

eHealth Council Nominees

June 2007

- **The State of Nebraska/Federal Government**
 - **Steve Henderson**, Office of the CIO
 - **Senator Mick Mines**, Nebraska Legislature
 - **Dennis Berens**, HHSS, Office of Rural Health
 - **Congressman Jeff Fortenberry**, represented by Marie Woodhead

- **Health Care Providers**
 - **Daniel Griess**, Box Butte General Hospital, Alliance
 - **Dr. Delane Wycoff**, Pathology Services, PC
 - **Dr. Harris A. Frankel** (alternate)
 - **Joni Cover**, Nebraska Pharmacists Association
 - **September Stone**, Nebraska Health Care Association
 - **Bill Bivin**, Nebraska Health Care Association (alternate)
 - **John Roberts**, Nebraska Rural Health Association

- **eHealth Initiatives**
 - **Donna Hammack**, Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network and St. Elizabeth Foundation
 - **Ken Lawonn**, NeHII and Alegent Health
 - **Harold Krueger**, Western Nebraska Health Information Exchange and Chadron Community Hospital
 - **C.J. Johnson**, Southeast Nebraska Behavioral Health Information Network and Region V Systems

- **Public Health**
 - **David Lawton**, HHSS, Public Health Assurance
 - **Jeff Kuhr**, Three Rivers Public Health Department, Fremont
 - **Rita Parris**, Public Health Association of Nebraska, alternate
 - **Kay Oestmann**, Southeast District Health Department
 - **Shirleen Smith**, West Central District Health Department, North Platte, alternate
 - **Dr. Keith Mueller**, UNMC College of Public Health

- **Payers and Employers**
 - **Steve Grandfield or Susan Courtney**, Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - **Ron Hoffman, Jr.**, Mutual of Omaha
 - **Mary Steiner**, HHSS Finance and Support, Medicaid

- **Consumers**
 - **Nancy Shank**, Public Policy Center
 - **Alice Henneman**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension in Lancaster County
 - **Jim Krieger**, Gallup

- **Resource Providers, Experts, and Others**
 - **Henry Zach**, HDC 4Point Dynamics
 - **Marsha Morien**, Center for Biosecurity (alternate for Henry Zach)
 - **Kimberly Galt**, Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions

Steven L. Henderson

Mr. Henderson serves as a member of the leadership team for Nebraska's Office of the CIO (Chief Information Officer). He has a wide range of varied responsibilities, including strategic planning, business continuity and disaster recovery, security, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and coordinating support for the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC). Steve is a long-time state employee, with over 30 years' experience in information technology assignments. He maintains a particular interest in organizational group process and facilitation.

Steve received his Bachelor's of Science (with honors) in Computer Science from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. He is married to Alicia and they have two daughters, Rebecca and Meghan.

Sen. Mick Mines (District 18, Blair)

Elected to Nebraska Legislature: 2002, 2006

Committees: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs (vice chairperson); Transportation and Telecommunications

Biography: Born June 21, 1950, in Fremont.

Education: Graduate of North Bend High School and Elkins Institute, Dallas.

Family: Married Katie Fate; two children: Laini and Billy.

Military service: U.S. Naval Reserve.

Occupation: Vice president, HunTel Systems Inc.

Member: Nebraska Diplomats (past president); Nebraska Independent Telephone Association (past president); Nebraska Industrial Competitive Alliance; Nebraska Economic Developers Association; Country Bible Church; Blair Rotary Club; Rebuilding Together - Washington County; Blair Family YMCA; American Legion Post 154; Jeffrey K. Mines AMVETS Post 20; chairman, Veterans Tribute Plaza Committee.

Former: Mayor, council president, council member, city of Blair; president, League of Nebraska Municipalities; president, Blair Area Chamber of Commerce; president, Gateway Development Corp., AKSARBEN diplomat; National League of Cities (Small Cities Council and Public Safety/Crime Prevention Committee).

Honors and awards: Nebraska Diplomat of the Year; Friend of Business Award, Cargill Dow; Metropolitan Area Planning Agency Regional Citizenship Award; Volunteer of the Year Award, Blair Family YMCA; Servant-Leadership Award, League of Nebraska Municipalities; CFI Visionary Award, Nebraska State Bar Association.

Dennis M. Berens

Education:

- Charter Oak-Ute High School, Charter Oak, Iowa; graduated 1963
- Concordia College, Seward, Nebraska, graduated 1967, B.S.Ed.
- Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, 18 hours graduate work
- Concordia College, Seward, Nebraska, 1971, M.A., emphasis on sociology/psychology
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln, completed half the requirements toward an advanced degree in counseling

Employment:

- 1969-1976, teacher/athletic director, St. John Lutheran School, Seward, Nebraska.
- 1976-1990, co-publisher, Seward County Independent Newspaper, Seward, Nebraska.
- 1991-present, Coordinator and Director, Nebraska Office of Rural Health, Nebraska Health & Human Services System, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Experiences:

- Worked to establish a teacher training laboratory program.
- Chaired and served on various committees for the Nebraska Press Association.
- Chaired and served on many Chamber of Commerce committees in Seward, Nebraska.
- Developed a community industrial recruitment package.
- Worked to develop three partnerships in rural Nebraska:
 - Nebraska Economic Development Corporation
 - Nebraska Partnership for Rural Development
 - Nebraska Development Network
- Facilitated the creation of the Nebraska Rural Health Association.
- Facilitated the Nebraska Information Technology Commission's Telehealth Committee.
- Worked to develop rural health networks/cooperatives for rural Nebraska.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Primary Care Associate (Practice Sights Grant) (recipient).
- Coordinated the Rural Response Partnership for rural mental health.
- 1996 – Recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Community Health Leadership Award (1 of 10 National winners)
- 1999-Present – Facilitator for the Nebraska Sowing the Seeds of Hope Committee and Mental Health Voucher Programs.
- 2002-2004 – President of the National Organizations of State Offices of Rural Health.

Experiences (cont.):

- 2002-2004 – Facilitated the process/committee to write the National Rural – Frontier EMS Agenda for the Future.
- 2002-2004 – National EMS/Trauma Advisory Board member.

- 2003-Present – Facilitated the planning and creation of the Nebraska Telehealth Network.
- 2005-2006 – Facilitated the Nebraska Registry Partnership, a model to address diabetes/ cardiovascular conditions through an electronic registry model.
- 2006-2007 – Facilitated the Nebraska Health Information Security and Privacy Coalition. Created a state report with recommendations.
- 2007 – Serving on the Nebraska eHealth Council.

Congressman Jeff Fortenberry

Jeff Fortenberry was elected to the United States House of Representatives in November 2004 to represent Nebraska's First Congressional District. He is an experienced public servant prepared to meet the challenges before the United States Congress, and is committed to representing the interests of the people of eastern Nebraska.

In Congress, Rep. Fortenberry has numerous committee and subcommittee assignments. His service on the Agriculture Committee includes sitting on the Subcommittee on Conservation, Credit, Energy and Research and the Subcommittee on Specialty Crops, Rural Development and Foreign Agriculture.

As a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Rep. Fortenberry serves on the Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia and the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health.

In his role with the Small Business Committee, he serves as the ranking Republican member of the Subcommittee on Rural and Urban Entrepreneurship where he focuses his efforts on making small business entrepreneurship an important part of community development.

Jeff served from 1997-2001 as an at-large member on the Lincoln City Council. As a council member he worked on many economic development and community revitalization projects, including the transition of a major public hospital to the private sector, and the building of a new baseball stadium.

Jeff took particular interest in local and neighborhood concerns while serving on the city council. He focused on public safety, adding twenty-four new police officers; and on community development and planning. During his service, Jeff never once raised the tax burden on families or businesses while balancing the city's budget.

While completing a Masters degree in public policy at Georgetown University, Jeff worked for the United States Senate with the Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Relations. Jeff's service with the Subcommittee coincided with the farm crisis of the mid 1990s. During his time with the Subcommittee he examined the way falling agricultural land values were affecting local municipalities, and offered practical solutions. Jeff has also participated in a number of vital cost-benefit analysis assessments on public works projects across the country.

Jeff is a successful businessman with an extensive career in the publishing industry and many years experience in various small business investments.

Jeff has a strong vision for representing the First Congressional District in Congress. He believes the strength of our nation depends on the strength of our communities and families. He is working to create economic strength and opportunities for our families, communities, and small businesses. He supports strengthening our national security as well as efforts for international stability and order. And Jeff represents the best traditions of Nebraska communities.

Marie C. Woodhead

In 1994, I received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln majoring in Sociology. In 1997, I received a Master of Community and Regional Planning degree with an emphasis on Social Planning.

In January 2000, I began serving Congressman Doug Bereuter as his district aide specializing in the areas of health, labor, and retirement issues. I advised Congressman Bereuter in these areas and assisted constituents experiencing difficulties with related federal agencies or programs. In January 2005, I began working for Congressman Jeff Fortenberry as his Constituent Services Director. I continue to advise Congressman Fortenberry in the areas of health and retirement issues as well as oversee the office constituent services activities. I work closely with the Congressman's health aide in our Washington DC office on related legislative issues.

Daniel Griess

Daniel Griess, a Western Nebraska native, came to Alliance in 1992 with his young family to manage Box Butte General Hospital's laboratory services. A self-described scientist, Griess worked as a medical technologist before taking on his new leadership role. In 1996, he was promoted to Vice President of Clinical/Support Services and in January 2004, accepted the position of Chief Executive Officer for the organization. With a strong Nebraska heritage and commitment to community, he has enjoyed raising his two sons, Brandon and Nathan, in an environment molded by family values as well as working for a Critical Access Hospital serving Box Butte County and the surrounding area.

Delane A. Wycoff, MD

Delane A. Wycoff, MD is a Clinical Pathologist and is one of a group of pathologists in North Platte Nebraska practicing as Pathology Services, PC. The group provides pathology consultation and reference laboratory services to more than twenty communities in west-central Nebraska, northwest Kansas and northeast Colorado. A native of rural Dawson County in Nebraska, Dr. Wycoff received his medical education and residency training at the University of Iowa and was the primary pathologist involved in the implementation of the the first Laboratory Information System (LIS) at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in the 1970's. Dr. Wycoff has practiced in North Platte since 1979 and has been a leader in implementation of information technology in the clinical laboratory. He is a past Medical Director of the laboratories of Great Plains Regional Medical center and of the Medical Laboratory Technician training program at Mid-Plains Community College. He is is a member of the Medical Advisory Committee of the Omaha Regional Red Cross blood services. Dr. Wycoff applauds the benefits of technology to communities and health education through distance learning programs in Nebraska. He currently participates on both the technical subcommittee and the clinical subcommittee of the Nebraska Medical Association task force for electronic medical records.

Joni Cover

Joni Cover is the Executive Vice President of the Nebraska Pharmacists Association, a position she has held since January 2003. As the EVP, Joni spends her time lobbying on behalf of Nebraska pharmacists at both a state and federal level; answering questions and problem solving for pharmacists; and overseeing the operations of the NPA. In addition, Joni works with the national pharmacy organizations to represent Nebraska on a national level. Joni is currently a member of the Governor's Pandemic Influenza Task Force, a member of the Rural Health Stakeholders group, the Medical Assistance Advisory Committee and the Nebraska Bioterrorism Preparedness Task Force, and represents the NPA on various boards and committees.

Prior to the NPA, Joni was the Director of Policy and a lobbyist at the Nebraska Hospital Association; where she was involved in rural and public health policy issues and workforce shortage initiatives.

Joni graduated from the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in Communications; received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing from Chadron State College; and received her juris doctor from the University of Wyoming in 2000. Joni is a member of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Lincoln, the University of Nebraska Alumni Association, University of Wyoming Foundation, the Nebraska Bar Association, the American Society of Pharmacy Law, and is an honorary member of Phi Lamda Sigma.

September Stone RN, MSN
Director LTCWIN at Nebraska Health Care Association
3900 NW 12 Suite 100
Lincoln NE 68521
E-mail: Septembers@nehca.org

Professional qualifications related to the eHealth council

I am a Master's prepared RN with an emphasis in nursing education. I have worked in nursing and healthcare education since 1987. As an administrator and director in education I have experience with a variety of regulatory and legislative fields in Nebraska and at the federal level. As an educator, I develop educational materials using a variety of multimedia and have proven success in teaching theory and clinical nursing to students.

Organization, collaboration, attention to detail and teamwork are critical components to my philosophical beliefs. Coordination of multiple projects and an expansion of a more global perspective, particularly in the business and corporate sectors has been an area of personal growth over the last 3-4 years. Producing quality end results, whether students or products in an efficient manner using appropriate resources is a strong asset. I enjoy working with a variety of people at all levels of the education process from students to leadership personnel.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE...

Nebraska Health Care Association, Administrator of Nebraska Health Care Learning Center and Director of Long Term Care Workforce Institute of Nebraska (LTCWIN); Lincoln Nebraska; 2003 – present

- ❖ I have full administrator responsibilities for Nebraska Health Care Learning Center. The Nebraska Health Care Learning Center is a private postsecondary career school designed to meet the needs of people within the long term care setting and was initially licensed in 2004.
- ❖ As Director of Long Term Care Workforce Institute of Nebraska I am responsible for financial revenue budget of products and the learning center. I am also responsible for market analysis and financial accountability related to the LTCWIN and the Nebraska Health Care Learning Center.
- ❖ I have served on multiple regulatory committees such as assisted living administrator, nursing home administrator preceptor, feeding assistant, and medication aide. I also serve on the Nebraska Private Postsecondary Career Schools Advisory Council.
- ❖ I am responsible for maintaining information flow to customers regarding information technology in healthcare and for seeking out resources to encourage advances in information technology in long term care

John L. Roberts

A native Nebraskan, John graduated from the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Health Services Administration in 1980. John has over twenty- four years of extensive association and health care management experience including: two years in materials management at Bergan Mercy Hospital (450 beds), Omaha, Nebraska; six years as assistant administrator of a rural hospital in Ogallala, Nebraska; four years with the State of Nebraska Department of Administrative Services and the Nebraska State Health Department and eleven years as vice president of the Nebraska Association of Hospitals and Health Systems. He currently serves as President of Midwest Health Consultants, Inc.

He is currently responsible for the overall management and technical expertise of the consulting firm including business development & strategy, marketing, customer service and over-all project management. The firm has considerable expertise in the areas of rural health care strategic planning, association management, community health improvement and bioterrorism preparedness. The firm currently contracts to provide technical assistance to the Nebraska Hospital Association/Office of Rural Health on the Nebraska Critical Access Hospital Program, to the State of Nebraska on the HRSA Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness Program and serves as the Executive Director of the Nebraska Rural Health Association.

Over the past five years, John has been extremely active in establishing and implementing the Nebraska Critical Access Hospital Program. Nebraska is recognized around the country as having an innovative Critical Access Hospital program. The fact that Nebraska has 60 facilities CAH certified is a reflection of the quality of that program. John co-authored the original state plan to implement the Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility Program in Nebraska as well as five successful Flex Program grants for Nebraska totaling \$4.2 million.

Since March 2002, the Nebraska Hospital Bioterrorism Preparedness Program has been coordinated by Mr. Roberts who is responsible for implementing the operational plans for hospital and collaborating entities' bioterrorism preparedness in the State of Nebraska. He handles all the day-to-day operational aspects of the preparedness planning effort as well as closely working with the Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA), Nebraska hospitals, MMRS sites in Omaha and Lincoln and pre-hospital emergency services providers to implement work plans adopted by the Nebraska Health and Human Services System. Mr. Roberts's experience includes disaster response planning, including knowledge of clinical issues, administrative procedures, linkages to appropriate agencies and organizations, and training issues appropriate to terrorism preparedness.

John Roberts was appointed executive director of the Nebraska Rural Health Association on February 1, 2004. He has been involved in the association since its inception, and served on its board of directors for six years.

Kenneth E. Lawonn

Ken Lawonn is the Senior Vice President and CIO for Alegent Health. In this position, he is responsible for the information management, telecommunications, construction, property management, security and biomedical functions throughout the enterprise. He joined Alegent Health in February of 2001 as the Vice President of Information Technology and was named to his current position in October of 2004.

Prior to joining Alegent Health, Ken served as the Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Banner Health System in Fargo, ND for eight years. Ken began his career in healthcare with Lutheran Health Systems in Fargo and served in a variety of technical and management roles prior to being name the CIO in 1992.

Mr. Lawonn received his BS degree in Computer Information Services from Moorhead State University. He is a member of the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) and the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS).

Harold L. Krueger Jr.

MBA, MHA
Chief Executive Officer
Chadron Community Hospital and Health Services

35 years experience in Health Care Management, 25 years at the Chief Executive level.
Graduate education in Health Services and Business Administration.

United States Army, Viet-Nam Veteran.

College Lecture, Medical Ethics, Dying and Death.

Published Author.

Experience: Chief Executive Office, Chadron Community Hospital and Health Services

Member of the Board of the Nebraska Hospital Association, currently serving as Secretary
Past Chair person District III, Hospital Association
Founder, Past President and current Vice President of the Rural Health Care Association, recognized by the National Rural Health Association in 2005 as the **“Outstanding Rural Health Organization”** in the Nation
President and Chairman of the Board of Mountain Plains Health Consortium
Chairman of the Board of Health Education Development Systems
Past President, Nebraska Northwest Development Corporation
President, Chairperson of the Board, Chadron Housing Corporation, Low-income elderly housing units.
Past Vice President of the Nebraska Assisted Living Association

Concerns: The increase in the number and proportion of elderly citizens in the U.S. population poses a major challenge both to the health care delivery system and to our Long Term/Assisted Living centers. Meeting the needs of older people for health care and social services, while simultaneously containing costs, will require advanced technology, sensitivity, creativity and managerial skills.

Advances in biomedical technology are making it possible to prolong life, ameliorate pain, maintain the very frail and improve the quality of life. Consumer and provider demand for use of these technological developments, as well as the additional years of life made possible by them, will further increase demand for Health Care Services. Will we be ready?

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the key personnel and other significant contributors in the order listed on Form Page 2.
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FOUR PAGES.**

NAME Johnson, Richard C.J.		POSITION TITLE Region Program Administrator	
eRA COMMONS USER NAME			
EDUCATION/TRAINING <i>(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, and include postdoctoral training.)</i>			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE <i>(if applicable)</i>	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Nebraska - Lincoln	B.A.	1983	Psychology
University of Nebraska - Omaha	M.S.W.	2000	Social Work

A. Positions and Honors.

Positions and Employment

- 1978-1979 Youth Care Staff, Cedars Home for Children, Lincoln, NE
- 1979-1990 Youth Care Worker, Nebraska Center for Children and Youth, Lincoln, NE
Group Home Supervisor
Cottage Supervisor/Case Coordinator
Psychiatric Social Worker
- 1984-1986 Teen Couples Coordinator, YWCA, Lincoln, NE
- 1990-1990 Residential Program Manager, Child Guidance Center, Lincoln, NE
- 1990-1993 Family Therapist, Rivendell Psychiatric Center, Seward, NE
Program Director, Adolescent Services
- 1990-Present Systems Consultant
- 1993-Present Therapist, Samaritan Counseling Center, Lincoln, NE
Therapist, Private Practice
- 1998-Present Director of Network Services/Director of Family & Youth Investment, Lincoln, NE
Regional Program Administrator
- 2004-Present Board of the National Association of Case Management

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

- 1990-1993 Part-time faculty member at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, Social Work Department
- 1990-Present National Association of Social Workers, Associate Standing
- 1991-Present Certified Masters Social Worker, State of Nebraska
- 1991-Present Advanced Practicum Supervisor, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Social Work Department
- 1994-Present Licensed Mental Health Practitioner, State of Nebraska
- 1994-Present Certified Marriage and Family Therapist
- 1994-Present Supervisor for Provisionally Licensed Mental Health Practitioners, State of Nebraska

Richard C.J. Johnson Biographical Sketch Continued

Honors

2004	Letter of Acknowledgment For Commitment to Mental Health, Governor Mike Johanns
2003	Provider of the Year, The Mental Health Association of Nebraska
2001,02,03	Institute Speaker for the National Association of Case Managers
2001	Admiral-The Great Navy of the State of Nebraska
1994-2000	National Presenter for the Stepfamily Association of America

B. Selected peer-reviewed publications (in chronological order).

None to Date

C. Research Support.

2002-2003 Community Consensus Building Visa Model – A project of the Mental Health Association of Nebraska

David P. Lawton

Position:

Nebraska Health and Human Services System, Department of Public Health Assurance

Health Surveillance Section Administrator

- Areas of responsibility include EMS, Trauma, Codes (Crash Data), Epidemiology, Entomology, Communicable Disease (STD, TB, and HIV), NEDSS, Grants and Database repositories and Information exchange with local public health departments and CDC.
- Past coordinator for Nebraska Pandemic Influenza Planning
- Bioterrorism response team for HHSS and Public Health Assurance

Additional Activities

- Board Member on Public Health Data Standards Consortium, a national standards organization integrating public health data into electronic health records (EHR).
- Voting member for the HITSP standards panel

Education:

PhD	University of Nebraska, Lincoln	Higher Education Leadership
MSN	Medical College of Georgia	Nursing Administration
BSN	Medical College of Georgia	Nursing
BA	Covenant College, Lookout Mt. GA	Psychology
AS	Florida Junior College	Nursing

Major Projects and Accomplishments:

- Nebraska Health Alert Network
 - smallpox vaccinations
 - influenza vaccinations and shortage
 - pandemic influenza plan, NeHHSS Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)
 - public health situation room and expanded response capacity
 - National Leader – Health Alert Network Coordinators – HONCHOS
 - Cross Border support of Wyoming Health Alert Network and Mid-America Alliance
- Nebraska Tele-Health Network, grant support and internal development
- Tac-Pac Purchase, training and deployment of redundant communication system.
- GIS Integration with LDAP database, contract and integration of entire HAN database to allow GIS mapping and exercise integration.
- Support for EMS E-Narsis system, an electronic ambulance run record integrated with hospital information systems.
- Regional Health Information Network- Involved with the Nebraska Rural Health and the Nebraska Biomedical Informatics Project to develop Regional Health Informatics Organizations (RHIO).
- Expansion and integration of NEDSS and other electronic laboratory reporting systems

Employment History

- Nebraska HHSS October 2002 until present. Bioterrorism and Health Surveillance Sections
- Clarkson College 1994 until January 2003- Assistant Professor, Dean
- Saint Elizabeth Community Health Center – 1990-1994, Director of In-patient Nursing
- Merle West Medical Center, Oregon, Administrative Nurse Manager
- VA Medical Centers, Georgia and California, critical care nurse, nurse manager.
- Medical College of Georgia, ETMH, Trauma Nurse Staff and Manager, NICU Staff and management.
- University Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida, Staff nurse in pediatric ICU and Open Heart recovery

Jeff Kuhr

Jeff Kuhr has been affiliated with various public health efforts in Nebraska for about 17 years. The past four years he's served as the Health Director for the Three Rivers Public Health District, which covers three of the four counties surrounding the Omaha metropolitan area. In 2003 Jeff served as president of the Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors, and then from 2004-2006 as president of the Public Health Association of Nebraska. In 2006 Jeff participated in the National Public Health Leadership Institute where he and his fellow Nebraska-team members, received the Martha Katz Award for Outstanding Leadership Project. Jeff graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1995 with a Master of Science degree in Community Health Education, and is currently finishing his PhD in Psychological and Cultural Studies at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Rita Parris

Ms Rita Parris is the Executive Director of the Public Health Association of Nebraska (PHAN). She is also the Director of State Association of County and City Health Officials (SACCHO), which is a Section of PHAN, and oversees the other Association Sections which include the, the State Association of Local Boards of Health (SALBOH), the Public Health Nursing Section, the Emergency Response Section and the Prevention Providers Section. Ms Parris is the liaison between the state and local health departments for the CDC Bioterrorism Cooperative Agreement and serves on the Statewide Bioterrorism Committee and the Bioterrorism Budget Planning Committee. She oversees training and collaboration efforts for Nebraska's health departments and boards of health.

Ms. Parris is a 2004-2005 scholar in the National Public Health Leadership Institute. She has a bachelor's degree in community health education and through various Association programs; has managed a three-year social marketing project; written and edited training manuals for Boards of Health, and served on committees for the National Association of County and City Health Officials and the National Association of Local Boards of Health. Ms Parris is the former Executive Director the Nebraska Rural Health Association; placing her in a unique position to foster collaboration between public health and primary care providers.

Keith Mueller

Dr. Mueller is Associate Dean, Department Chair, and Professor in the College of Public Health, Department of Health Services Research and Administration, UNMC. He is also the Director of the [Rural Policy Research Institute \(RUPRI\) Center for Rural Health Policy Analysis](#) and Director of the [Nebraska Center for Rural Health Research](#).

Dr. Mueller's doctoral training is in Political Science, with additional post-doctorate training in health services research. He was the 1996-97 President of the [National Rural Health Association](#), and is a member of the [RUPRI](#) Rural Health Panel. His research interests include policy analysis, access to care among the uninsured, and managed care.

Steve Grandfield

Summary

Innovative technology and operational management executive with a proven track record in organizational transition.

Areas of Expertise

- Organizational Development
- Organizational Transition
- New Product Development
- Sales Management
- Electronic Commerce
- Technology Development and Management

Experience

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska 2003-
Present

Executive Vice President, Chief Operations Officer
Responsible for core business operations for Customer Service, Benefits, Membership and Information Services.

- Developed and deployed Enterprise Data Warehouse.
- Planned and initiated major systems modernization project.
- Planned and initiated major Customer Relationship Management program.
- Planned and implemented major eBusiness solutions.
- Implemented HIPAA privacy & security solutions.

First Data Corporation 1998-2003

General Manager, Call Interactive
Responsible for growth and profitability of \$70 million First Data Services Unit.

- Transitioned business model from advertising industry focus to long term customer services focus.
- Planned and implemented complete technical architecture change.
- Transitioned internal customer service business model.

Prairie Systems, Inc. 1990-1998

Vice President of Development & Technology
Member of founder team that built business from zero revenue to \$10 million per year revenue in first 3 years.

- Led design and implementation of a multi-media distributed computing platform.
- Built organization to support multinational platform business in Europe.
- Built organization to support domestic services based business.
- Built organization to support domestic platform business.

Ronald E. Hoffman

Ron Hoffman, RHU, is a Privacy Consultant in the Enterprise Privacy Office of Mutual of Omaha. He has 29 years experience in a variety of administrative, research and investigative positions within the Mutual of Omaha organization. His current responsibilities include monitoring federal and state legislative and regulatory activity relating to consumer privacy and data security issues. He provides consulting, direction and advice to business areas of Mutual of Omaha, regarding the required actions to become compliant with these laws/regulations.

Ron has served as a member of the Steering Committee for the State of Nebraska Health Information Security and Privacy Committee (HISPC) since 2006. He was an active participant in the Nebraska's WEDI-SNIP Privacy Work Group for implementing HIPAA. Ron is also active in insurance and financial service industry trade groups, dedicated to addressing and influencing privacy and data security-related issues, legislation and regulations. These include:

- Co-Chairman, Privacy and Confidentiality Work Group for America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP).
- Participant in Privacy Committee and a State Privacy Work Group for the American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI).

Ron has testified on privacy-related issues before the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics (NCVHS) in Washington, D.C. He has also made numerous presentations on privacy-related topics to various businesses, conferences and industry trade association groups.

Mary Steiner

Mary Steiner was appointed the Nebraska Medicaid Director on March 16, 2005. Prior to a short period as the Acting Medicaid Director, she was the Program Analysis and Research Administrator in the Financial Services Division. In that capacity Ms. Steiner managed the unit responsible for research, statistics, budget projections, reporting, information provision and support for aid programs of the Nebraska Health and Human Services System, Medicaid being the largest of those programs. Prior to being the unit manager, she held Financial Services positions that related to Medicaid statistics and budget. She worked in the Financial Services Division for a total of 25 years. Mary continues to work in Medicaid but is no longer the Director of the program, which has been merged with other program areas to form the Medicaid and Long Term Care Division of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Nancy Shank

Nancy Shank is the Associate Director of the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center. The Center contributes to public policy by developing and making available objective analysis of public issues for the public, elected officials, executive agencies, and others who represent the diverse interests of Nebraskans. Nancy's work has focused on information technology and health and human services delivery systems. Ms. Shank was the principal investigator for a 3-year U.S. Department of Commerce Technologies Opportunities Program (TOP) grant that brought partners together across the U.S. to develop the technological link between propriety software and xml standards

to enable interoperable information and referral resource sharing. The standards developed through that project are now being used to pilot the ne211.org coordinated data website. She is currently the principal investigator for a three-year (2005-08) Transforming Healthcare Quality Through Information Technology-Implementation Grant through the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and had previously served as the Planning Grant (2004-05) principal investigator. The Regional Health Records for Nebraska's Panhandle Project is a collaborative hospitals, public health, behavioral health, and others to create a sustainable electronic method for sharing health information within the remote, 14,000 square-mile, Nebraska Panhandle region. Nancy serves on the board of the National Human Services Data Consortium and is an active member of the Alliance of Information and Referral Services XML Technology Subcommittee and the Human Services XML Workgroup. She has also been active with the Nebraska Health Information Initiative and the Nebraska Health Information Security and Privacy Committee. She currently serves on the Nebraska Information Technology Commission eHealth Council. She has consulted with numerous organizations throughout Nebraska and the U.S. on organizational development, program evaluation, and information sharing.

Alice Henneman

Alice Henneman, MS, RD obtained her undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Nebraska and completed an internship at Indiana University to become a registered dietitian. She is currently an extension educator with University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension. She is responsible for developing and delivering food, nutrition and food safety information to consumer and professional groups. In addition to presenting programs, she also uses the Internet extensively to communicate via a Website and Email newsletters.

Jim Krieger

Jim Krieger is Vice Chairman and Chief Financial Officer of The Gallup Organization. He joined Gallup in 1978. He is responsible for corporate financial governance and allocating financial resources to enhance Gallup's value and ensure its future.

Krieger's mission is to safeguard and invest Gallup's financial assets to achieve long-term, sustainable growth in stockholder value superior to the market. He also facilitates productive local and worldwide relationships that achieve key management and client outcomes. Under his leadership, the Accounting Department works to develop financial scorekeeping systems that support internal and external business partnerships and Gallup's crucial management cornerstones, including per-person productivity and pay for performance measures.

Krieger has extensive experience in international business and has served as Gallup's President of International Operations. From 1992 through 2001, Gallup expanded its operations in the United States and throughout the world, and Krieger led Gallup's efforts to acquire or start offices in business strategic locations. Gallup currently operates more than 40 offices in 20 countries.

Krieger serves on the board of directors, as a member of the executive committee, and as co-chair of the Education and Workforce Development Council of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. As a member of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Business

Administration Advisory Board and co-chair of the Accounting Department Advisory Group, he supports the college and its Accountancy Department on an ongoing basis.

Krieger received his bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He is a Certified Public Accountant and a member of the Nebraska and American Institutes of Certified Public Accountants.

Marsha Morien

Marsha Morien is the Administrative Director of the Center for Biosecurity and the Administrator of Computer Assisted Medicine and Surgery at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She provides leadership in Program planning and development to enhance clinical, educational, and research oriented Biosecurity preparedness for Nebraska and the nation. She is also responsible for program development in the areas of minimally invasive and robotic surgery and software applications for public health and Medical specialties. She led the implementation of Personal Health Records for students at UNMC.

Henry Zach

I am president of HDC 4Point Dynamics a Nebraska company specializing in Personal Health Records (PHRs). PHRs have gained much notoriety lately and are beginning to grow in popularity as part of the "Consumerism" in healthcare. I have taken part in many early meetings concerning the "Nebraska Initiative" and am confident I can add many insights into how a PHR would tie into a network of information sharing that would be beneficial to providers and patients alike.

Biographical Sketch

Kimberly A. Galt, Pharm.D., FASHP

Kimberly Galt is Professor of Pharmacy Practice and Associate Dean for Research, School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, and Director of the Creighton University Health Services Research Program (CHRP) in Omaha, Nebraska (<http://chrp.creighton.edu>). Dr. Galt received her pharmacy degrees from the University of Michigan. Her post-graduate training has emphasized outcomes research, continuous quality improvement and management, and the integration of computing technologies into research, teaching and clinical healthcare practice uses within the health professions. She has developed and managed pharmacist's primary care consultative ambulatory practice sites in the private and Veterans Affairs systems, supervised specialized drug information and clinical pharmacy services, and practiced general hospital, community and long-term care pharmacy. She is actively conducting research in patient with an emphasis on the impact of health information technology. Her research includes a three year study funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality on e-prescribing and clinical informatics with hand held technology and medication safety in primary care. She is also principal investigator on a two year Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality study to build research infrastructure capacity. In this project she leads an interprofessional team who is studying the adaptation and adoption of electronic health information technologies and the electronic health record. She is also studying the impact of culture and teamwork in the operating room arena with colleagues at the Creighton University Medical Center, and reporting error systems for allied health professionals. She holds appointments as a member of the **Health Information Technology National Resource Center Steering Committee** for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (2005-2008) and as a permanent member of the **Health Care Technology and Decision Sciences Study Section**, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (2005 – 09). She has served as an expert panel member on AHRQ Panels for Health Center IT, Medication Gap Research, and AHRQ Practice Based Research Network Resource Center. She has also served as a Special Emphasis Panel reviewer for AHRQ's Health IT Demonstration Grant and Planning Grant portfolio. She is presently a member of the Health Information Security and Privacy Committee (HISPC) for the state of Nebraska and serves to provide research support for the group. Dr. Galt is Chair of the Inter-professional Taskforce to Develop a Patient Safety Curriculum for Creighton University involving 18 individuals from a variety of health and professional disciplines.