

Speaker Biographies



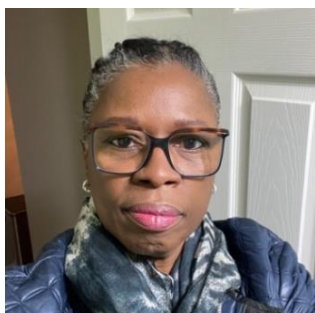
Aneesha

Aneesha Badrinarayan, Panel Leadership Team Director of State Performance Assessment Initiatives Learning Policy Institute

Aneesha Badrinarayan leads projects related to state performance assessments. For the last decade, her work has focused on supporting states, districts, and educators to develop and implement student-centered systems of assessment that support all learners.

Her passion for coherent and balanced systems of assessment stems from a commitment to high-quality teaching and learning for all and a deep interest in helping practitioners and leaders navigate their systems to achieve that vision. Prior to LPI, she was the Director for Special Initiatives at Achieve, a museum professional, and a neuroscientist. Her portfolio includes leading several multi-state teams of leaders and experts to redefine "alignment" in the era of new state standards; developing criteria for innovative large-scale and classroom assessments; providing professional learning and strategic guidance for state leaders; and conducting analyses of state, local, and expert efforts to design and implement performance assessments and systems of assessment in science.

Badrinarayan earned a M.S. in Neuroscience at the University of Michigan, where she served as a research fellow for the National Institute of Mental Health, and a B.A. in biology from Cornell University.



Nancy

Dr. Nancy Hopkins-Evans, Panel Leadership Team Associate Director for Program Impact BSCS Science Learning

Nancy Hopkins-Evans is the Associate Director for Program Impact at BSCS Science Learning. As a former college chemistry professor, she understands and cares deeply about students having exceptional learning experiences in science that leverage their communities and cultures while building conceptual understanding as they figure out science ideas instead of learning about science through memorization of facts and theories. She has worked in large and small school systems developing and implementing curriculum, professional learning and assessment aligned to state standards, the common core state standards, and the Next Generation Science Standards. She presents at conferences and leads professional learning for teachers, principals, directors, and superintendents focused on experiences and activities that support effective teaching and learning for ALL students particularly those from under-served and under-estimated communities. She recently served on a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine committee to develop the consensus study report entitled, Call to Action for Science Education, Building Opportunity for the Future. She holds degrees in chemistry from Chestnut Hill College and Villanova University and earned a Ph.D. in biological chemistry from the University of Michigan.

Speaker Biographies



Tiffany

Dr. Tiffany Neill, Development Panel Member Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Oklahoma State Department of Education

Tiffany Neill is the Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction for the Oklahoma State Board of Education and the past president for the Council of State Science Supervisors. She is a member of the National Science Foundation STEM Advisory Panel. She also served as co-principal investigator for Advancing Coherent and Equitable Systems of Science for 7 years. Prior to her current role, Neill served as the executive director of curriculum and instruction for 3 years and as the director of science and engineering education for 5 years at the Oklahoma State Department of Education. She began her career in education as a middle and high school science teacher. She has served on National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine committees authoring the reports: Changing Expectations for the K–12 Teacher Workforce: Policies, Preservice Education, Professional Development, and the Workplace (2020), Science and Engineering in Preschool Through Elementary Grades: The Brilliance of Children and Strengths of Educators (2022) and Call to Action for Science Education: Building Opportunity for the Future (2022). Neill recently completed a Ph.D. in instructional leadership and academic curriculum in science education at the University of Oklahoma.