

# 2019 Positive Education Summit

## Participant Bios

### Host Bios



**Martin E.P. Seligman, Ph.D.**  
**Director, Penn Positive Psychology Center**

Martin E.P. Seligman, Ph.D., is the Director of the Penn Positive Psychology Center and a Professor of Psychology in the Penn Department of Psychology. He is also Director of the Penn Master of Applied Positive Psychology program (MAPP), as well as an instructor in the program. He was President of the American Psychological Association in 1998, during which one of his presidential initiatives was the creation of Positive Psychology as a field of scientific study. Dr. Seligman is a leading authority in the fields of Positive Psychology, resilience, learned helplessness, depression, optimism and pessimism. He is also a recognized expert on interventions that prevent depression, and build strengths and well-being. He has written more than 300 scholarly publications and 25 books.

Among his works are *The Hope Circuit* (Public Affairs, 2018), *Flourish* (Free Press, 2011), *Authentic Happiness* (Free Press, 2002), *Learned Optimism* (Knopf, 1991),

*The Optimistic Child* (Houghton Mifflin, 1995), *Helplessness* (Freeman, 1975, 1993) and *Abnormal Psychology* (Norton, 1982, 1988, 1995, with David Rosenhan). His book *Character Strengths and Virtues: A handbook and classification*, was co-authored with Christopher Peterson (Oxford, 2004). His books have been translated into more than 45 languages and have been best sellers both in America and abroad. His work has been featured on the front page of the *New York Times*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *the Reader's Digest*, *Redbook*, *Parents*, *Fortune*, *Family Circle*, *USA Today* and many other popular magazines.

Dr. Seligman is the recipient of various awards, including the American Psychological Association (APA) Award for Lifetime Contributions to Psychology (2017), the Tang Award for Lifetime Achievement in Psychology (2014), the APA Award for Distinguished Scientific Contribution (2006), the Lifetime Achievement Award of the Society for Research in Psychopathology (1997), and the Distinguished Contribution Award for Basic Research with Applied Relevance from the American Association of Applied and Preventive Psychology (1992).

**James W. Hovey**  
**Chairman, Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Eisenhower Fellowships**

Mr. Hovey is the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Eisenhower Fellowships, a global network of innovative national leaders in over 80 countries actively committed to creating a more peaceful, prosperous, and just world. Formerly, he was President of The Fox Companies, a diversified real estate development firm. Mr. Hovey is a past director of several for-profit companies both public and privately held. He is a past trustee or director of several non-profit organizations, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Academy of Music of Philadelphia, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. He is currently a director of two privately held companies. Mr. Hovey received a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and a Masters of City Planning degree from the University of Pennsylvania.



# Honorees



**Anne Johnstone**  
**Principal, Ravenswood School for Girls in Sydney, Australia**

Anne is the Principal of Ravenswood School for Girls in Sydney, Australia, a leading independent girls' school with approximately 1250 students, including boarders from across Australia and overseas. Anne is Deputy Chair and a founding board member of PESA (Positive Education Schools Association), as well as a member of the IPEN Advisory Board.

Anne has significant experience in leadership roles in schools, including previously as Principal of Seymour College in Adelaide, and prior to this as Deputy Headmistress, Head of Senior School, Head of Junior School, and as an English teacher at St Catherine's School in Sydney. Anne is also a member of the Executive of the Alliance of Girls' Schools Australasia, and of the Executive of the Association of Heads of Independent Girls' Schools (AHIGS) in Sydney.

Anne holds Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (with Honours) degrees, as well as a Graduate Diploma in Education. Anne also holds a Master of Applied Positive Psychology (MAPP) from the University of Pennsylvania where her capstone research on High Quality Connections in schools was supervised by Professor Martin Seligman, and received the honour of being recognised as a distinguished capstone (2017).

Anne is currently undertaking a PhD in Education at the University of Melbourne under the supervision of Professor Lea Waters.

In 2004, Anne was the recipient of a Winston Churchill Fellowship to conduct research, based at Cambridge University, on how to foster student resilience. She was also a winner of the Teachers' Guild of New South Wales Award for Excellence in the Early Years of Teaching. Last year, Anne was awarded the Australian Speech Communication Association (ASCA) Award for Excellence in Communication. Anne has held a number of leadership positions in education having previously been Principal of Seymour College in Adelaide, Deputy Principal and Head of Senior School, and Head of Junior School at St Catherine's School in Sydney. Anne began her career as a lawyer, and has also undertaken teaching blocks as course convenor and lecturer in law at Macquarie University.

**Stephen Meek**  
**Director, Qatar Academy Doha**

Stephen graduated MA 1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours in Mediaeval and Modern History at St. Andrews. PGCE, Oxford. Taught History at Dulwich College. Stephen serves as the Head of History Department and Housemaster at the Sherborne School, and has served as Headmaster at Hurstpierpoint College, 1995-2004, and Principal at Geelong Grammar School, 2004-18. Director Qatar Academy Doha, 2019- present.

Stephen oversaw the introduction of Positive Education into Geelong Grammar School in 2008 and the formation of the Geelong Grammar Institute of Positive Education in 2014. Stephen is also a member of the Positive Education Advisory Board and has a passionate belief in wanting to see Positive Education undertaken in all schools, for it transforms lives. Positive Education was recognized by Finland's HundrED as one of the 100 most innovative educational ideas in the world in 2017.



## Honorees Continued



**Archibald Simon Murray**  
**Director, Up School Consulting**

Simon Murray is Director of Up School Consulting and provides expert advice to schools globally in the fields of leadership, strategic planning, wellbeing, academic enhancement, mentoring, and innovation in education. He had engagements in Australia, China, South Africa and Pakistan.

Previously a Headmaster across three schools for 27 years and an educator for over 40 years, Simon's contribution to education is significant. He served as the 14th Headmaster of St. Peter's College, Adelaide from 2010 until July 2017. He was Headmaster of Canberra Grammar School (1998 –2010) and Headmaster of Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School (1991 –1998). In recognition of his executive leadership, Simon was elected by his peers to be the Chairman of Association of Heads of Independent School of Australia (AHISA) from 2009 – 2011, representing over 440 schools. He is a past Board member of the Independent Schools Council of Australia. He has been an active member of AHISA

since 1991. He was a past Chairman of the New South Wales /Australian Capital Territory Branch of AHISA and a member of the AHISA Board of Directors. He is a past Chairman of The Association of Independent Schools of the ACT and was a member of the Executive of The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA).

In 2017, he was awarded The South Australian Fellowship Award by ACEL in recognition of his service to education in South Australia. He was appointed a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators in 2008 for his leadership in the independent school sector and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management. In June 2018, he was awarded a Medal in the Order of Australia (OAM) for services to secondary education and professional associations.

Simon has advanced the field of wellbeing, positive psychology and positive education across five areas: governance, publications, philanthropy, political engagement, and executive leadership.

He is a founding member and inaugural Chairman of Australia's Positive Education Schools Association (PESA) with over 2000 members. He was also a founding member of the Board of the International Positive Education Network (IPEN). He has co-edited two scholarly books on evidence-based applications of positive psychology and future directions in wellbeing. He has published scientific articles, book chapters, and presented on positive psychology at the AHISA Conference, three PESA National Conferences, World Congress on Positive Psychology, and First IPEN Festival. He secured \$0.25m for PESA and to fund staff from disadvantaged schools to study Positive Psychology at University of Melbourne. He negotiated a lead partnership with South Australia's Premier, securing Martin Seligman as Thinker in Residence and has hosted policy makers, scholars, and practitioners on positive psychology, opening St. Peter's College to thousands of the public. He contributed to a Wellbeing Summit at No. 10 Downing Street. His leadership established St. Peter's College as a world leader.

He has worked extensively with disadvantaged schools to develop whole-of-school wellbeing programs to enable students in these schools to flourish. In June 2018, he was appointed to the Board of the Centre for Positive Psychology, The University of Melbourne and appointed as Chief Advisor to the Positive Education China Academy, bringing Positive Education to China.

## Honorees Continued



**Steven Piltch**  
**Head, Shipley School**

Steven Piltch is Head of School at The Shipley School, a position he has held since 1992. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in psychology from Williams College, he worked at Choate Rosemary Hall as a teacher, coach, adviser, and dean. He then pursued graduate studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where he received two master's degrees and a doctorate in education. The Shipley School is the first school of Positive Education in the United States. Steve's wife, Sunny Greenberg, teaches English and Interdisciplinary Studies at Shipley, and their three children, Matt '08, Ali '10, and Jamie '13, all graduated from Shipley.

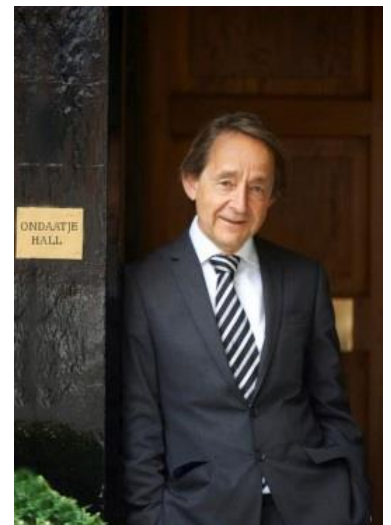
**Sir Anthony Seldon**  
**Vice Chancellor, University of Buckingham**

Sir Anthony Seldon, Vice-Chancellor of The University of Buckingham since 2015, is one of Britain's leading contemporary historians, educationalists, commentators, and political authors.

He was a transformative head for 20 years, first of Brighton College and then Wellington College. He is author or editor of over 40 books on contemporary history, including the inside books on the last four Prime Ministers. He was the co-founder and first director of the Institute for Contemporary British History, chair of the Comment Awards, and executive producer of the film *Journey's End*. He is co-founder of Action for Happiness, honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street, UK Special Representative for Saudi Education, a member of the Government's First World War Culture Committee, a director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, the President of IPEN (International Positive Education Network), Chair of the National Archives Trust, patron or on the board of several charities, founder of the Via Sacra Western Front Walk. He appeared on the Desert Island Discs in 2016. For the last fifteen years, he has given all his money from writing and lecturing to charity.

Anthony Seldon introduced happiness and wellbeing classes into Wellington College, one of Britain's leading schools, when he first became the head in 2006. It was the first independent school in Britain to start teaching wellbeing. He has made the University of Buckingham Britain's first Positive Education University. He co-founded Action for Happiness in 2011, with Lord Richard Layard and Geoff Mulgan (former Head of Policy at No.10). He is President of the International Positive Education Network. He wrote *Beyond Happiness* in 2014 and regularly speaks around the world on how to make our lives happier.

He has three children. His wife of 34 years, Joanna, died of cancer in December 2016.



## Invitees



**Alejandro Adler**  
**Director, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University**

Alejandro Adler directs Columbia University's Center for Sustainable Development's well-being science and policy initiatives. He is an Associate Editor for two of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network's annual publications: the World Happiness Report, and the Global Happiness Policy Report. He is also the Deputy Director of the Global Happiness and Well-being Coalition and an Associate Research Scientist at the Center for Sustainable Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

His research, policy work, and programs focus on well-being, education, skills, and public policy. Currently, Dr. Adler is working with international organizations and with the governments of various countries, including Bhutan, Nepal, India, Mexico, Peru, the UAE, Australia, Jordan, and Colombia to infuse education systems in these countries with Positive Psychology skills and life competencies, measure the impact of these interventions on youth well-being, and ultimately inform and transform education

systems and policy. He has published a number of articles in both scholarly and non-academic outlets, and he frequently speaks at international conferences and gatherings.

Originally from Mexico, Dr. Adler has a B.A. in psychology, a B.Sc. in economics, an M.A. in psychology, and a Ph.D. in psychology, all from the University of Pennsylvania. Prior to joining the Center for Sustainable Development, Dr. Adler served as Director of International Education at the University of Pennsylvania's Positive Psychology Center, and previously as lead researcher at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for High Impact Philanthropy, a think tank dedicated to channeling philanthropic funds to where they can have the highest social impact. He frequently advises international organizations, including The World Bank, The United Nations, and the OECD, among others. He is currently one of 60 members of the United Nation's International Well-being Expert Group.

**Howard Blumenthal**  
**Visiting Scholar, University of Pennsylvania Annenberg School for Communication**

Howard Blumenthal is a Visiting Scholar at The University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication. His current project, Kids on Earth ([www.kidsonearth.org](http://www.kidsonearth.org)) includes interviews with hundreds of children and teenagers from many parts of the world. Previously, he created and produced the PBS children's series, *Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego?*, and programs for Food Network, History Channel, and more. He has long been associated with media and learning, and currently focuses on the intersection of global thinking and human progress, often enabled by technology and transformative social trends.



## Invitees Continued



**Stephan Druggan**  
**Head, Springside Chestnut Hill Academy**

After growing up in small town America, Steve had the incredible opportunity to spend over 20 years in International Schools in Italy, Germany, and Indonesia before arriving in Philadelphia in 2016. After a youth of shining shoes, delivering newspapers, and working in a hardware store, Steve discovered his calling - teaching. Through his experience teaching people of all ages, Steve discovered and leans heavily on the foundations of positive education. Steve believes that educators have an incredible opportunity to make a real difference in the world and has found that it is essential to grow everyone in our communities in a positive way.

Steve currently has the honor of serving as the Head of Springside Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia, serves on the Board of The Community Partnership School also in Philadelphia and spends time each summer teaching Leadership and Team Dynamics as part of the Principals Training Center in Miami and London. Most

importantly, Steve and his wife, Pia have built wood burning Pizza Ovens in every house they have lived in around the world, and a few where they didn't, as they believe breaking bread together is essential for a community.

**Angela Duckworth**  
**Founder & CEO, Character Lab**

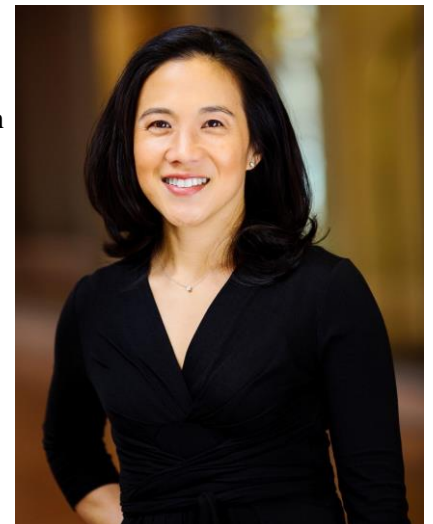
Angela Duckworth is the Founder and CEO of Character Lab, a nonprofit whose mission is to advance the science and practice of character development. She is also the Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Psychology at the University of Pennsylvania, faculty co-director of the Penn-Wharton Behavior Change for Good Initiative, and faculty co-director of Wharton People Analytics.

A 2013 MacArthur Fellow, Angela has advised the White House, the World Bank, NBA and NFL teams, and Fortune 500 CEOs.

Prior to her career in research, Angela founded a summer school for low-income children that was profiled as a Harvard Kennedy School case study and, in 2018, celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. She has also been a McKinsey management consultant and a math and science teacher in the public schools of New York City, San Francisco, and Philadelphia.

Angela completed her undergraduate degree in Advanced Studies Neurobiology at Harvard, graduating magna cum laude. With the support of a Marshall Scholarship, she completed an MSc with Distinction in Neuroscience from Oxford University. She completed her PhD in Psychology as a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania.

Angela has received numerous awards for her contributions to K-12 education, including a Beyond Z Award from the KIPP Foundation. Angela's TED talk is among the most-viewed of all time. Her first book, *Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance*, is a #1 New York Times best seller.



## Invitees Continued



**Ed Kidd**  
**Headmaster, Ridley College**

Ed Kidd is the Headmaster of Ridley College, a JK-12 co-ed boarding and day school in St. Catharines, Ontario. Ed is proud to lead this 129-year old Canadian institution whose vision is to “inspire flourishing lives to transform our globe.” The modern Ridley is an IB continuum school and a global community educating 700 students from across Canada and from 50 nations around the world.

Since 2012, Ed has served as Ridley’s 10<sup>th</sup> Headmaster. Prior to repatriating to Canada, he enjoyed a 16-year career in international education, serving most recently as the High School Principal at Shanghai American School.

As a former IB English teacher, coach, and advisor, Ed is committed to the virtues of a liberal arts education, the values of a boarding school experience and the emerging field of positive education. As such, Ed challenged the Ridley community with a new strategic plan and vision to “inspire flourishing lives.” In this regard, Ridley has adopted a

whole school approach to cultural change through the lens of positive psychology – from teaching and learning in the classroom, to athletic coaching, to administration, and leadership, all learners in the Ridley community are striving to lead flourishing lives and inspire it in others. Since 2016, Ridley has benefited from an innovative partnership with Dr. Lea Waters and the designation as North America’s first Visible Wellbeing™ Foundational School. As a charter member of the International Positive Education Network, Ridley’s Dr. Nina Lee served as Canada’s first IPEN Ambassador. Ed and his wife Hanna will be presenting at this summer’s IPPA World Congress in Melbourne, Australia.

**Jane Lunnon**  
**Head, Wimbledon High School**

Jane Lunnon has been Head of Wimbledon High School since September 2014, having previously been Senior Deputy Head at Wellington College. She spent 12 years at Wellington as an English teacher, Head of English, and Assistant Director of Studies, before moving to Prior's Field School, as Head of Sixth Form, then Deputy Head. She re-joined Wellington in 2010 as Senior Deputy, playing a key role in its Senior Leadership Team, working to increase the profile of girls in the recently co-educational school. Jane was appointed as a Governing Board member of Newland House in the Autumn of 2015 and of Notting Hill Prep School in January 2017. She is also a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company Education Committee. She helped to set up The Sunday Times / Wellington College Annual Education Festival and has run (and spoken at) numerous workshops and conferences, including twice at the Global Girls Education Forum in the US.



She is currently secretary of the GSA London Region Heads division and sits on the HMC Universities Committee.

She is an English graduate from the University of Bristol and began her career in marketing and research before taking up teaching. Having attended North London Collegiate School and taught in co-educational, boys’ only and girls’ only schools, she has had a broad experience of both single-sex and co-educational environments and is happy in all of them! She loves literature and teaching English and has managed to continue to make that happen (just about) whilst being a Head. She also believes wholeheartedly that a good education encourages young people to find and to use their voices to help make change happen, and she is happy to model that herself in speaking to the press about educational issues which matter. Her approach is to build confidence, ambition and an appreciation of excellence in all aspects of education, but to remember, always, that schools should be places of play and fun and joy. And if they are not, we are probably all doing it wrong!

She is married to Neill Lunnon, Head of Fulham Prep School (previously Housemaster & Deputy Pastoral at Wellington College) and they have two children (Josie and Jamie) and a cat (Tumbleweed!)

## Invitees Continued



**Sam McKinney**  
**Principal, Upper Canada College**

Sam McKinney commenced as Principal of Upper Canada College in Toronto, Canada in July 2016. Previously he had served as Acting Headmaster, Deputy Headmaster and Head of the Senior School at St Peter's College in Adelaide, Australia. It was at St. Peter's that Sam was introduced formally to Positive Psychology and Positive Education, and where he undertook the Penn Resilience Training program. Whilst at St. Peter's, Sam taught classes in Positive Education to students in Years 8 and 10. At Upper Canada College, Sam has overseen the development of new Strategic Directions that have embedded Wellbeing as both a core value of the College and as an area of strategic intention. The College has appointed a Dean of Student Life and Wellbeing who oversees the development and implementation of student wellbeing programs and systems, including Positive Education. Sam is currently working with a group of like-minded Heads of Schools on the establishment of an association that will promote

Positive Education and Wellbeing to public and independent schools across Canada. Sam is in his 27th year in education, a career that has spanned five cities in Canada and Australia.

**Karen Reivich, Ph.D**  
**Director of Positive Psychology and Resilience Training Programs, University of Pennsylvania**

Dr. Reivich is the Director of Positive Psychology and Resilience Training Programs at the University of Pennsylvania Positive Psychology Center. She is the lead curriculum developer and instructor, and trains and supervises all training instructors. She earned a Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania, and is an instructor in the Penn Master of Applied Positive Psychology program (MAPP).

Dr. Karen Reivich is an internationally recognized expert in the fields of resilience, depression prevention, and Positive Psychology. She has more than 30 years of experience developing and delivering resilience and Positive Psychology programs for educators and their students, U.S. Army soldiers, a professional sports organization, corporate audiences, and more.

Dr. Reivich's scholarly work focuses on helping parents, educators, and leaders promote resilience and well-being in adolescents and adults. For 20 years, she was a Co-Principal Investigator of several research studies of the Penn Resilience Programs funded by the National Institute of Mental Health and the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Reivich has published extensively in academic journals and edited books in the areas of Positive Psychology and resilience. Her scholarly publications have appeared in academic journals including *Psychological Science*, *Journal of Early Adolescence*, *School Psychology Quarterly*, *Journal of Abnormal Child Psychology*, and *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*. She is a co-author of two books: *The Optimistic Child* and *The Resilience Factor*.

Dr. Reivich and her work have been featured in a variety of news and media outlets including *Oprah*, *Prime Time Live*, *The Early Show*, *ABC Nightly News*, *The Big Idea with Donny Deutsch*, *Parenting Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *US News and World Report*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *USA Today*, and *The Orlando Sentinel*.





## Invitees Continued



**Laurie Santos, Ph.D**  
**Head, Silliman College, Yale University**

Dr. Laurie Santos is Professor of Psychology and Head of Silliman College at Yale University. Dr. Santos is an expert on human cognition and the cognitive biases that impede better choices. Her new course, Psychology and the Good Life, teaches students how the science of psychology can provide important hints about how to make wiser choices and live a life that's happier and more fulfilling. Her course recently became Yale's most popular course in over 300 years, with almost one of our four students at Yale enrolled. Her course has been featured in numerous news outlets including the *New York Times*, *NBC Nightly News*, *The Today Show*, *GQ Magazine*, *Slate* and *O! Magazine*. A winner of numerous awards both for her science and teaching, she was recently voted as one of Popular Science Magazine's "Brilliant 10" young minds, and was named in Time Magazine as a "Leading Campus Celebrity."

**Charlie Scudamore**  
**Vice Principal, Geelong Grammar School**

Charlie Scudamore, BA Hons, PGCE Oxon: Vice Principal Geelong Grammar School. Joined Geelong Grammar School in 1990. Since that time, he has held many positions of responsibility including Head of Timbertop and Head of Corio. Since 2006, Charlie has been responsible for the development and implementation of Positive Education throughout the organisation. In recent years, he has presented on Positive Education at many conferences in Australia and internationally, including a key note address at the Masters of Applied Positive Psychology Summit held in Philadelphia in 2014, and a visit to Finland to meet key Ministry of Education and University of Vassa Education Department personnel to discuss Positive Education and wellbeing. He has also presented keynote addresses, pre-conference and conference workshops at the European Positive Psychology Conference in 2016 and 2018, and he was invited to attend the UNESCO Asia Pacific Education Forum in Seoul South Korea to advise on UNESCO's Happy Schools Framework. At the MAPP Summit, Professor Marty Seligman presented Charlie with the Pioneer Award for Positive Psychology, for pioneering work in the application of Positive Psychology. In his role as Vice Principal, he devotes much of his time working with the Institute of Positive Education and leads the School's focus on Creative Education and Indigenous Education.



## Invitees Continued



**Chris Stawski**  
**Senior Fellow, Kern Family Foundation**

Chris Stawski is Senior Fellow at the Kern Family Foundation, where he works to build relational networks and co-develop strategic directions to integrate the Foundation's focus areas in character, entrepreneurial mindset, and meaningful work. He has served as a program and strategy consultant for Presidents and Executive leaders of foundations, non-profit organizations, and universities, and is currently Chairman of the International Positive Education Network (IPEN) and the US region of IPEN. Stawski previously served for ten years at the John Templeton Foundation, where he was a Vice President leading a high-energy, R&D philanthropic unit worth more than \$100 million across the Foundation's donor intent focused on proactively developing cross-disciplinary projects and initiatives for the President. He developed new grant programs on a global scale to advance themes such as awe, curiosity, future-mindedness, gratitude, imagination, joy, purpose, and wisdom through academic research, educational intervention, and public engagement. Prior to his role as a Vice President, he was a

Program Officer managing portfolios in character development, freedom and free enterprise, genius and gifted education, and the human sciences.

Stawski is a High Honors graduate of Swarthmore College, with a master's degree from Harvard University and a doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania, specializing in methodology in the study of religion at the intersection of the sciences and the humanities. He was a Visitor in the Program in Interdisciplinary Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and is currently an Affiliate Assistant Professor at the Kern Institute for the Transformation of Medical Education at the Medical College of Wisconsin, where he is working with a national network of leading medical schools to integrate character into medical education.

**Alan Thompson**  
**Headmaster, St. Andrew's College**

Alan Thompson (52) was born and educated in Johannesburg, and holds a Higher Diploma in Education, a Bachelor of Education, and a Masters of Education degree from the University of the Witwatersrand (all with distinction). In 2011, he also completed his Master's in Business Administration.

Alan started his teaching career in 1990 at Rand Park High School in Northern Johannesburg. In 1994, he began a sixteen-year stint at St John's College, Johannesburg, where, over time, he fulfilled the duties of teacher of Physical Science, Housemaster, Senior Master, Deputy Headmaster, Second Master, and Acting Headmaster. He coached Cricket and 1<sup>st</sup> Team Hockey during this time.

From 2010 – 2014, Alan held the position of Headmaster of St. Dunstan's College, an independent Anglican, co-education school in Benoni, Gauteng. He has been Headmaster of St. Andrew's College, Grahamstown, since 2015. In his time at St.

Andrew's Alan has overseen St. Andrew's becoming a Round Square school, the development of the 'Leading Edge' programme (which, broadly addresses ethos and leadership development) and the incorporation of principles of positive education into College life. In 2017, St. Andrew's hosted Simon Murray and drew together a number of like-minded South African schools to workshop the next steps for positive education in South Africa. This year, St. Andrew's will host the inaugural Positive Education South Africa conference.

Alan is married to Gwynneth, a teacher, and they have two children, Matthew (17) and Amy (15). He runs, cycles, and rides off-road endurance trails.



## Invitees Continued



### **Lea Waters, Ph.D.**

#### **Founding Director, Center for Positive Psychology, University of Melbourne**

Lea Waters Ph.D. is a professor, published author, psychologist, internationally-celebrated speaker, and one of the world's leading experts on Positive Education, Positive Organizations and Strength-Based Parenting and Teaching.

Professor Waters is the Founding Director and Inaugural Gerry Higgins Chair in Positive Psychology at the Centre for Positive Psychology, University of Melbourne where she has held an academic position for 23 years. Lea holds affiliate positions at Cambridge University and the University of Michigan and serves on the Scientific Board at Berkeley University's Greater Good Science Centre. Lea is the 2017-2019 President of the International Positive Psychology Association, serves on the Council of Happiness and Education for the World Happiness Council, is the Patron of Flourishing Education Japan and Ambassador for Positive Education Schools Association.

As a researcher, she has published over 100 scientific articles and book chapters.

Her book, *The Strength Switch: How The New Science of Strength-Based Parenting Can Help Your Child and Your Teen to Flourish*, was the top release on Amazon in the parenting category, was listed in Top reads for 2017 by Berkeley University's Greater Good Centre, and was listed in the Top Five Books on Happiness for Children in the UK's Top Five site. It has been translated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese, Hungarian, Arabic, Russian, French, and Spanish.

In 2015, Professor Waters was listed as one of Australia's Top 100 Women of Influence by the Financial Review and Westpac Bank. She has been listed in the Marques 'Who's Who in the World' since 2009 and was included in the 2017 edition of Who's Who of Australian Women.

Lea is committed to spreading the science of positive psychology as widely as possible and has been featured on *The Morning Dose* (Dallas TV), *Revolution School* (ABC, Australia), *Matter of Fact* (ABC, Australia), *Destination Happiness* (Channel Nine, Australia), *Today Extra* (Channel Nine, Australia), *National Nightly News* (Channel Ten), *The Project* (TV3, New Zealand), *The Café* (NZTV, New Zealand), and *Breakfast* (NZTV, New Zealand). Lea is also frequently featured in print media, including Wall Street Journal, TIME.com Magazine, The Washington Post, The Atlantic, The Globe (Toronto), The Guardian (UK), and The Age (Australia). Lea's TEDx talk, *Warning: Being positive is not for the faint hearted!* explores how small positive steps can make a big impact on the wellbeing of ourselves and others, has been viewed more than 118,000 times.

Lea is the Founder of Visible Wellbeing, an initiative that brings the science of wellbeing and learning to schools. Visible Wellbeing is being used in schools across Australia, Asia, Canada, New Zealand and United Arab Emirates. Her newest program, *The Strengths Switch*, offers parents and educators free resources, on-line courses and facilitated courses to better build the strengths of families across the globe.

# Eisenhower Fellows



**Ejaj Ahmad**  
**Founder and President, Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center**

Driving a decade of innovative leadership training, Ejaj Ahmad has been outstanding on two fronts. In 2009, he created the Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center (BYLC), the country's first leadership-development institute, serving clients in industry and government. He established the nonprofit with the goal of creating a more inclusive, tolerant and just society by imparting cutting-edge skills to the next generation of leaders. From its humble beginning as a living-room project, BYLC became a highly sought-after leadership-development platform. More than 3,000 of its alumni have gone on to prominent roles across Bangladesh and abroad. In addition, Ahmad pursues his

passion for positive change as a principal figure in Ignite Leadership Consulting, which conducts adaptive-leadership workshops to teach decision makers how "to run with purpose," and act decisively. Ahmad is a frequent public speaker, management coach, and guest lecturer at leading universities in Asia, Europe, and America. He has a master's degree in public policy from Harvard University, and an MA with honors in economics, from St. Andrew's University, where he is on the honorary faculty of the School of Management.

**Martin Burt**  
**Executive Director, Fundacio Paraguaya and Teach a Man to Fish**

Martin Burt fights poverty by helping vulnerable families understand the barriers they face, and designing interventions to overcome them. Through Fundacion Paraguaya, the NGO he created and its signature Poverty Stoplight, an innovative digital self-assessment tool for communities living in poverty, Burt helps uncover economic opportunities to promote self-sufficiency for people struggling with social and financial challenges. Widely praised as one of Latin America's most impactful non-governmental groups; Fundacion Paraguaya partners with 257 organizations and companies in 24 countries. Poverty Stoplight has 126 international partners and 131 in Paraguay, operating at approximately 80,000 locations. Dr. Burt, who has a Ph.D. from



Tulane University Law School, is co-founder and board member of Teach A Man To Fish, a United Kingdom organization dedicated to spreading its method of microfinancing around the world. He is Social Entrepreneur in Residence at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Distinguished Visiting Professor at University of California, Irvine. Burt is a former mayor of Asuncion and was Vice Minister of Commerce and Chief of Staff to the President of Paraguay.

## Eisenhower Fellows Continued



**Kelly Davenport**  
**Executive Director, Build the Future**

Kelly Davenport tackles the challenge of urban education through Freire Charter Schools, a network of four schools, serving more than 2,000 students, grades 5 through 12, in Pennsylvania and Delaware. Under her leadership, Freire Charter in Philadelphia was identified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education as among the city's five top-performing schools in 2015. Freire Charter Middle School and Freire Charter Wilmington also scored in the highest category of state assessments for academic growth in 2017 and 2018. The network consists of the middle and high schools in Philadelphia, the school in Wilmington, and TECH Freire Charter School, also in Philadelphia.

Davenport, a dynamic leader, founded the Freire network in 2000 and led it for 16 years.

Currently she is chief executive officer of Build the Future, the nonprofit that provides governance, fundraising and marketing support to the four campuses. On her EF journey, Davenport examined how parents, students, school administrators, and government officials understand the concept of educational equity and how reforms at the national and local level have affected access to education for students in China. She also explored how secondary education prepares students for jobs. Davenport is on the Leadership Council of the Pennsylvania Coalition for Public Charter Schools and is a board member of Philadelphia Charter Schools for Excellence. She is outspoken about the government's role in reaching educational equality through legislative and policy reforms.

**Wei-Lin Lai**  
**Deputy Secretary of Policy, Ministry of Education**

In Singapore, where more than 95 percent of students attend public schools, Wei-Lin Lai oversees education policy and planning from preschool to university. The curriculum she helps coordinate is instrumental in achieving two national priorities: enabling social mobility and promoting integration of children across different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. In her previous assignment at the Ministry of Health, her team created a client-data-driven model to identify which patients are most likely to need financial assistance to pay their hospital bills. As an EF Fellow, she studied different models of school-community partnerships and programs to improve educational outcomes for children from disadvantaged families, and interventions targeted at the child's family environment. These interventions included additional academic support and after-school programs to enhance resilience.



**Sangeetha Madhu**  
**Director, Global Leadership Development**

A clinical psychologist with more than 20 years of experience, Sangeetha Madhu heads Global Leadership and Development (GLAD), a program that draws on mindfulness and other techniques to build leadership skills. Passionate about the capacity for positive transformational change of people and systems, she founded the Chennai Institute of Learning and Development, a collaboration of clinical, counseling and organizational psychologists. As a consultant, Madhu and her team work with schools and corporations, helping leaders discover their potential and paths to making deep changes. She is certified in Narrative Practices from Dulwich Centre, Australia, and Theory U Practices from the Presencing Institute, Germany. She has an advanced

master's degree in Clinical Psychology from the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore, and a PhD from The Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University. Formerly she was assistant professor of clinical psychology at the Institute of Child Health and Hospital for Children in Chennai. An inspiring public speaker, she delivered the prestigious Endowment Lecture at the Department of Psychology, University of Madras, and presented a paper on school-refusal factors at the Excellence in Child Mental Health Conference in Istanbul. Her roster of corporate clients includes Infosys Technologies, Maersk Shipping, Malladi Pharmaceuticals, Astra Zeneca and Zeitgeist.



## Eisenhower Fellows Continued



**Salim Mohamed**  
**Co-Founder, Carolina for Kibera**

Home to an estimated one million people, Kenya's Kibera is Africa's largest slum. Rising to the challenge of providing social services for this population is Salim Mohamed, co-creator of Carolina for Kibera (CfK), a 19-year-old NGO that uses sports and other programs to break down negative stereotypes, instill self-confidence, and promote community empowerment. Orphaned as a child, Mohamed learned to be resilient. As a teenager, he organized sports teams to help others like him experience feelings of self-worth. To date, CfK's multifaceted programs have provided: sports activities for 40,000 children, 70 "safe spaces" in which 50,000 girls have felt comfortable expressing themselves, food for 15,000 displaced people, and 400 school

scholarships. As an EF Fellow, he formulated strategies to scale up CfK's model for application in regions of Kenya and across Africa. Previously, he was a consultant for Save the Children – Kenya, the World Bank, and Kenya's Ministry of Health. He is the former East Africa regional representative of Ashoka, a support network for social entrepreneurs. In 2018, he was a Draper Hill Summer Fellow at Stanford University's Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law.

**Sbusisiwe Myeni**  
**CEO, Imbeleko Foundation**

Sbusisiwe Myeni is a former banker who reoriented her professional life by launching a foundation to provide holistic education and social support for orphaned and vulnerable children in the lush Valley of a Thousand Hills, between Pietermaritzburg and Durban. Named to honor Myeni's late sister, Imbeleko serves hundreds of children a year by providing sports, cultural, Saturday, and after-school programs, as well as family counseling. On fellowship, Myeni developed a tourism component as part of her foundation's efforts to ensure long-term self-sufficiency, boost skills training, and provide youth employment opportunities. She recently established a science, technology, engineering and math Digital Learning platform for use in South Africa's rural communities.



**Dina Sherif**  
**CEO/Founding Partner, Ahead of the Curve**

As a proponent of what she calls "a more conscious form of capitalism," Dina Sherif is committed to building sustainable societies. She furthers that goal through Ahead of the Curve (ATC), the organization she co-founded to develop innovative business models in emerging markets worldwide. Sherif leads ATC's business strategy and development, oversees research and also designs and delivers training programs for youth, and women entrepreneurs. She is a former professor of international business at the American University in Cairo, and Founding Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship. She is a member of the Special Presidential Advisory Council for Economic Development, which reports to the President of Egypt. Among many honors, she received the Woman

Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Egypt from the American Chamber of Commerce in 2016, and was recognized as a "Woman of Substance" by the Embassy of India in Egypt in 2016. Also in 2016, she was among 10 people chosen as United Nations Global Compact Sustainable Development Goal Pioneers. Amwal Al Ghad Magazine recently named her one of Egypt's 50 most influential women. During her Eisenhower Fellowship, Sherif focused on creating an ecosystem to support the proliferation of social enterprises and a more inclusive market growth in the Arab world.



## Eisenhower Fellows Continued



**Alissa Wahid**  
**National Head, Gusdurian Network Indonesia**

Alissa Qotrunnada Munawaroh, aka Alissa Wahid, is on a quest for a pluralistic society. To advance that goal she founded Gusdurian Network Indonesia (GNI). From its birth in 2010 it quickly grew to encompass thousands of social activists. Their aim: strengthen civil society in Indonesia by supporting democracy, human rights, and moderate Muslim movements. Founded on the values of Wahid's father, the late Indonesian President Abdurrahman "Gus Dur" Wahid, GNI fosters interfaith understanding, promotes individual resilience, reinforces a culture of respect, and advocates for human rights through public policy. In 2018, GNI received the Asian Democracy and Human Rights Award from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy. On her Eisenhower Fellowship,

Wahid visited interfaith centers in the U.S. to learn strategies for addressing the growing influence of radical groups that are mainstreaming intolerance in Indonesia. As a psychologist, Wahid also champions a family resilience program through Nahdlatul Ulama, a 60-million-member Muslim organization. She is in charge of the family resilience program of Indonesia's Ministry of Religious Affairs, which promotes justice, gender equality, religious moderation, and democracy. In recognition of her outstanding work, she received the Indonesia Shine-On Award in 2015 from Good Housekeeping Indonesia magazine, and the Women Award 2016 from Indonesia Marketing Week.

# Organizers



**Peter Schulman**  
**Executive Director, Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania**

Mr. Peter Schulman is Executive Director of the Positive Psychology Center at the University of Pennsylvania and a graduate of the Wharton School at Penn. He oversees all Center activities, including research grants, training programs, and conferences. His operational responsibilities include oversight of project management, staffing, and financial and contract management.

Mr. Schulman has worked with Dr. Martin Seligman since 1983 and has directed several large-scale, longitudinal, federally funded research grants on the prevention of depression using a cognitive-behavioral intervention. He has written twelve scholarly publications and book chapters. Since 1990, he has played a lead role in the research, development, and large-scale dissemination of the Positive Psychology and resilience training programs. Mr. Schulman was recognized as a 2012 Model Supervisor Finalist in the Penn Models of Excellence Program.

**Bob Szybist**  
**Lead Instructor, Penn Resilience Program, University of Pennsylvania**

Bob is a lead instructor for the Penn Resilience Programs at the University of Pennsylvania Positive Psychology Center. With the Penn team since 2007, he has delivered numerous Resilience Programs and Positive Psychology Programs to organizations, including the United States Army, United Kingdom public schools, Geelong Grammar School (Australia), Wellington College (UK), and St. Peter's College (Australia). Bob also serves as an Assistant Instructor for the Master of Applied Positive Psychology Program (MAPP) at the University of Pennsylvania.

Bob has been working with organizations in both the public and private sectors since 1999. From 1999 through 2005, Bob served in the roles of Program Director and Director of Staff Development for Marin Country Day School, an independent school in Marin County, California. From 2006 to the present, Bob has served as both Social and Emotional Learning Coordinator and Director of Positive Education for the Belmont Charter Network, which serves 900 students (K-12) at four urban charter schools in West Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. His Positive Education interests include teacher engagement and retention, social and emotional skill acquisition, and parent engagement.





# Onsite Coordinators



**Jennifer Knapp**  
**Project Manager, Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania**

Jennifer Knapp is a Resilience Program Manager at the Penn Positive Psychology Center. Since joining the Center in 2017, Ms. Knapp has worked to develop and implement Positive Psychology and resilience training programs for a wide variety of clients including corporate leadership, primary and secondary education, healthcare, and more. Ms. Knapp graduated from Elizabethtown College with dual degrees in Psychology and Sociology/Anthropology. Prior to joining the Penn Positive Psychology Center, Ms. Knapp worked as a Project Manager at a software company that studied employee engagement and created tools and resources to help organizations improve engagement within their workforce.

**Britt Schlechter**  
**Curriculum Development Manager, Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania**

Brittney Schlechter is the Curriculum Development Manager at the Penn Positive Psychology Center. She has been with the center since 2017 and has worked to create and implement customized Positive Psychology and resilience curriculum for a variety of clients including primary and secondary education, corporate leadership, healthcare, and more. Ms. Schlechter graduated from Penn State University with a degree in Psychology prior to graduating from Kutztown University with a Master's in Education, specializing in Student Affairs Administration. Ms. Schlechter has previously worked as an Assistant Director for Leadership and Experiential Learning at Rutgers University and an Activities and Volunteer Coordinator at Penn State University, designing leadership development and civic engagement curriculum to help develop well-rounded students.



**Jenna Tarrant**  
**Project Manager, Positive Psychology Center, University of Pennsylvania**

Jenna Tarrant is a Resilience Program Manager at the Penn Positive Psychology Center. She joined the Center in 2018, and manages the development and implementation of Positive Psychology and resilience training programs for clients throughout the corporate, academic, and government sectors. Mrs. Tarrant graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison with a degree in Social Work with a focus on Advocacy in Multicultural Settings, later returning to earn her Master's degree in Social Work with a focus on Policy and Administration. Ms. Tarrant has previously worked on research integration initiatives for the Perelman School of Medicine at Penn, managed AmeriCorps and volunteer programs for nonprofits in Wisconsin and Texas, and developed evidence-based policy strategies for city government in Madison, Wisconsin.