2024 Biographies



Gregg Andrews

Gregg has been a member of Gesa since 1980. He obtained a BS in Atmospheric Science from the University of Washington and an MBA from Washington State University. Gregg started his career with PNNL in 1980 retiring in June 2020 as the Deputy Manager for Systems and Outreach in the Project Lifecycle Division. His past position at PNNL included Business Manager in the Finance Department. Gregg is Treasurer for the non-profit Academy of Children's Theatre (ACT) located in Richland. Gregg and his wife reside in Richland where they raised 3 children. Outside of work, Gregg enjoys hiking and skiing. He was a volunteer on the Credit Committee and has served on the Board of Directors since 2008. He is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Andrew Austin

Andrew is a Gesa Credit Union member beginning with the Inspirus Board in 2018 as an Associate Board Member, becoming a Board Director in 2019. His career has been dedicated to community building, public policy and government relations. He is currently the Executive Director of Government and Community Relations at Sound Transit, working on the largest transit expansion in the nation. He holds a BA in religion and global studies from Pacific Lutheran University. He lives in Tacoma with his wife and his two children. Andrew is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program and is seeking reelection for a three-year term.

Benjamin Basson

Ben has been a member of Gesa since 2008, initially through Inspirus Credit Union. He joined the Inspirus Board in 2018 as an Associate Board Member and advanced to become a Board Director in 2019. With a B.S. in Finance from Syracuse University, Ben has garnered experience in finance, working for prestigious firms in New York and Boston, focusing on the technology and renewable energy sectors. In his prior role at Amazon Web Services, Ben concentrated on global data center development. Currently, Ben serves as the Senior Vice President of Business Development at 5C Data Centers, overseeing the global expansion of data center infrastructure for hyperscale customers. Residing in Seattle, Ben enjoys traveling, offroading, motorcycling, and spending quality time with friends and family. Ben is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Manuel Chavallo

Manuel has been a member of Gesa since 1992. He obtained an Associates of Arts degree from Columbia Basin College, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Eastern Washington University. He also earned an Accounting Certificate from CBC and is a member of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Local Union #598. Manuel's employment history includes Interface Management Specialist for Hanford Mission Integration Solutions (HMIS), Project Manager for Columbia Park Trail LLC and Sr. Estimator for Project Assistance Corporation, VP of Sales & Marketing for Coinstar, and President and Founder of MUNDO Communications Network, Inc. He and his wife are residents of Kennewick and have two children. Manuel enjoys hiking, biking, and managing numerous residential and commercial rental properties which he owns in our community. He has served on the Gesa Board of Directors since 2008, is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program and is seeking re-election for a three-year term.

2024 Biographies



Linda Cowan

Linda is a Gesa Credit Union member and joined the Inspirus Board in 2004. She earned her BA in Ed. at Western Washington University and MEd and Superintendent's Credential from the University of Washington. At the time of her retirement in 2008, Linda was the Superintendent of Schools at the Auburn School District, completing 40 years of service in public education. She has provided leadership to numerous non-profits (YMCA, KCSARC, AYR); is a longtime member of Rotary and PEO; and serves on two other Boards (PEMCO and Multicare South King Co.). She and her husband reside in Auburn and are avid Husky football fans, bridge players, travelers, and community supporters. Linda is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program and is seeking re-election for a three-year term.

Bob Follett

Bob has been a member of Gesa since 1984. He earned a BS and MBA from Washington State University. Bob is employed by Framatome, Inc. as a Project Manager for Taiwan Power Co. and Talen Energy contracts. He has been with Framatome since 1988 and has held a variety of positions in management and finance. He previously worked for UNC Nuclear Industries and Westinghouse Hanford Company as a Financial Analyst. Volunteer work in the community includes Habitat for Humanity and Junior Achievement. Bob and his wife both grew up in Walla Walla and now reside in Kennewick where they raised three sons. He served as a Gesa volunteer on the Credit Committee for seven years before joining the Board of Directors in 2000. Bob is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Geof Griebel

Geof is a Gesa Credit Union member and joined the Inspirus Board in 2018 as an Associate Board Member, becoming a Board Director in 2019. He obtained a BA in Business and Computer Science from Western Washington University, and an MS in Finance from Seattle University. Geof currently holds the position of President and CEO for EoScene Corporation, a Seattle based provider of cloud-based Governance, Risk Management & Compliance (GRC) software. Prior to EoScene, Geof held executive and management positions at General Electric, Penwest Pharmaceuticals and The Boeing Company. Geof has been recognized internationally as a leader in enterprise system implementations and has more than 30 years of experience integrating technology and business process. Geof and his wife reside in West Seattle, he has two adult children and enjoys skiing, traveling and motorcycles. Geof is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Bill Melberg

Bill has been a member of Gesa since 1980. He earned both his BA in Finance and his MBA from the University of Washington. Bill is employed by Framatome, Inc. as the U.S. Fuel Controller. He previously was the Manager of Forecasts & Analysis for Siemen Power Corporation and Senior Auditor for Westinghouse Hanford Company. Bill has volunteered for Junior Achievement and is a Past Chapter President for the Institute of Management Accountants. Bill and his wife reside in Richland where they raised 5 children. Bill served as a Gesa volunteer on the Credit Committee for seven years before joining the Board of Directors in 1993. He is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

2024 Biographies



Jessica Schneider, MD

Jessica has been a member of Gesa since 2001 and was became an Associate Board Member in 2019. In February of 2022, the Board elected Jessica as a Board Director. Jessica is a Richland native and graduate of Hanford High School. She received her B.S. in Biochemistry from Washington State University and an M.D. from the Medical College of Wisconsin. After working as an employed physician for multiple large medical organizations, Jessica has transitioned into private practice, now practicing as a board-certified Internal Medicine provider in the Tri Cities. She founded Empowered Health Institute, PLLC with the aim of expanding local residents' options for primary medical care. Jessica enjoys reading, cooking, hiking, Bible study, Barre classes and spending time with her husband and their two children. She is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Peter Smith

Peter has been a member of Gesa since 1984. He served on the Credit Committee and the Supervisory Committee before returning to the Board of Directors in 2009. He has a BA in Business from Washington State University, an MBA from University of Washington, was a WSU-TC finance instructor & manager, and a US Army finance company HQ Commander. Peter is also a Certified Management Accountant and a retired Finance Manager from Battelle PNNL. Originally from a farm in Eastern Washington where he currently manages two farm corporations. Peter enjoys hiking and is on the Board of Friends of Badger Mountain. Peter and his wife are long-time residents of Richland. He is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Brett Spooner

Brett has been a member of Gesa since 2010. in 2015 he became an Associate Board Member, and in 2019 the Board elected Brett as a Board Director. He is a graduate of Washington State University and earned his law degree from Gonzaga. He is the Owner and Managing Partner of Gravis Law, PLLC, a national law firm headquartered in Richland, where he focuses on Business law. Brett leverages decades of experience in software technology and dedicates much of his free time to innovation and entrepreneurship in support of small business in rural and emerging communities. In his spare time, Brett spends time with his wife and children, mountain biking, hunting, and writing science fiction. He is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

Martin Valadez Torres

Martin has been a member of Gesa since 2009 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 2012. Martin is currently Regional Director of Heritage University's Tri-Cities campus and was previously Director of Workforce Training and Education. Before Heritage University, he worked at Tri-Cities Community Health and Columbia Basin College. Martin enjoys volunteering with other organizations including Mid-Columbia Libraries, the State Board of Community and Technical Colleges, Washington Nonprofits and TRIDEC. Martin earned a BA in Economics from UCLA and an MA from Stanford University. He grew up in Los Angeles and has been living in Pasco since 2006. Martin is Board Certified through the CUNA certification program.

2024 Biographies



Cristina Reyff

Cristina is a member of Gesa and was elected as an Associate Board Member in April 2023. She obtained a BS in Accounting from the University of Phoenix, Phoenix Campus, and an MBA from Washington State University. In 2003, she started her professional career as an external auditor with Arthur Anderson, acquired by Protiviti Consulting owned by Robert Half International, an Internal Audit and Risk Consulting firm. Cristina remained with Protiviti for 6½ years progressing to Manager before moving to Tri-Cities to continue her career with Energy Northwest. She has worked in a variety of capacities including quality assurance, asset management, long-range financial planning, audit, risk, strategy, and outage support, and currently serves as the VP, of Corporate Finance, CFO/CRO position. Cristina enjoys collaboration, learning, growing, and giving back to others. She resides in Richland with her husband where they raised two boys who are now working in the nuclear industry. Outside of work, Cristina enjoys hiking, skiing, and most recently light gardening. Cristina also serves on the Gesa Policy Review Committee, the United Way Board, and the United Way Administrative Committee.

Malcolm McLellan

Malcom is a Gesa Credit Union member beginning with Inspirus/WSECU in the early 1990's while living in Spokane. He was elected as an Associate Board Member for Gesa on October 25, 2023. Malcolm earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Washington and a Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, from Gonzaga University. He started his practice in Wenatchee where he continues to volunteer with the Washington State Apple Blossom Festival. Malcolm is a partner with Van Ness Feldman, LLP, in Seattle, a national law firm where he focuses on regulatory compliance, commercial transactions, and every aspect of the regulation of the electric power. Malcolm and his wife have four grown children and reside in the Seattle area where they enjoy boating, backpacking, fishing, and upland bird hunting.