and quality.

Josh holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M Commerce and an MBA in Finance from Southern Methodist University. His educational background complements his strategic and analytical approach to leadership, problem-solving, and continuous improvement.

Known for his ability to build trust across all levels of the organization, Josh is a results-oriented leader who excels in driving operational efficiency, reducing waste, and enhancing product quality and yield. He is highly collaborative and effective at influencing cross-functional teams to solve complex business challenges.

Outside of work, Josh is a dedicated father to his daughter, Savannah, and enjoys hobbies such as hunting and golf.

BIOGRAPHY: Jerry Martin

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Jerry Martin currently serves as the Senior Vice President, Leasing Operations for Trinity Industries and is currently involved in strategic initiatives improving the new railcar operating margin and upgrading the Trinity Asset Management system. He began this role in 2025 overseeing the performance of the TrinityRail ® lease fleet.

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Jerry joined Trinity Industries in 2012 as an analyst in the Financial Planning and Analysis group. He was then promoted to Director of Planning overseeing the production planning for new railcar production in 2014, Vice President of Sales Operations in 2018, then Vice President, Portfolio Management in 2022. Prior to joining Trinity Industries, Jerry served as an external auditor for Deloitte & Touche.

Jerry received his Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Master of Accountancy from Brigham Young University. He has been married to his wife, Sara, for 14 years and they are the proud parents of two children.



BIOGRAPHY: Mike Frey

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Mike Frey has been a driving force at Trinity Industries since 2015, currently serving as Senior Vice President of Sales for the Energy, Construction, and Metals business unit. With over a decade at Trinity and three years in his current role, Mike leads a team of seven direct reports, including directors and managers across sales and business development.

He has more than 25 years of experience in transportation and logistics, with a strong foundation in rail operations and supply chain strategy. Prior to joining Trinity, Mike held leadership roles at Norfolk Southern Corporation, Red Gold Inc., and Celanese Corporation, where he managed complex logistics and strategic initiatives across North America.

Mike earned his Bachelor of Science in Social & Behavioral Science from Indiana University in 1997. He also holds advanced certifications in Lean Manufacturing from Purdue University and Supply Chain Management from Texas Christian University.

Known for being action-oriented, highly organized, and customer-focused, Mike is a strategic thinker and effective communicator. His deep expertise in rail transportation and logistics has consistently delivered operational improvements and customer value.

Outside of work, Mike is a committed family man who has been married to his wife, Jenni, for 20 years. Together, they are proud parents to two daughters—Stella (16) and Sterling (11).



TRINITY INDUSTRIES

BIOGRAPHY: Michael Bruce

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Michael Bruce, SVP of Services, *TrinityRail*, is a supply chain leader currently responsible for leading RSI Logistics digital services to drive optimization and efficiency across rail shipper supply chains. Michael has 22 years of experience in the rail industry, including 20 years at BNSF Railway, holding key leadership positions in marketing, sales, hub operations, network strategy, and business development.

Throughout his career, he has been instrumental in developing products and services aimed at positioning rail for sustainability and growth in rapidly growing markets.

Michael holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from Texas A&M University and MBA from University of Texas, Arlington.



BIOGRAPHY: A.D. McKisic

Prepared By: Public Affairs



A.D. McKisic serves as the Chief Engineer for Trinity and has over thirty-five years of experience in the railroad supply industry. This experience includes leadership positions at a component supplier focused on the dynamic performance of freight cars (A. Stucki Company) and a leading railcar builder and lessor (TrinityRail). TrinityRail manufactures, owns, leases and manages a complete line of rail freight and tank cars, including cars used to transport energy products.

He currently holds the position of Vice President, Chief Engineer at Trinity Rail where he is responsible for the technical oversight of designs, including testing and analysis, and the technical interface with government agencies (FRA, PHMSA, NTSB, Transport Canada and TSB Canada) and the Association of American Railroads. He has served, or currently serves, on numerous technical committees and task forces, including the AAR Tank Car, Mechanical, and Research Committees, the Railway Supply Institute (RSI) Committee on Tank Cars, the Chlorine Institute Transportation Issues Team, and the American Petroleum Institute (API) Rail Standards Committee.

He holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Mechanical Engineering from West Virginia University and is licensed as a Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania.



TRINITY INDUSTRIES

BIOGRAPHY: Amy Hamilton

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Amy Hamilton has worked at Trinity Industries since 2010. She is currently a Sr. Manager in Engineering, overseeing Regulatory Compliance and Reliability.

Prior to this role, she worked in New Car Engineering and then served as the Director of Fleet Engineering and Reliability, supporting a fleet of 130,000 railcars. She represents Trinity on the AAR Tank Car Executive Committee and the RSI Committee on Tank Cars Technical Sub-committee. She also serves as co-chair of the Women of Trinity employee resource group.

Amy earned bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering from Southern Methodist University.



BIOGRAPHY: Matthew Supan

Prepared By: Public Affairs



Matthew Supan is currently serving as the Plant Manager at TrinityRail in Fort Worth, where he oversees daily operations at the company's largest tank car maintenance facility.

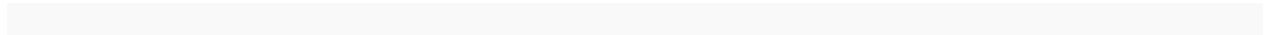
Prior to joining TrinityRail, Matthew held multiple leadership roles at Siemens Energy in Charlotte, North Carolina, including Manufacturing Operations Manager and Manufacturing Engineering Manager. There, he led teams of engineers and technicians in the production of nuclear and fossil valves, managed a \$15 million operating budget, and implemented data-driven systems that improved efficiency, reduced costs, and enhanced product quality. His work in rebranding and streamlining operations led to significant

revenue growth and cost savings.

Matthew also brings entrepreneurial experience as the founder of Supan Brothers Suspension, a niche business specializing in shock absorber design, sales, and service for motorsports. His engineering innovations and customer engagement strategies have built lasting relationships in the racing community.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Technology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and is proficient in a wide range of engineering and business software.

Outside of work, Matthew is an avid dirt bike racer and outdoor enthusiast. He spends weekends exploring the trails and deserts of Texas with his two sons, sharing a passion for riding and building anything with wheels.





Katie Farmer

President and Chief Executive Officer

BNSF Work History

Katie Farmer serves BNSF as President and Chief Executive Officer.

Katie Farmer was appointed president and chief executive officer in January 2021. She holds a bachelor's degree and a master's degree from Texas Christian University. Katie has been with BNSF for 31 years, having joined Burlington Northern in 1992 as a management trainee. She has held a variety of positions in sales, marketing, finance, customer solutions and network operations. Prior to her current role, Katie served as executive vice president, Operations since 2018.



Education

- Bachelor of Business Administration, Texas Christian University
- Master of Business Administration, Texas Christian University

BNSF

BNSF Railway is one of North America's leading freight transportation companies operating on 32,500 route miles of track in 28 states and three Canadian provinces. BNSF is one of the top transporters of consumer goods, grain and agricultural products, low-sulfur coal, and industrial goods such as petroleum, chemicals, housing materials, food and beverages. BNSF's shipments help feed, clothe, supply, and power American homes and businesses every day. BNSF and its employees have developed one of the most technologically advanced and efficient railroads in the industry. We work continuously to improve the value of the safety, service, energy, and environmental benefits we provide to our customers and the communities we serve.



Craig Morehouse

Vice President, South Region Operations

BNSF Work History

Craig Morehouse serves BNSF as vice president, South Region Operations. In this role, he is responsible for operations across BNSF's Chicago, Kansas, Red River, Southwest and California divisions.

Craig joined BNSF in 2006 as a management trainee, and subsequently served for 11 years in a variety of leadership roles with increasing responsibility in Engineering. His last Engineering role was general director of line maintenance in California Division before transitioning to general director of transportation for the Twin Cities Division. He was later promoted to serve as general manager of BNSF's Northwest Division. Prior to his current position, Craig served as vice president, North Region Operations.



Education

- Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Michigan Technological University
- Master of Business Administration from Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota

Family/Hobbies

- Craig enjoys boating with his family during the summer months.
- In winter, Craig enjoys downhill skiing and snowmobiling.

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Jim Tylick

Assistant Vice President, Passenger Operations



BNSF Work History

Jim Tylick is assistant vice president, Passenger Operations, for BNSF Railway since April 2021. In this role, he is responsible for operating and capital planning, administration and safety management for all passenger rail service operating on the BNSF network.

Jim first joined BNSF in 2007 as a trainmaster in Lincoln, Neb, and then soon took a similar role in Omaha, Neb. He would later move into other Transportation management positions with increasing responsibility in Kansas City. In 2015, Jim moved to San Bernardino where he served in superintendent roles prior to serving as general director, Transportation, in Denver, Colo., with the Powder River Division. Jim most recently served as assistant vice president, Merchandise Service Design, for BNSF Railway in March 2019.

Education

- Bachelor of Supply Chain Management and Marketing, Northeastern University

Affiliations/Community Involvement

- *ex officio Board Member*, Front Range Passenger Rail District
- *ex officio Board Member*, Big Sky Passenger Rail Authority

Family/Hobbies

- Jim enjoys spending time with his wife, Trisha, and their two kids, Oliver and Lydia.
- In his time off, Jim enjoys traveling and outdoor activities.

BNSF

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Brandon Archambeau

Assistant Vice President, Merchandise Service Design



BNSF Work History

Brandon Archambeau was appointed assistant vice president, Merchandise Service Design in 2023. In this role, Brandon is responsible for the design and tactical support of BNSF's merchandise network plan, as well as oversight of merchandise equipment utilized across the system.

Brandon started his career at BNSF as a conductor in 2001 on the Powder River Division before serving in several field lead positions in Chicago. In 2006, he moved to Fort Worth to serve in Transportation and Service Design management roles. He later served in the general director of transportation role in both Lincoln, Nebraska and Fort Worth, Texas. Brandon was promoted to general manager of the Montana Division prior to his most recent role of general manager of the Northwest Division.

Education

- Bachelor of Business Administration, University of Texas at Arlington

Family/Hobbies

- Brandon and his wife, Cyndi, live in the Fort Worth, Texas area.
- Outside of work, Brandon enjoys traveling, exploring the outdoors and cooking.

BNSF

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French Thompson, III

General Director, Public Infrastructure and Investments

French Thompson is currently General Director, Public Infrastructure and Investments for BNSF Railway, a role he assumed in 2022. The role encompasses leading BNSF's efforts and engagement with public agency investments in transportation infrastructure that impacts BNSF Railway, inclusive of public private partnerships, passenger rail expansion, publicly funded projects, high speed rail and intermodal goods movement infrastructure. French also leads BNSF's Mountain West engineering team delivering capital expansion and economic development infrastructure.

Before being appointed to his current role, French served as BNSF's General Director Commuter Construction where he led BNSF's Engineering Services Team on the west coast, focusing on freight and commuter/passenger rail expansion including California High Speed Rail, Metrolink, Sound Transit and Amtrak intercity routes. Additionally, French managed BNSF's capital expansion and economic development plans across a multi-state territory from Vancouver, BC to San Diego, Ca. led multi-disciplinary teams in the creation and facilitation of strategic project development, program management and advisory services for internal and external stakeholders.

French began his career with BNSF in the early 2000's and progressed through roles of increasing responsibility positions including Project Engineer; Construction Roadmaster; Manager, Public Projects and Manager, Engineering Services and Director, Public Private Partnerships and Director, Public Projects and System Design

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Applied Physics, Morehouse College
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, University of Michigan

Affiliations/Community Involvement

- Member, AREMA
- Committee Member/Research Partner, TRB, NAS - NCHRP
- Executive Pastor, Freedom Church, Bedford, TX

Personal

French is an avid photographer and enjoys the culinary arts. He married his wife, Katherine in 2010 and they have two children French IV and Rebecca.

BNSF

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Craig Rasmussen

Assistant Vice President, Engineering Services and Structures



BNSF Work History

Craig Rasmussen serves as assistant vice president, Engineering Services and Structures and has held this role since its creation in 2016. Under Craig's leadership, the team continues to evolve to meet changing business demands aimed at providing safe and reliable infrastructure to support BNSF's operations.

Craig's team is responsible for a wide breadth of engineering functions, including:

- Design, inspection, maintenance and construction of BNSF's approximately 13,500 bridges (including 29 moveable) & 99 tunnels.
- Planning, design, and delivery of BNSF's expansion program; including mainline / route expansion and Intermodal Hub expansion.
- Track design for BNSF expansion & revision, as well as assisting customers with economic development projects.
- Facilities engineering including delivery of buildings, electrical, compressed air, pavement, and various other site maintenance items, in addition to operation of BNSF's taconite transloading operation.
- Public Projects including all agency-delivered projects touching BNSF, as well as any projects involving public funds and/or passenger rail projects.

Craig joined BNSF in 2005 as project manager, Engineering Services, in Minneapolis. In 2006, he was promoted to manager, Public Projects, then to manager, Engineering, in 2009. In 2010, he was promoted to division engineer for the Twin Cities Division and then promoted to general director, Line Maintenance for the Montana Division at the end of 2011. In 2013, he was named assistant vice president, Structures, serving there until his current role was created in 2016. Craig is a licensed Professional Engineer.

Education

- Executive Masters of Business Administration, Texas Christian University
- Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, University of North Dakota

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Ronnie Johnson

General Director, Continuous Improvement

BNSF Work History

Ronnie leads BNSF's intermodal continuous improvement team as well as BNSF's Network Strategy Design and Innovation teams. Ronnie has responsibility for system hub operations, strategic hub planning and positioning, process development and deployment, field technology application and change management.

Ronnie started with BNSF in February 1998 as a switchman in Amarillo, Texas. He held roles across BNSF in Transportation Operations, Grain Operations, Intermodal Business Unit Operations, and Hub Operations. Prior to his current role, he served as General Director Intermodal & Automotive Business Unit and General Director of Transportation for the Red River and Heartland Divisions. Prior responsibilities include Regional Director Hub Operation Southeast with responsibilities for our Intermodal Hub and Automotive facilities in Texas, Kansas, New Mexico, Tennessee, Missouri, Colorado, and Nebraska.

Education

- Texas A&M University graduate, 1990

BNSF

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DAVID FERRYMAN



With over 30 years of executive experience in railroad infrastructure, David is a seasoned industry leader uniquely positioned to provide unparalleled consultancy services to companies seeking to thrive in the rail sector. Throughout his career, he has been instrumental in driving transformative change and delivering exceptional value to organizations across the industry.

As an influential leader, he has spearheaded numerous strategic initiatives that have propelled companies to new levels of success. His expertise lies in leveraging industry insights and innovative solutions to address complex challenges and capitalize on emerging opportunities. He has a proven track record of delivering tangible results, from driving operational efficiencies to fostering sustainable growth.

David's involvement with industry organizations, where he has served as a speaker and thought leader, underscores his commitment to advancing the field and sharing insights with fellow professionals. This engagement allows him to stay at the forefront of industry trends and best practices, ensuring that his clients benefit from the latest innovations and strategies.

His approach is rooted in collaboration, strategic vision, and a relentless commitment to excellence. He thrives on guiding organizations through periods of transformation, helping them navigate the railroad industry's ever-evolving landscape with confidence and agility.

He has implemented the principles of Precision Scheduled Railroading (PSR), that he learned from the industry's best. Whether it's optimizing asset utilization, prioritizing cost control, enhancing safety protocols, or driving revenue growth, while producing exceptional service, he is dedicated to delivering impactful solutions that drive long-term value for his clients.

David is dedicated to accelerating growth and production improvements through foresight and hands-on engagement. His approach involves conducting comprehensive analyses to identify operational, strategic, and financial gaps within organizations, followed by the development of tailored plans to drive sustainable business transformations.

His commitment to fostering professional growth extends beyond the workplace, as he actively engages with educational institutions to enhance student internships and development programs, nurturing a pipeline of future professionals prepared to contribute to industry innovation. He is excited about the opportunity to bring his collaborative spirit and architectural leadership to contribute to industry transformations and responsible growth initiatives.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2024

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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY WELCOMES RON BATORY

EAST LANSING, MI — Michigan State University's [Center for Railway Research and Education](#) announces Hon. Ronald L. Batory assumes the role of the Edward A. Burkhardt Chair in Railway Management & Executive Director, to further provide leadership, vision, strategy, and direction to the center's program starting October 1, 2024.

Batory's experience now spans over 52 years in the railway industry fulfilling an array of leadership and advisory capacities in both private and public sectors, thus bringing extensive expertise and knowledge of the full breadth of North American railways to this role. The CRRE, housed in MSU's [Broad College of Business](#), will foster continued growth and recognition as a leading center for railway management research and education.

"I'm both humbled and honored to serve the Center for Railway Research and Education," said Ron Batory. "Contributing through an academic venue is a unique opportunity to collaborate with growing rail transportation talent and passion residing in our logistics system."

In this role, Batory will help fulfill the vision of the center's benefactor Ed Burkhardt, whose generous gift established the Burkhardt Professor in Railway Management, a key component of the center's mission to bring innovative leadership and new thinking to the industry.

"I look forward to Ron's experience and knowledge as the center develops new and improved educational programs," said Nick Little, CRRE director. "Expanding the center's relationships with key rail industry leaders will provide students and staff with valuable information and opportunities."

The CRRE is delighted to welcome Batory in this capacity, renewing his relationship with MSU. Batory was once a member of the center's advisory group establishing the Railway Management Certificate Program in 2007. Since then, hundreds of continuing education participants from all parts of the North American railway industry and selected areas around the world have completed the program and enhanced their knowledge and career opportunities.

ABOUT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Michigan State University has been advancing the common good with uncommon will for more than 165 years. One of the world's leading research universities, MSU pushes the boundaries of discovery to make a better, safer, healthier world for all while providing life-changing opportunities to a diverse and inclusive academic community through more than 200 programs of study in 17 degree-granting colleges.

ABOUT THE BROAD COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The Broad College of Business creates and disseminates knowledge through collaboration, developing global transformational leaders who positively impact organizations and society.



RON BATORY BIOGRAPHY

Ronald L. Batory is a career professional with more than 52 years of associated experience in the railroad industry. He spent the first 23 years of his career working for both eastern and western Class I railroads in addition to serving along with a court appointed Trustee's successful oversight of a regional railroad bankruptcy.

Then in 1994 he was appointed President of The Belt Railway Company of Chicago, a multiple owned subsidiary of then nine competing Class I carriers. His leadership success of serving their needs in Chicago Gateway led to CSX and Norfolk Southern Corporation later recruiting him to Consolidated Rail Corporation in preparation of their Surface Transportation Board approved partitioning of the eastern carrier and establishing what is now commonly known as the Shared Assets Areas.

Accomplishment of that unique task in providing a plane of equality for joint competition later favored him in being appointed to his last position of President and Chief Operating Officer for the entire corporate entity.

Upon his retirement in 2017 he pursued public service in Washington, D.C., which resulted in a Presidential nomination and unanimous consent by the United States Senate to become the 14th Administrator of The Federal Railroad Administration.

Ron is a graduate of Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan, with a B.A. degree along with an M.A. degree from Eastern Michigan University. He continues to serve on various governing and advisory boards associated within the sectors of both industry and education.

Ron resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with his wife, Barbara.



VALERII (VAL) KUCHERENKO

A commercially savvy international sales, marketing, and supply chain professional with a focus on driving excellence and enhancing competitive advantage. With extensive experience across various levels of the maritime transportation and supply chain industry, I've honed a broad skill set in leading Fortune 150 and CPG companies. Over 20 years, I've built a strong track record in designing new strategies and leading change initiatives that have led to significant improvements. I have deep knowledge of local markets in North America and Europe, having held various roles across these regions. Multinationally experienced professional with specialized M.I.S.E. (Maersk International Shipping Education) background gathered in Copenhagen, Denmark and MBA from McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada. I have successfully completed five international assignments across the USA, Spain, Italy, Russia, and Canada.

MARYCLARA JONES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - CORPORATE STRATEGY & TECHNOLOGY



MaryClara is the steward of MxV Rail strategic plans. As executive director of Corporate Strategy and Technology she formulates strategy with the leadership team and oversees tactical initiatives. “MC” led design and construction of MxV Rail’s new facilities.

She was an exchange engineer at Kansas City Southern in 2019. Born and raised in Pueblo, MC has degrees in mathematics, engineering, and an MBA.

SCOTT CUMMINGS
AVP – RESEARCH AND INNOVATION



Scott manages the AAR's Strategic Research Initiatives program and has been with MxV Rail since 1997. Over the years, he has been a visiting professional at Norfolk Southern Railway, authored 100 technical research publications, and received multiple best paper awards.

As a leader in innovation, Scott helps the industry set its research agenda decades in advance and supports university programs.

MATT DEGEORGE
SENIOR ENGINEER III



Matt is a mechanical engineer in the Vehicle/Track Interaction and Instrumentation group. He is involved in laboratory and ontrack testing in a variety of capacities. He has traveled domestically and internationally to test freight and passenger equipment and has been involved in several derailment investigations.

Matt has also authored several FRA reports on impact testing and other technical research publications.

DUANE OTTER SCIENTIST



Duane is a pillar in MxV Rail's Rail Infrastructure group. He has decades of experience at MxV Rail and is a self-proclaimed rail nut.

Duane specializes in the testing and analysis of bridges and has authored many technical research publications. He is heavily involved in large rail conferences and has traveled all over the world to analyze and study tracks and bridges in a variety of environments.

AARON HOWARD
OPERATIONS MANAGER – TRACK & INFRASTRUCTURE



Aaron spent much of his career at MxV Rail working at the Security & Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC). They are responsible for offering extensive, immersive, and realistic training that includes full-scale scenarios to help first responders be better prepared for surface transportation emergencies.

Since the move of MxV Rail to PuebloPlex, Aaron has changed roles and was responsible for executing the buildout plan for the new tracks and roads. He is heavily involved in keeping the tracks maintained and within specifications for standard vehicle testing.

KERRY JONES
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR II



Kerry is a metallurgist with 31 years of experience in the industry. At MxV Rail, he is responsible for the study and analysis of rail and mechanical components at the Keeler Laboratories.

Kerry is a graduate from Colorado School of Mines and enjoys hiking Colorado's list of 14,000 foot mountains. He currently has two left to climb out of 58.

BRITTNEY ARANDA
SENIOR MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



Brit is an essential part of the MxV Rail marketing team. She helps plan and organize the vast majority of MxV Rail events and tours.

She is responsible for being one of the faces of the company onsite and at rail conferences. Brit is a Pueblo, Colorado native and is heavily involved in the company's community outreach programs.