

## Board of Directors Biographical Information

Innovation Network's directors are:

[Paul F. Brinkman, Esq.](#)

[Leila Fitzpatrick](#)

[Ellen Forte](#)

[Kyle Reis](#)

[Tracey Rutnik](#)

[Beth Schaffer](#)

[Scott Scrivner](#)

### **Paul F. Brinkman, Esq.**

*Quinn, Emanuel, Urquhart & Sullivan, LLP (Washington, DC)*

Based in Quinn Emanuel's Washington, D.C. office, Mr. Brinkman leads the firm's Section 337 patent and trade secret litigation practice before the U.S. International Trade Commission. Described by IAM Patent 1000 as a "superb thinker and writer," his work before the ITC has led to orders excluding competitor's infringing products from the United States and settlements valued at over \$1 billion. On the defensive side, he recently helped persuade the ITC to decline even to institute an investigation of his client.

Paul has been profiled as a key participant in the global smartphone patent wars, but has worked on a wide variety of technologies as simple as faucet designs, blackpowder rifles and paper towel dispensers, and as complex as light microelectromechanical systems, capacitive touch sensors and RF switches. Chambers calls his work before the ITC "unflappable, measured, and technically superb," while IAM Patent 1000 praises his "calm demeanor – a serious strength in the fast-paced confines of ITC litigation."

Mr. Brinkman served on the Steering Committee of the D.C. Bar's International Section from 2006-2009, is a life fellow of the American Bar Foundation, and was co-chair of the American Bar Association's Customs Law Committee from 2007-2009. He is currently listed in Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, IAM, and The Best Lawyers in America, and is nationally ranked in Chambers' guides as a leading Section 337 practitioner.

Paul serves as board chair for Education For Hope and on the board of directors of Innovation Network. Prior to his legal career, he worked for two U.S. senators.

## **Leila Fitzpatrick**

*CulturalDC (Washington, DC)*

Leila Fitzpatrick is director of advisory services at CulturalDC, a nonprofit organization that makes space for art in Washington, DC. Leila oversees the organization's advisory services, including consulting, technical assistance and the residency programs at Flashpoint and Source.

In her current role, Leila helps arts organizations tackle the challenge of planning for new facilities, and she helps real estate professionals thoughtfully and effectively incorporate the arts into development projects. Clients have included: NoMa Business Improvement District; Young Playwrights' Theater; Horning Brothers; Pyramid Atlantic; The Cohen Companies; and Bozzuto Development.

Leila served as Deputy Director from 2004 until 2011, overseeing internal operations, including all of CulturalDC's programs, finance and human resources. Leila played a key role in planning and creating Flashpoint and Source – from outlining the multi-tenant concept to spurring the expanded professional development opportunities intrinsic to Flashpoint's incubator model. Leila has also managed promotional programs such as 3rd Thursday events in the 7th Street Arts District, Art in Vacant Windows and Art-O-Matic.

Leila came to CulturalDC in 2000 from the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution. Over the years, Leila has worked with any number of local arts and nonprofit organizations. She has served on grants panels for the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County Arts Council and the Arts Council of Fairfax County. She has acted as a juror for the DC Shorts Film Festival and is an active member of ArtTable, a professional organization for female executives in the visual arts.

Leila graduated magna cum laude from Bowdoin College with a Bachelor of Arts in Art History and Russian. When she's not busy with work, Leila can be found juggling her 2-year-old twins. She lives with her husband and two daughters in Washington, DC.

## **Ellen Forte**

*edCount, LLC (Washington, DC)*

Ellen Forte is the CEO and Chief Scientist at edCount, LLC. With two decades' experience conducting research, providing advice, and reporting on standards, assessments, and accountability, Dr. Forte is a respected authority on assisting state and local education agencies in the successful interpretation and implementation of education policies. Dr. Forte currently serves as the Chief Validity Evaluator for the National Centers and State Collaborative, the chief policy advisor to the National Deaf Education Center at Gallaudet University, and the chief technical advisor to the Puerto Rico Department of Education.

Dr. Forte serves on the Technical Advisory Committees for Idaho, Louisiana, Montana, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, and Wyoming. She is a member of the Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Standards Committee and the editorial boards for Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice, the National Council on Measurement in

Education newsletter, the NCLB Advisor, and the “No Child Left Behind Alert” published by Eli Research. Between 2006 and 2008, she directed the State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards for English Language Learners through the Council of Chief State School Officers.

Dr. Forte earned her doctorate in Educational Psychology from the University of Iowa, where a fellowship from the Iowa Testing Program supported her research on validity issues related to the measurement of student achievement. She has previously served as the Title I Evaluator for the Connecticut State Department of Education, directed statewide assessment projects for testing vendors, and was the Director of Student Assessment for Baltimore City Public Schools.

## **Kyle Reis**

*TechSoup Global (Ridgewood, NJ)*

Kyle Reis recently joined TechSoup as Senior Director of Global Data Services and East Coast Representative. Kyle comes from the Ford Foundation, where he last served as manager of strategy and operations. In this role, he worked with senior leadership to implement the foundation’s program operations’ strategies and identified innovative practices, tools and resources for grant makers. He joined the foundation more than a quarter century ago. During his tenure at Ford, he held more than a dozen different roles in program, operations and administration.

Kyle has a long affiliation with the philanthropic sector. Over the years, he has provided leadership to the foundation community and regularly strives to help shape the future of the sector by communicating with sector leaders, encouraging emerging voices and identifying creative ways to use technology and other tools to advance social change. Kyle previously served as board co-chair of the [Grants Managers Network](#), a 2,500-member association of foundation grants managers. He sits on the National Advisory Committee of [Project Streamline](#), a collaborative effort of grant-making and grant-seeking organizations trying to improve grant application and reporting practices. He was also an original member of the Advisory Committee that built out the concept of the equivalency determination information repository that eventually became [NGOSource](#). With an eye toward the future of philanthropy, Kyle has a keen interest in the cross-pollination of sector practices to advance social change. He is considering, for example, ways in which the nonprofit sector can better incorporate design principles to understand and communicate its work. Over the past few years, he has been part of a nascent effort to create a stronger partnership between the design community and philanthropy.

Kyle earned a Master’s degree in liberal studies from New York University and a bachelor’s degree in government and law from Lafayette College. He supports three family foundations and has three daughters, two cats, two guinea pigs, a dog and a gerbil to otherwise keep him busy.

## **Tracey Rutnik**

*The Aspen Institute, Program on Philanthropy and Social Innovation (Washington, DC)*

Tracey A. Rutnik is Deputy Director for Research and Policy in the Aspen Institute's Program on Philanthropy and Social Innovation. In this capacity, she works with the PSI program director on the overall management of the program, and on tracking policy developments, undertaking research and planning meetings and workshops that engage philanthropists, policy-makers and civil society leaders on current issues affecting the social sector. Ms. Rutnik has more than 13 years of experience that combines issue analysis, strategy development and grant-making.

Prior to joining the Aspen Institute, Ms. Rutnik was senior advisor to the chief executive officer of NeighborWorks America, a national nonprofit organization created by Congress to create affordable housing and revitalize lower-income communities. Previously, Ms. Rutnik held positions at the Fannie Mae Foundation and the Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers where she advanced philanthropic strategy and practice through direct technical assistance, program evaluation and research. While at the Fannie Mae Foundation she also served as an associate editor for the peer-reviewed journal, Housing Policy Debate.

Tracey holds a Master's degree from the Rutgers University School of Criminal Justice, earning the Richard J. Hughes award for highest academic standing. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Rutgers College with a degree in History and Political Science.

## **Beth Schaffer (Chair)**

*Washington, DC*

Beth Blanchard Schaffer is an independent consultant with more than 25 years of experience working in and with nonprofit organizations in a wide variety of fields of service. She specializes in organization development, leadership and governance, and strategic planning. She has served in multiple capacities over the years including management staff, volunteer board member, and professional consultant and trainer.

Ms. Schaffer began her career in fundraising for a public television station in Wisconsin and subsequently served as development director for several organizations including a northern California community foundation, a major metropolitan children's museum, and a conservation organization focused on redwood protection. She also directed a county-wide technical assistance program for a major United Way, serving more than 100 organizations per year.

Since launching her consulting practice in the mid-1990s, Ms. Schaffer has created training workshops, facilitated planning processes, conducted board-staff retreats, provided organizational assessments, and served as a long-term project director for national associations. She has conducted workshops for the Center for Nonprofit Advancement in Washington, D.C., and is a peer reviewer for the Standards for Excellence program of the Maryland Association of Nonprofits.

Beth's D.C.-area clients have included: ● American Association of University Women ● Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless ● Bethel House, Inc. ● City Lights School ● Community Preservation and Development Corporation ● Community Tax Aid ● EmpowerDC! ● Laurel

Advocacy & Referral Services • Maryland Vietnamese Mutual Association • Northwest Church Family Network • Suitland Family & Life Development Corporation • Support Center of Washington • Tappers with Attitude • The Training Source • The Washington Center • University Continuing Education Association • Washington Area Women's Foundation • Women In Government.

Ms. Schaffer is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison (BA Clinical Psychology) and the University of San Francisco (MS Organization Development). Her office is in Washington, D.C.

### **Scott Scrivner**

The Pew Charitable Trusts (Philadelphia, PA)

Scott Scrivner is a senior officer at The Pew Charitable Trusts, a public charity that applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. In his work as part of Pew's planning and evaluation department, Mr. Scrivner designs and manages evaluations of Pew's advocacy initiatives and uses a wide range of planning approaches to strengthen the design and implementation of major policy reform projects.

Prior to joining Pew, he worked as a researcher at Public/Private Ventures, where he evaluated multi-state workforce development programs. He also conducted and published research on poverty, health insurance, disability and early childhood education policy while with the Institute for Research on Poverty and The Lewin Group.

Mr. Scrivner earned his Master of Public Affairs from the Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs at the University of Wisconsin and holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Kenyon College.

*For more information about Innovation Network,  
please visit our website, [www.innonet.org](http://www.innonet.org), or contact us:  
[info@innonet.org](mailto:info@innonet.org) / 202-728-0727*