

CAPSULE

Mentor Profiles

Dear Participant,

This document contains a compiled list of information about each of the mentors who will be attending this event. Page numbers have been added for each of the mentor's names to make this document easy to navigate.

Connect with our mentors through the #find\_a\_mentor channel or direct message them including your teammates. For more information about connecting with mentors, watch [this video](#) (5 mins).

Please note that the mentor profiles are in no particular order.

We hope that this document helps empower you before, during, and after the event!

If you have any questions, please let us know!

Sincerely,  
Capsule 2020 Core Team

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Main point of contact:	5
Nimay Parekh	6
Bryan Hsu	7
Chanjuan Chen	8
Vishakha Sehgal	9
Yuriy Vlasov	10
Madison Gove	11
Monil Kothari	12
Murphy Poindexter	13
Marisa Ishikawa	14
Nate Crosser	15
Ayna Arora	16
Trent Duffy	17
Clarisse Buerrier	18
Emily Schlossman	19
Maria Aranguren Rojas	20
Fareena Contractor	21
Ryan Baker	22
Yashwanth Lingareddy	23
Jennifer Wheeler	24
Richard Garen	25
Amitha Krishnappa	26
Sophie Zhang	27
Kevin Korecka	28
Patricia Christianson	29
Mathieu Dutour	30
Karunashree Saproo	31
Peter Rod	32

David Rothenberg	33
Tori Bush	34
Marc O'Brien	35
Reuben Martens	36
Yana Mikheleva, BSN RN	37
Sumeet Sandhu	38
Jonathan Lowell	39
Melanie Ryan	40
Kristie Chin	41
Tian Su	42
Tom Quigley	43
Chris Franke	44
Paul Peterson	45
Tyler Stone	46
Heather Crochetiere	47
Kitty Liang	48
Erin Keys	49
Jialu You	50
Sumair Hasan	51
Tyler Watson	52
Brijesh Singhal	53

## Main point of contact:

Eva Lynch  
Co-Director, Challenge Program  
eva@techttogether.io

Feel free to grab any Capsule 2020 Core Team Member at any point for questions!



## Nimay Parekh

[www.nimayparekh.com](http://www.nimayparekh.com)

Title:

Head of Cloud Offerings

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Cloudreach

Area(s) of Expertise:

Enterprise SaaS

Skill Sets:

Product Management

Short bio:

Head of Cloud Offerings at Cloudreach, a Blackstone portfolio company. Formerly, he headed Product at Mendel Health and Visenze and Growth at Belleds. INSEAD MBA and Singularity University GSP 2014.



## Bryan Hsu

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hsubyron>

Title:

Co-founder, CTO

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Paragon One

Area(s) of Expertise:

Career Education, Entrepreneurship, Technology

Skill Sets:

MVP Software Development, Product Development, Startups

Short bio:

Byron is currently leading the technology and product for Paragon One, a remote work platform for students. Previously, he founded and exited two ecommerce companies, where he built the software and grew the operations. He is excited to help students test and develop ideas that can make the world a better place!



## Chanjuan Chen

[www.chanjuanchen.com](http://www.chanjuanchen.com)

Title:

Assistant Professor

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Kent State University

Area(s) of Expertise:

Fashion Design, Sustainability, Technical Design

Skill Sets:

Fashion Design, fashion construction, upcycling, modular design and CAD

Short bio:

Chanjuan Chen is a design research scholar, educator, and contributor to the study of fashion sustainability. Her research on upcycling and transformability has made significant social and environmental impact through extensive, peer-reviewed design scholarship nationally and internationally. Chanjuan teaches various fashion design courses at the Kent State University Fashion School. She also has industry experience working as a fashion designer, technical designer, and graphic designer in both China and the United States.





## Vishakha Sehgal

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/vishakhasehgal/>

Title:

Software Engineer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

N/A

Area(s) of Expertise:

Fintech, E-commerce, Technology

Skill Sets:

Programming Languages (Javascript - Node.js | React, Java, Python), Technologies (Github), Technical/Solution Design

Short bio:

Vishakha Sehgal is a Full Stack Software Engineer at PayPal. Vishakha was involved in numerous hackathons in capacities of participating, volunteering, and organizing during her undergraduate career. She is super excited to help brainstorm and implement ideas, especially in a technical capacity!



## Yuriy Vlasov

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/yuriy-vlasov-mba-5b824370/>

Title:  
CEO

Company/Organization Affiliated With:  
Watts Battery

Area(s) of Expertise:  
Renewables, Energy Storage, Solar Energy, Sustainable Development

Skill Sets:  
Product Development, Sustainable Engineering, People Management, Fundraising

Short bio:  
Yuriy Vlasov is founder and CEO of startup Watts Battery, a company producing user-friendly modular solar energy storage, helping to reduce the complexity of access to renewable energy to nontechnical people. Has more than 10 years experience in business development and engineering. This is his first time Hackathon attendance as a mentor.



## Madison Gove

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/madison-gove-66525884/>

Title:

Social Innovation Initiative Program Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

UT Austin - McCombs School of Business

Area(s) of Expertise:

Social entrepreneurship, Higher Education, Program/Product Development, Business Development, Philanthropy

Skill Sets:

Human-centered design, impact measurement, grant writing, market research, strategic communication, corporate social responsibility and sustainability

Short bio:

Madison received a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree from the Business Honors and Marketing programs at The McCombs School of Business in 2017. She also earned a Master of Public Affairs (MPAff) degree from The LBJ School in 2019. Her primary interest is in using entrepreneurship to foster sustainable social change, especially in education. She has experience building student programs, creating an app for a social enterprise, being on a Board for a nonprofit, building a social enterprise in Kenya, and conducting research.



## Monil Kothari

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/monilkothari/>

Title:

Owner

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Luxcom Inc.

Area(s) of Expertise:

Fine jewelry, E-Commerce

Skill Sets:

Fine jewelry merchandising, jewelry production, logistics, operations, amateur product manager

Short bio:

Spent the past 7 years in the diamond jewelry industry. Started and currently run my own online jewelry business.



## Murphy Poindexter

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/murphy-poindexter-b268b631/>

Title:

Investor / Entrepreneur

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

N/A

Area(s) of Expertise:

Finance, Product Management, Investments, Project Management

Skill Sets:

Solar Energy

Short bio:

Murphy Poindexter has extensive experience in the startup sphere, with particular expertise in business development and financial management. His multi-faceted career has spanned a diverse array of industries in both the U.S. and Japan, including alternative energy, real estate, technology and app development, project finance, and structured finance involving private and public equities.



## Marisa Ishikawa

[www.austincamerata.org](http://www.austincamerata.org) | [www.marisafrances.com](http://www.marisafrances.com)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-ishikawa-001814142](https://www.linkedin.com/in/marisa-ishikawa-001814142)

Title:

Co-Founder

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Austin Camerata

Area(s) of Expertise:

Music

Skill Sets:

Artistic collaboration, educational outreach, unconventional concerts, arts nonprofits

Short bio:

Marisa Ishikawa earned her DMA, Doctor of Musical Arts, in violin performance from the University of Colorado Boulder and holds a Bachelor of Science: Business Administration from CU Boulder, Leeds School of Business. Dr. Ishikawa co-founded the nonprofit chamber music organization Austin Camerata in 2016. Austin Camerata's mission is to enrich the city of Austin, TX by introducing new audiences to the world of chamber music through creative concerts, artistic collaborations, and community outreach.



## Nate Crosser

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/natecrosser/>

Title:

Startup Growth Specialist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

The Good Food Institute

Area(s) of Expertise:

Startups, alternative proteins, foodtech

Skill Sets:

Business models, corporate law, venture capital

Short bio:

Nate works at the Good Food Institute, a non-profit that is accelerating the alternative protein (plant-based, cultivated, and fermentation-derived meat, eggs, and dairy) industry. There, he consults with startups and investors to capitalize, commercialize, and scale new products and services as well as build tools for the alternative protein industry at large. Nate previously worked at a university biotechnology incubator and earned a B.A. and J.D. from the University of Kansas.



## Ayna Arora

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/aynaarora>

Title:

Regional Coordinator

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Thought For Food

Area(s) of Expertise:

COG, Food, Sustainability

Skill Sets:

Go to market, Marketing, Innovation, Food Science

Short bio:

Ayna is a Global Manager working in Corporate VC working with pre-seed stage startups based out of NYC. She holds a BS in Food Science and Entrepreneurship from Ohio State University. Her experience spans to starting her own CPG company to working in food waste and innovation consulting to working as a pastry chef in 5 countries with her work having been recognized by organizations such as TedX, Fast Company, and Mars Wrigley. She serves as a Mentor for Big Idea Ventures and Food-X and a Regional Coordinator for Thought for Food.





## Trent Duffy

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/trentduffy/> | <https://trentduffy.com/>

Title:

Frontend Software Engineer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

N/A

Area(s) of Expertise:

Agtech

Skill Sets:

Chrome Extensions, React, Storytelling, Creating an MVP/SLC

Short bio:

Hi! I'm a frontend product engineer who loves to help users solve their problems in the simplest way possible. Let me know if you need help scoping your hack, discussing how to make sure it delivers value + solve the problem for the user, or with frontend problems!



## Clarisse Buerrier

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/clarisse-b-2800b8150/>

Title:

MPhil researcher in Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

GFIdeas

Area(s) of Expertise:

Food tech

Skill Sets:

Life Cycle Assessments, Techno Economic Analysis, Bioinformatics, Science Policy, Innovation Management, Computational Skills [R, Python, MATLAB], Laboratory Skills [Bacterial and Mammalian Cell Culture]

Short bio:

MPhil student in Chemical Engineering & Biotechnology at the University of Cambridge, working on developing a sustainable cultured meat production process to tackle global challenges such as climate change, antibiotic resistance and deforestation.



## Emily Schlossman

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/emily-schlossman-79b2204b/> | [www.ejschlossman.com](http://www.ejschlossman.com)

Title:

Product Designer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Latch

Area(s) of Expertise:

Product/UX Design

Skill Sets:

Product/UX design, product management, user research, product strategy

Short bio:

Hi! I'm Emily, a product designer at a startup in New York. I have a background in HCI and UX design, and I've been a product designer for the past 5 years. I love improving inefficient processes and creating efficient and impactful experiences.



## Maria Aranguren Rojas

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/maria-aranguren-rojas-842400188/>

Title:

Board Member of Women@EIT

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

European Institute of Technology (EIT)

Area(s) of Expertise:

Industrial Ecology, Complex Systems, Energy Transition, Innovation

Skill Sets:

Technical: Agent Based Modelling, GIS

Non-Technical: Project facilitator & manager, design thinking process, system mapping

Short bio:

I am currently finishing my MSc in Industrial Ecology at TU Delft in the Netherlands. I am very interested in social innovation, especially at the intersect between environmental and social sustainability. In the past few years I have participated in several innovation focused activities (e.g. Climate-KIC@EIT, Mothership Coder's missions) and collaborated in a couple of international development projects, focused on social innovation and entrepreneurship, being the co-founder of one of them. I am now embarking on a new adventure as part of a board working for women empowerment in the European Institute of Technology.



## Fareena Contractor

[linkedin.com/in/fareena](https://www.linkedin.com/in/fareena)

Title:

Director, International Innovation

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Technology, Retail

Skill Sets:

Emerging technology, design thinking, strategy, startup

Short bio:

I am passionate about constantly learning, testing and positively changing the world! Today I lead the emerging technology team at Walmart International. When I'm not working you can find me backpacking around the world or in search of new experiences.



## Ryan Baker

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ryan-baker-60558973/> | <https://github.com/rdbaker/>

Title:

Founding Software Engineer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Singularity Energy

Area(s) of Expertise:

Software product development

Skill Sets:

Full-stack software development, product management

Short bio:

I'm a software engineer who has only worked at startups. I love the challenge of building and iterating on a product while delivering value to customers. I also love the challenge of solving complex technical challenges from setting up the servers, to making the UI snappy and satisfying. I moved into the energy industry to help make our energy more renewable.



## Yashwanth Lingareddy

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/yashwanth-lingareddy>

Title:

Software Engineer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Start-ups, coding

Skill Sets:

C#, Javascript

Short bio:

Believer of finding smart solutions to new and existing problems which make Earth a better place to live.



## Jennifer Wheeler

Title:

Sr. Manager Supply Chain Sustainability

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Transportation, Sustainability, Supply Chain, Operations Management

Skill Sets:

Project management, Customer / User-facing visualization, Transportation industry knowledge and experience

Short bio:

Jennifer Wheeler leads Walmart's transportation sustainability efforts with a primary focus on alternative fuels, electrification and fuel economy for Walmart's private fleet of heavy duty vehicles. During her 17 year tenure with the retailer, Jennifer has held a variety of operational and analytical roles on Walmart's transportation team where she has led initiatives to streamline operations, enhance business strategies and improve fleet efficiency. Jennifer earned a bachelor of science in public relations from Southeast Missouri State University, as well as a masters of science in operations management from the University of Arkansas.





## Richard Garen

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/richardgaren/>

Title:

Senior Engineering Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Information Technology, Retail, Manufacturing, Telecomm

Skill Sets:

Pilot, Automotive enthusiast (gas, electric vehicles), Gadget lover (3D printer, etc.)

Short bio:

Richard Garen is a self-motivated and driven technology professional with strong leadership and management skills, technical breadth, and business acumen. Since 2018 he has volunteered with the US Civil Air Patrol, where he supports the organization's mission of emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development and promotion of air, space and cyber power.



## Amitha Krishnappa

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/amitha-krishnappa-6109632>

Title:

Director, Analytics in Global Technology

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

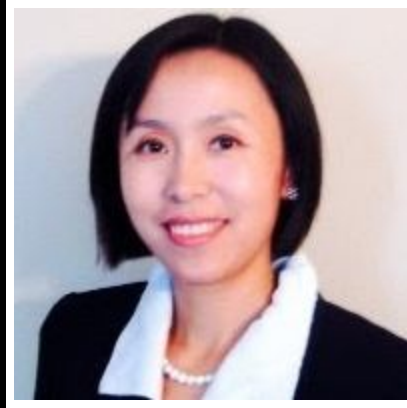
Payment/Finance and Retail Industry

Skill Sets:

Analytics: Product, Operational, and Customer

Short bio:

Amitha drives business using data & insights combined with industry trends and customer needs. She is passionate about women equality and is championing programs at work and outside work. Having studied in Agriculture university she is keen on finding ways to make agriculture sustainable and supply chain nimble so we can adjust to situations like COVID-19 which has caused hunger and suffering on one side whereas farmers are dumping excess milk and produce!



## Sophie Zhang

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sophie-zhang-2731082/>

Title:

Senior Software Engineer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Software Development Life Cycle, Agile

Skill Sets:

C#, Visual Studio IDE, Chatbot, Azure, Databricks, Spark, PowerBI, MS SQL Server, Mongo DB, Docter, Scala, Python, etc...

Short bio:

Sophie Zhang has worked as a senior software engineer for Walmart Technology for almost two years. She has 10+ years experience in the software development field. She had been teaching math in community colleges when she started her career. She has not attended hackathon before, and is passionate about new progress in data analytics and machine learning.



## Kevin Korecka

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kevin-horecka/>

Title:

Principal Data Scientist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Computer Science, Embedded and Vision Systems, Computational Neuroscience (PhD), Natural Language Processing (NLP), Data Science, Machine Learning

Skill Sets:

Algorithms, Programming, Software Design/Architecture, Machine Learning, Data Science, or Related

Short bio:

I did my undergraduate degree in Computer Science at Texas Tech University with a focus on computer vision. I worked as an Embedded and Vision Systems Engineer at National Instruments for 4 years before going to get my PhD in Computational Neuroscience, studying human memory and the hippocampus. I've spent a good chunk of my free time since 2011 doing non-profit research, technology development, and medical technician work for Austin Pets Alive!, a no-kill animal shelter in Austin. I'm now the Principal Data Scientist in the Walmart NexTech Austin office with a focus on Natural Language Processing.



## Patricia Christianson

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/patchristianson/>

Title:

Talent Acquisition Event Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Green Building, Marketing, Product Management, Project Management

Skill Sets:

Branding, Product Management, Green Building

Short bio:

Passionate about sustainability. Pat has managed local event marketing, brand management, product development, product sourcing, merchandising, and manufacturing teams. She holds a LEED AP BD+C certification. Bilingual Spanish/English. Specialties: brand management, merchandising and product management, market research and competitive analysis, local event management, financial management, product placement and distribution, business development, apparel production and sourcing, apparel development, footwear, International business and markets, SEO/SEM, Social Media Marketing, Sustainable Design, Energy Efficiency



## Mathieu Dutour

<https://mathieu.dutour.me>

Title:

Design Technologist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

N/A

Area(s) of Expertise:

Software Engineering

Skill Sets:

JavaScript, React, CSS, Gatsby, NodeJS, AWS

Short bio:

Hello there, I'm Mathieu - a dev working on creating tools to help people work a tiny bit more efficiently. I previously worked @Sketch on the developer platform.



## Karunashree Sapuro

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/karuna-sapuro-0641679a/>

Title:

Data Analyst III - Tech

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Data Science, Data Analysis, Hackathons, Volunteering

Skill Sets:

R, Python, Java, Data Analysis, Natural Language Processing, Statistical Modeling

Short bio:

Karunashree did her master's in Business Intelligence and Data Analytics from Carnegie Mellon University before working for Walmart. She has participated in WiDS 2020 hackathon challenge along with many other Walmart in-house data science hackathon challenges and won second prize in LiveBetterHackathon. She is also involved in both learning and volunteering through WOW (Women of Walmart Labs), and Girls Who Code.



## Peter Rod

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/peter-rod-design/>

Title:

UX Designer

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Kentico

Area(s) of Expertise:

UX, Product Design, Digital Sustainability

Skill Sets:

Prototyping, Workshops, Ideation Techniques

Short bio:

I'm a UX designer @ Kentico with 5+ years of experience in various fields of design. I'm passionate about product and service design and in my side projects I focus on looking for ways to make digital products sustainable and minimise the carbon footprint they generate.





## David Rothenberg

[www.davidrothenberg.net](http://www.davidrothenberg.net)

Title:

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Music

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

New Jersey Institute of Technology

Area(s) of Expertise:

Environmental Arts and Humanities, Music Software Development, Publishing, Performing

Skill Sets:

Project Management, Website Marketing, Event Planning and Networking, Field Recording, Music, Philosophy

Short bio:

Musician and philosopher David Rothenberg wrote *Why Birds Sing*, *Bug Music*, *Survival of the Beautiful* and many other books, published in at least eleven languages. He has more than thirty recordings out, including *One Dark Night I Left My Silent House* which came out on ECM, and most recently *Tablatun* and *Trio Senza Rete*. He has performed or recorded with Pauline Oliveros, Peter Gabriel, Ray Phiri, Suzanne Vega, Scanner, Elliott Sharp, Iva Bittová, and the Karnataka College of Percussion. *Nightingales in Berlin* is his latest book, CD, and film. Rothenberg is Distinguished Professor of philosophy and music at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, and has a long history of work in environmental philosophy and environmental writing.



## Tori Bush

Title:

PhD Candidate, Instructor of Record

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

LSU

Area(s) of Expertise:

Ecocriticism and Postcolonialism

Skill Sets:

Crafting texts and critically thinking through problems

Short bio:

Environmentalist who lives along the Mississippi River in New Orleans, Louisiana. I have worked in nonprofits for ten years and taught in both traditional and non-traditional classrooms for the last five years. I am dedicated to addressing the long and lethal legacies of settler colonialism and racial capitalism that continue to deeply impact our culture, our communities, and our environment.



## Marc O'Brien

<http://marcobrien.net/>

Title:

Design Strategist | Creative Facilitator | Design Educator

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

The Determined, Climate Designers, California College of the Arts

Area(s) of Expertise:

Climate change, Design, Creativity, Social Entrepreneurship

Skill Sets:

Design Thinking, Rapid Prototyping, Prototyping Thinking, Lean Startup, Business Models, User Testing, Idea to Launch

Short bio:

As a design strategist, I help organizations find opportunities to make a huge, meaningful social impact in unexpected ways. With a background in both web and graphic design, I bring ideas to life so others can see what's possible. I aim for fun, achievable, and innovative solutions to address our climate crisis.



## Reuben Martens

[https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Reuben\\_Martens](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Reuben_Martens)

Title:

PhD Fellow

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

KU Leuven (Belgium) & UCLA (USA)

Area(s) of Expertise:

Environmental and Energy Humanities

Skill Sets:

Critical Thinking, Literary and Visual Culture (esp. Late 20th - early 21st century),  
Media Studies, Cultural Studies

Short bio:

Reuben Martens is a PhD Fellow at KU Leuven and UCLA, specialised in the energy humanities. His academic research focuses on speculative energy futures and the ways in which society's intense reliance on fossil fuels has come to deeply integrate into and inform Western cultural practices.



## Yana Mikheleva, BSN RN

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/yana-pont-rn-63681738>

Title:

Nurse Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Maitri Compassionate Care

Area(s) of Expertise:

Nursing, HIV Care, Nonprofit, Management, Harm Reduction Model, Trauma Informed Care, Mental Health, Respite Care, Hospice Care, Urgent Care

Skill Sets:

Clinical and Medical Knowledge

Short bio:

I am the Nurse Manager at a non profit respite and hospice facility for people living with HIV/AIDS. I started my career as a Medical Assistant to LVN to RN to BSN. I am currently looking into MSN programs and leading a team of wonderful nurses to provide a therapeutic environment to medically stabilize people experiencing homeless. I want to one day work in infection control and public health nursing.



## Sumeet Sandhu

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sumeet-sandhu/>

Title:  
CEO

Company/Organization Affiliated With:  
Elementary IP LLC

Area(s) of Expertise:  
Data Science / AI Across Multiple Areas: Legal/IP, eCommerce/fashion, wireless/telecom/IoT, and recently climate

Skill Sets:  
Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing

Short bio:  
Seasoned technologist across diverse verticals - legal/IP, wireless/telecom/IoT, eCommerce/fashion. Founded and led initiatives that positively impacted millions of customers/products/dollars. Thrive at leading top tech teams to identify and solve data science problems with the highest business/impact ROI. Trained at MIT (B.S, M.S) and Stanford (Ph.D).



## Jonathan Lowell

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonathan-lowell-3736b321/>

Title:

Community Engagement Liaison

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

University of Texas at Austin, Planet Texas 2050

Area(s) of Expertise:

Geography, Urban Studies, Food Studies, Qualitative Research Methods, GIS

Skill Sets:

GIS, Community Engagement

Short bio:

Jonathan Lowell is the current community liaison for Planet Texas 2050. He received his PhD in geography in 2018.



## Melanie Ryan

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/melryan00/>

Title:

Head of Programme

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Luc Hoffmann Institute / UNEP-WCMC

Area(s) of Expertise:

Environment

Skill Sets:

Sustainability, Systems Thinking, Process Design, Collaboration, Conservation, Diversity Issues, Gender, User Centered Design, Co-Creation, Theory of Change, Social Science, Research and Analysis, Survey Design, Training Design, Facilitation

Short bio:

I have worked in the conservation, river basin management, gender, capacity development and sustainability fields in Australia, the Philippines, Europe, India and the UK, as well as across a range of sectors. In my current role I work collaboratively to ensure the Luc Hoffmann Institute brings novel ideas, passionate people, networks and diverse perspectives together to design new collaborations that generate and test new approaches and ways of thinking for conservation globally. I am an author, researcher, process designer, and facilitator, and bring together practice and research; drawing on systems, complexity, collaboration, knowledge co-production and sustainability expertise to design and implement programmes and incubate ideas that push the boundaries of the how, who and what matters for a sustainable and just future on Earth.





## Kristie Chin

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristie-chin-a9a68126/>

Title:

Director of Civic Innovation

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

University of Texas at Austin - Center for Transportation Research

Area(s) of Expertise:

Transportation, Cities, Technology

Skill Sets:

Understanding of city strategic planning and advanced transportation technologies

Short bio:

Kristie Chin is the Director of Civic Innovation at the University of Texas at Austin Center for Transportation Research. She co-founded and leads the Texas Innovation Alliance, a network of transportation agencies and research institutions who are collaborating on the state's most pressing mobility issues. With a PhD in transportation engineering and M.Arch in urban design, she applies her expertise in smart cities to bridge technical and creative spaces.



## Tian Su

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tian-su-81103538/>

Title:

Director of Machine Learning

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Retail and Financial Industries

Skill Sets:

AI and Machine Learning

Short bio:

Tian Su has worked at Walmart, 7-Eleven, Bridgewater Associate, Capital One Financial, and Yale University Medical School as a tech leader, data scientist, investment engineer, data analyst, product manager/owner, and research scientist.



## Tom Quigley

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tommquigley/>

Title:

Community Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Conservation X Labs

Area(s) of Expertise:

Entrepreneurship, Lean startup, Community Management, Product Strategy, Conservation (primarily ocean)

Skill Sets:

No-code, Online Communities, Software Products, Coral Reefs

Short bio:

Tom Quigley manages a community of tech ventures that are building products to end the 6th mass extinction. In past lives, Tom has been a coral reef conservationist and employee #2 at a financial video-on-demand startup. AMA about the realities of launching a startup, problems related to oceans and coral reefs, and software product strategy.



## Chris Franke

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/chris-franke-68580a32/>

Title:

Senior Manager, Sustainability Analytics and Reporting

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Sustainability, Zero Waste, Environmental Compliance, Environmental Metrics Data & Reporting, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery

Skill Sets:

Certified Sustainability (CSR) Practitioner, TRUE Zero Waste Advisor

Short bio:

Chris Franke is a part of the Global Responsibility, Omnichannel Environmental Footprint Team, responsible for managing Walmart's global operational energy and waste data.



## Paul Peterson

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/paulmpeterson2/>

Title:

Student Associate

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Austin Technology Incubator (ATI)

Area(s) of Expertise:

Clean Technology, Military Technology

Skill Sets:

Project Management, Operations & Planning, People Management

Short bio:

Paul is a current MBA candidate at UT Austin concentrating in Clean Technology and Entrepreneurship, building upon his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. He is a U.S. Army Veteran, Multi-Functional Program Manager, and Operations Manager with 10 years experience in leadership roles. Paul is working with Austin Technology Incubator this summer to support their sustainability verticals with market research, competitive analysis, and support to portfolio companies.



## Tyler Stone

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tyler-stone-2a400677/>

Title:

Technical Product Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Wayfair

Area(s) of Expertise:

User experience research and design, design thinking, systems design, marketing technology, ad technology, email technology, real-time streaming architectures

Skill Sets:

User experience design, UI and API development, competitive analysis, collaborative design, MVP prioritization

Short bio:

Tyler is a human that is deeply interested in addressing problems faced by his fellow humans using technology. His expertise reflects this interest, focusing on areas such as design thinking and empathetic approaches to understanding an end user or customer, conducting user research and user interviews to better understand those problems, designing user interfaces and technical architectures to address both technical efficiency and meet customer needs, and more.



## Heather Crochetiere

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/hcrochetiere/>

Title:

Senior Specialist, Freshwater

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

WWF - Canada

Area(s) of Expertise:

Freshwater

Skill Sets:

Freshwater ecosystems, Water Tech, Project Management

Short bio:

Heather has been with WWF-Canada for 8 years where she led their first ever tech challenge, which focused on identifying tech enabled solutions for freshwater ecosystems and getting those solutions to scale. She has led various projects, coordinating WWF-Canada's involvement in the Fisheries Act and Impact Assessment Act modernization processes. She holds a BSc from McMaster University and a MES from the University of Waterloo.



## Kitty Liang

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/thekitty/>

Title:

Associate

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Big Idea Ventures

Area(s) of Expertise:

Venture Capital, Alternative proteins, Health & wellness, Entrepreneurship

Skill Sets:

Fundraising, Pitching, Branding, Design, Communications

Short bio:

Kitty Liang works with investing in and accelerating early stage plant based food and alternative protein startups worldwide. Liang is interested in the arts, sustainability, and saving the world.





## Erin Keys

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/erin-keys-79ab4b9/>

Title:

Director, Sustainability Incubator

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Austin Technology Incubator

Area(s) of Expertise:

energy, water

Skill Sets:

electric utilities, power markets, IoT and enterprise SaaS

Short bio:

Prior to ATI, Erin gained 12 years of experience in the power industry, including two years in a General Electric leadership development program and four years selling demand side management programs to electric utilities across the US. She has a MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, where she was a National Science Foundation Fellow under the direction of Dr. Michael Webber and competed in startup pitches related to the application of her research.



## Jialu You

<http://linkedin.com/in/jialu-you-668116129>

Title:

Data Scientist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

WalmartLabs

Area(s) of Expertise:

Merchandising data science

Skill Sets:

Python, R, SQL, Machine Learning, data cleaning, EDA, modeling, feature engineering, preprocessing and post processing, data visualizations, data analysis

Short bio:

Jialu You is a data scientist at WalmartLabs. She is strong at python coding, data analysis and machine learning models. She has more than 5 years of experience in projects of data analysis and machine learning of the whole data science lifecycle.



## Sumair Hasan

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sumair-hasan-89a2821a3>

Title:

Senior Manager

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Tech Finance

Skill Sets:

Semi tech

Short bio:

Sumair Hasan has experience in technology finance with specialization in telecommunications and connectivity services.



## Tyler Watson

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tyler-n-watson/>

Title:

Data Scientist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Retail, International Development

Skill Sets:

Machine Learning, Python

Short bio:

Tyler Watson is a data scientist currently focusing on time series forecasting and recommender systems. Watson has a background in political science and worked in international development prior to making a career change to data science. Watson is currently working towards their Master's in Computer Science from Georgia Tech.



## Brijesh Singhal

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/brijeshsinghal>

Title:

Senior Data Scientist

Company/Organization Affiliated With:

Walmart

Area(s) of Expertise:

Retail, Supply Chain, Manufacturing

Skill Sets:

Statistics, Machine Learning, Optimization

Short bio:

Brijesh Singhal is a data scientist at Walmart with domain experience in supply chain and manufacturing. He has been working in data science with Walmart for the past 4 years. He is a seasoned data science professional who loves solving large problems. He has developed multiple state of art data science algorithms.