

Meet Our Speakers! NITL Policy Engage Forum 2025

Session – NITL Networking Breakfast

Speaker:

Heather Helm, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Industry and Analysis at the International Trade Administration



Bio: Heather leads U.S. trade policy efforts to strengthen industry competitiveness, support exports, secure supply chains, and advance national interests across key global markets and sectors.

Session – Welcome to NITL Engage Policy Forum 2025 - Opening Remarks

Speaker 1:

NITL's Chair Sheldon Ellis



Bio: Sheldon brings 25+ years of supply chain leadership, driving global team performance, process improvement, technology integration, and strategic procurement across manufacturing and consumer goods industries.

Speaker 2:

NITL's Executive Director Nancy O'Liddy



Bio: Nancy is a dynamic leader with expertise in organizational development, communications, fundraising, and team building, known for creativity, collaboration, and driving results across sectors.

Session – Transportation Policy in Motion: Insights from Sean Duffy, Secretary of the Department of Transportation

Speaker:

Sean Duffy, Secretary of the Department of Transportation



Bio: Sean Duffy served as Congressman from Wisconsin's 7th District in the US Congress for ten years, serving on the House Financial Services Committee.

Session - The Surface Transportation Board: Priorities, Policies, & Progress

Speaker:

Chair Patrick Fuchs, Surface Transportation Board



Bio: Fuchs, a former Senate Commerce staffer and Presidential Management Fellow, was appointed Surface Transportation Board Chair in 2025 after Senate confirmation in 2019.

Session – The Federal Maritime Commission: Priorities, Policies & Progress

Speaker:

Commissioner Rebecca Dye of Federal Maritime Commission



Bio: Dye, of North Carolina, was first nominated as a Federal Maritime Commissioner (FMC or Commission) by President George W. Bush on June 13, 2002, and was confirmed by the United States Senate on November 14, 2002. She has served successive terms as a Republican Commissioner under Presidents George W.

Session – Transportation Policy & Progress: A Networking Luncheon

Speaker:

Congressman Sam Graves, Chair House Transportation and Information Committee



Bio: Rep. Sam Graves, serving his 12th term representing the people of Missouri's Sixth Congressional District, is the Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Session – Investing in America’s Future: Committee discussion with Senator Tammy Baldwin

Speaker:

Senator Tammy Baldwin (Invited)



Bio: Tammy Baldwin has committed her life’s work to public service because she has a deep commitment to making a difference in the lives of Wisconsin’s working families. In the proud tradition of Wisconsin’s state motto, Forward, she believes that we must always work together to help provide fairness, equality, and economic opportunity for all.

Session – Driving Growth: The Economic Outlook for Transportation and Logistics

Speaker:

Bob Costello, Chief Economist & SVP, International Trade & Security Policy



Bio: Bob Costello is Chief Economist and Senior Vice President at the American Trucking Associations (ATA). He oversees ATA's trucking economic data, forecasts, wage studies, fuel reports, and regulatory analyses.

Session – NITL Engage Policy Forum: Private Reception and Dinner

Speaker:

Congressman Jerry Moran, R, Kansas City



Bio: Elected in 2010, Senator Jerry Moran champions Kansas values, advocating for veterans, agriculture, aviation, and fiscal responsibility while serving on key Senate committees and leading bipartisan initiatives.

Session – A Networking Breakfast: Strength in Numbers: The Power of Membership in Shaping Transportation Policy

Moderator:

Ann Warner, Ann Warner LLC, NITL's Senior Policy Advisor



Bio: Ann Warner is a strategic government relations leader, specializing in federal advocacy, transportation policy, and coalition management, with decades of experience in public and private sectors.

Panelists:

Julie Alsup, Director, Government Relations, and Public Affairs at International Paper Global Cellulose Fiber



Bio: Julie is a seasoned government relations and communications professional skilled in advocacy, executive messaging, stakeholder engagement, and strategy to drive business alignment, growth, and resilience.

Andrew Okuyiga, Vice President, Public Affairs, UPS



Bio: Andrew Okuyiga is currently a Vice President, Public Affairs at UPS. Andrew Okuyiga brings experience from previous roles at Amazon and U.S. House of Representatives. Skill sets include Public Policy, Politics, Policy Analysis, Government, Research and more.

Wes Lujan, Government & Industry Affairs Rail North America



Bio: Wesley Lujan, Vice President of government and industry affairs at GATX Corporation. Coming from Union Pacific, where he was assistant VP of external relations, Wes leads GATX's engagement with rail industry associations and regulatory bodies.

Session – Implementation of Tariffs – The Effects to the Supply Chain

Speaker:

Jon Gold, Vice President, Supply Chain and Customs Policy, National Retail Federation



Bio: John has 20+ years of experience in supply chain policy, specializing in supply chain security, international trade, transportation policy, and government affairs.

Session – How Data Drives Politics – What Happens in November

Speaker:

Brenda Gianiny, President Axis Research Inc.



Bio: Brenda Gianiny is a trusted public opinion expert, advising top corporations and presidential campaigns with strategic insights to shape public policy and market positioning. Brenda has worked with campaigns ranging from presidential and the US Senate, including serving as the primary polling contact for George W. Bush White House

and the Bush-Cheney `04 re-election campaign, to local races for state legislative office and mayor.