

STATE OF ROWEN

AN INAUGURAL GATHERING OF
CONNECTION AND COMMUNICATION



First Annual State of Rowen Event

Welcome to State of Rowen, an inaugural gathering of connection and communication. This annual event was envisioned with our partners to share our collective accomplishments over the last year, highlight work on the horizon and cast a vision for our shared future. Today's event will feature engaging commentary, discussions and leadership on the convergence of our programmatic drivers - medicine, agriculture, and the environment - offering a glimpse into the future of these industries and how Rowen will play a role in advancing these global sectors. We hope today inspires you and connects you to our mission and vision as we move forward together in 2022.

For more information and to reference past studies, resources, etc. please visit www.rowenlife.com



Our Speakers

MASON AILSTOCK

President, Rowen Foundation



Mason Ailstock is a recognized leader in innovation districts and mission-driven developments. With nearly 20 years' experience working with non-profit institutions, governments and industry, Mason has a track record of converging real estate, academia, and business to advance communities of innovation. Immersed in the planning and visioning of Rowen, Mason is responsible for project leadership and operations as President and CEO of Rowen Foundation, the non-profit steward that ensures the long-term vision for Rowen is never compromised. Prior to leading Rowen, Mason served as the Chief Operating Officer of Research Triangle Park in North Carolina. Mason is the Past President of the Association of University Research Parks (AURP, Co-Chairman of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) University Development & Innovation Council, a member of the ULI Center for Leadership, Women's Leadership Initiative, and the Global Eisenhower Fellowships.

MARLON ALLEN

Partner, RAMP Marketing



Marlon Allen was born and raised in Columbus, GA. He attended Columbus State University (CSU) after earning a scholarship to play both baseball and basketball. In 1994, after his junior year, the Cincinnati Reds drafted him as a first baseman. He played for 5 years in the Reds Minor League Organization and coached for one year as a hitting instructor. In 2000, Marlon returned to CSU to complete his degree in Computer Information Management. After careers in ministry and other non-profit organizations, Marlon co-founded Ramp Sportswear, a company dedicated to manufacturing high quality sports uniforms and apparel. Marlon lives in Dacula, GA where he and his wife, Tasha, of 20 years have raised their kids, MJ and Sarah. Marlon's life mission is to help all people see their tremendous potential to win in every aspect of their lives.

CHARBEL AOUN

Founding President and CEO, Georgia First Generation Foundation



Charbel Aoun is the Founding President and CEO of the Georgia First Generation Foundation, a nonprofit organization championing first-generation student success within Gwinnett County. Charbel is a first-generation pharmacy student from a Middle Eastern immigrant family and a published scholar in digital literacy, data visualization, organizational development, and change management. He has received many accolades throughout his career, recognizing his accomplishments in healthcare and education. More recently, he was recognized by the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce as an Emerging Entrepreneur and by Gwinnett Young Professionals as a finalist of Gwinnett's 35 Under 35. Charbel earned his Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Georgia State University in 2018 as a Coca-Cola First Generation Scholar and was awarded over \$55,000 in scholarship funds. He currently attends PCOM Georgia where he earned Master of Science Degrees in Biomedical Sciences and Organizational Development & Leadership and is now a Doctor of Pharmacy degree candidate.





CAROLINE BELMONT

**Head of US Global Innovation and US Regulatory Affairs,
Boehringer Ingelheim**

Caroline is an agricultural sciences graduate of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in the United Kingdom, who moved into Animal Health and has built and enjoyed a 25+ year career in this fascinating industry. She spent the first third of her career gaining expertise in animal health regulatory affairs while based in the UK and then relocated to the Midwest region of the USA in 2003 to work for Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health to further a career on a global level. After taking on progressive leadership roles, Caroline now leads the US Global Innovation and US Regulatory affairs organization for Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health.



DR. VALERIE CADET

**Director of Health Equity Curricular Initiatives and Associate
Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, PCOM Georgia**

Valerie E. Cadet, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at PCOM Georgia in Suwanee. In addition, she serves as the Director of Health Equity Curricular Initiatives for the PCOM osteopathic medicine programs. She teaches biomedical science and osteopathic medicine students about virology, emerging infections, animal to human infections, vaccines, the immune system and general and infectious disease epidemiology. Dr. Cadet earned a doctorate degree in infectious diseases from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Cadet has furthered her virology and vaccine expertise by co-leading PCOM Georgia's COVID-19 Vaccine Education Project. In addition, she has published a paper about the use of poxviruses in cancer therapy, while maintaining collaborations with vaccine and virus researchers.



DARREN GOEBEL

Director of Global Agronomy and Farm Solutions, AGCO

Darren Goebel is an agronomist and director of Global Agronomy and Farm Solutions at AGCO Corporation, a position he has held since February of 2018. In this role Darren leads AGCO's agronomy and farm solutions team, a global team of agronomists whose goal is to prove return on investment and effectiveness of advanced decision agriculture solutions and existing AGCO machinery on test farms throughout the world leading to commercialization of products and services that bring enhanced value to AGCO customers. Darren has been a crop consultant and agronomist throughout his career, with work encompassing virtually all crops and geographies including Southeast Asia, China, India, Eastern Europe, Brazil, Mexico, U.S., and Canada.



Our Speakers

CHAIRWOMAN NICOLE LOVE HENDRICKSON **Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners**



Nicole Love Hendrickson was elected chairwoman of the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners in 2020, making her the first African American to hold this position. Prior to her election, she was the founding director of the Gwinnett County Community Outreach program, under the leadership of former Chairman Charlotte Nash. She launched several community-based initiatives, including the Gwinnett 101 Citizens Academy and the Gwinnett Youth Commission. Before her tenure with the County, Nicole served as the associate director of the Gwinnett Coalition for Health and Human Services for eight years. Nicole has been recognized as Engineering Georgia's 100 Most Influential Women in Georgia and Atlanta Business Chronicle's Power 100: Most Influential Atlantans. She was the recipient of Congressman Hank Johnson's Trailblazer Award, a recipient of the Gwinnett Chamber Public Service Award, and Georgia Trend named her one of the state's top 40 under 40 in 2018.

BOB HUGHES **Founding Principal, HGOR**



With over forty years of experience as a landscape architect, planner and founding principal of HGOR, Bob Hughes has been recognized for his professional and personal contributions to the growth and expansion of Atlanta's community. His experience working on significant projects from civic and educational institutions to workplace and community-oriented developments has allowed HGOR to be recognized with over 100 design awards in over twenty-three states and six countries. Bob's innate ability to speak the language of his clients has enabled him to build consensus around a comprehensive vision while providing innovative design solutions that are responsive to context, climate, culture and address critical issues. Throughout his career, Bob's thoughtful design approach calls attention to the most distinctive natural attributes of a given place, while his collaborations and community outreach strategies extend the boundaries of traditional landscape architecture.

DR. JANN JOSEPH **President, Georgia Gwinnett College**



Dr. Jann L. Joseph has spent her career working to increase educational opportunities and student success. Dr. Joseph has served as president of Georgia Gwinnett College since 2019. She came to GGC from the University of Indiana – South Bend where she served as executive vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, Division of Student Engagement and Success and then as interim chancellor. She currently serves as chair of the University System of Georgia Council on General Education and currently serves on the boards of the Atlanta Regional Council for Higher Education, Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce, Georgia Hispanic Chamber, Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful, Rainbow Village and The Water Tower at Gwinnett.





DR. KIER KLEPZIG

Director and Scientist in Entomology, The Jones Center at Ichauway

Dr. Klepzig has been the Director of the Jones Center at Ichauway in southwest Georgia since July of 2017. The Center employs 85 employees (including 7 PhD scientists, land managers, technical support, conservation workers and outreach staff), as well as 30 graduate students, on over 29,000 acres of longleaf pine, rivers, wetlands, ag fields and more. Kier received his MS and PhD from the University of Wisconsin. His personal research focuses on bark beetles, fungi, and medicinal compounds from plants in longleaf pine forests. Formerly, he was the Assistant Director of Research for the USDA Forest Service in Asheville, NC, and before that a Research Entomologist for the USDAFS in Pineville, LA.



SACHIN SHAIENDRA

Chairman, Rowen Foundation Board of Directors

As President of SG Contracting, Inc., Sachin has responsibility for the company in its entirety, governing its activities and providing the direction to smoothly and efficiently match people and projects to deliver successful outcomes. Sachin is known for his integrity, honesty and commitment to client satisfaction. His extensive portfolio of construction experience and his ability to solve problems and effectively communicate plans and processes at all levels, make him a valuable leader to assist owners, subcontractors, architects and designers with new projects and renovation projects alike. Sachin is a graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and an alumnus of Woodward Academy, where he has also served as a former President of the Alumni Association and Member of the school's Advisory Council. He is the past chairman of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. He is also a current Member of the Carter Center Board of Councilors, Rotary Club of Atlanta, The Atlanta Police Foundation, Atlanta Speech School, Chairman of the Rowen Foundation, and Trustee of The Georgia Research Alliance.



ARTHUR TRIPP

State Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency

Arthur Tripp is a native Georgian who was born in Warner Robins. On October 12, 2021, he was appointed by President Biden to lead the USDA for the State of Georgia. Previously, Tripp served as the Senior Policy Advisor to U.S. Congressman David Scott, current Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on Agriculture, where he handled the agriculture policy portfolio for the Congressman. Additionally, he served as a Senior Administrator in the Office of the President at the University of Georgia and as District Director for Georgia's 7th Congressional District. Tripp is a graduate of the University of Georgia (UGA) and has been previously recognized as a member of the UGA 40 Under 40 and has served on the Alumni Board of Directors for the UGA School of Public and International Affairs.



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WWW.ROWENLIFE.COM

