



16th Annual Youth Leadership Summit for Sustainable Development Blue Economy Speakers



Daniela Fernandez

Daniela Fernandez founded the Sustainable Ocean Alliance (SOA) when she was just 19 years old. This organization develops leaders, cultivates ideas, and accelerates solutions in the field of ocean health and sustainability – and is the world’s largest network of young environmental leaders, with contributors from over 150 countries worldwide. SOA leads the way in innovation by offering a leadership program, as well as an Oceans Solutions Accelerator, aimed at supporting brilliant startups that contribute to the health of the ocean. For her work, Daniela has been recognized by the likes of U.S. Secretary John Kerry and former President Bill Clinton. She is also a member of the World Economic Forum’s Friends of Ocean Action, and has been nominated by Forbes’ 30 Under 30 for her environmental achievements.



Paul Matthias

Paul Matthias is the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Sr. Manager and Chief Engineer for the National Science Foundation Funded Ocean Observatories Initiative, a collection of seven integrated ocean observatories with over 800 multi-disciplinary instruments providing realtime data to anyone with an Internet connection. Previously, Paul was a Sr. Manager at Raytheon, and the owner of Polaris Imaging, Inc., an ocean engineering systems and services company that provided ocean floor searches and surveys including *Lusitania*, *Britannic*, *Estonia*, *Titanic* '96 and '98 and many others. Paul holds an MS Oceanography, an MBA in Management, and a PMP Certification.



Tiffany Ferreira

Tiffany Ferreira, Development Operations Manager, is engaged in numerous permitting, stakeholder, and project development matters. Tiffany spent many years in the renewable energy industry including with a solar developer, permitting both residential and commercial scale projects. She earned dual bachelor’s of science degrees in math and physics from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and is currently working on her Ph.D. in engineering and applied science with a specialization in computer science and engineering, also at UMass Dartmouth. Tiffany resides in New Bedford and is a strong advocate for women in STEM careers.



Robert Rak

He is a lifelong resident of the City of Fall River. He grew up in the City's south end. He attended Bishop Connolly High School. He received his Bachelor Degree in Biology from the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA and his Master's Degree in Marine Biology from the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth (Southeastern Massachusetts University at the time). He worked as a Biological Aide and Research Assistant at NOAA's Northeast Marine Fisheries Science Center in Woods Hole, and as a Whale Watch naturalist for the Princess Cruise Lines in Plymouth, MA. He then worked for 11 ½ years as the Laboratory Director at the Fall River Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility followed by a part-time position as a computer instructor at Dominican Academy in Fall River, MA. He began his career at Bristol Community College as a part-time Coordinator of the Environmental Technology Program in 1996 and was hired to the faculty full-time in 1997. He has worked on numerous grants from the Environmental Protection Agency, Massachusetts Environmental Trust, Bristol Community College Foundation, and the National Science Foundation. He holds a Massachusetts Grade 7 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's License and a Massachusetts Grade 3 Drinking Water Treatment Plant Operator License. He enjoys walking, hiking, gardening, fishing, snowshoeing and cross country skiing.



Anthony Baro

Anthony is Founder & Managing Principal of E2SOL LLC (www.e2sol.com), an eleven years Rhode Island based Renewable Energy Development firm, and Co-Founder of PowerDocks LLC (www.power-docks.com) Anthony is a seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in developing products and systems for the U.S. Department of Defense, Industrial, Commercial, and Renewable Energy Industries. Anthony holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Roger Williams University and an M.B.A. from Nova Southeastern University. He holds two patents with Tyco International in the field of Electronic Article Surveillance and is also co-inventor in four patent pending renewable energy technologies with PowerDocks. Anthony is an active member of the New England Clean Energy Council, Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, Clean Technologies Sustainable Industries, The Maritime Alliance, Association of Marinas International, Southern New England Defense Industry Association, and is a Stakeholder in Ocean State Clean Cities.

Anthony, a native Floridian, is an avid sailor and resides with his family in Bristol, R.I.