Peggy Barlett · Goodrich C. White Professor of Anthropology, Emory University

Peggy Barlett, Goodrich C. White Professor of Anthropology at Emory University, is a specialist in agricultural anthropology and sustainability in higher education. An early leader in sustainability at Emory and chair of the Sustainable Food Committee, she has led workshops on curriculum development for over 500 campus leaders around the country. Co-editor of Sustainability on Campus: Stories and Strategies for Change (MIT Press, 2004) and Sustainability in Higher Education: Stories and Strategies for Transformation (MIT Press, 2013), she is also author of an award-winning study of the U.S. farm crisis of the 1980s (American Dreams, Rural Realities: Family Farms in Crisis, University of North Carolina Press, 1993). She has served on the National Research Council Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Atlanta Local Food Initiative and seeks to combine the scholarship of sustainability and culture change with the joy of deeper engagement with place.

Sara Berney · Executive Director, Wholesome Wave Georgia

Sara Berney is the first full-time Executive Director Wholesome Wave Georgia. Under her leadership, Sara has expanded the organizational budget by 275 percent, increased personnel from one to five, grown the Healthy Food Incentive Program from 14 to 50 partner farmers markets, and connected health care providers, farmers markets and families with chronic illness through the Fruit and Vegetable Prescription Program. Prior to joining WWG, Sara worked as a public health consultant for Deloitte, supporting clients at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and public health nonprofits including the Flour Fortification Initiative. Sara also served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Peru, where she partnered with community leaders to design and lead training programs for community health promoters and youth health educators. Sara has lived in Atlanta since 2006 and currently sits on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Farmers Market Association.

Gary W. Black · Commissioner of Agriculture

Serving his second term, Commissioner Gary W. Black is the 16th Georgian to hold the office of Commissioner of Agriculture since the department’s inception in 1874. Black earned a degree in agricultural education from the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Throughout his 35-year career in agriculture, he has championed sound state and federal policies impacting food safety, science-based environmental stewardship and agricultural marketing. Gary and his wife, Lydia, raise commercial beef cattle on the family farm in Commerce. He also serves in the Sunday school and music ministries of Maysville Baptist Church.

Bill Bolling · Chair, Food Well Alliance

Bill Bolling founded the Atlanta Community Food Bank in 1979 and served as its executive director for 36 years before stepping down in June of 2015. Under Bill's leadership, the Food Bank distributed more than half a billion pounds of food and grocery products through a network of nonprofit partner organizations that feed the hungry. Bill recently created Food Well Alliance, a nonprofit that connects farms, community gardens, farmers markets and other members of Atlanta's local food movement. He currently serves as board chair for Food Well Alliance and as senior consultant for the Georgia Food Bank Association.

Bill is a frequent speaker on topics related to sustainable food, hunger, poverty, regionalism, affordable housing and public policy reform. His skills in bridging various public sectors have made him a leader in strengthening the community to serve those most in need. Prior to his association with the Food Bank, he served as director of community ministries for St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in Atlanta.

Tony Geraci · Executive Director, Memphis City Schools Nutrition Services

After catalyzing change around school food in Baltimore, “Cafeteria Man” Tony Geraci felt he had taken his role as far as he could and left in 2011 with confidence that the people and programs were in place to sustain the momentum. Tony is currently the executive director of Memphis City Schools Nutrition Services, which provides over 200,000 meals a day for 110,000 students. Since his arrival in fall 2011, he has increased participation in the Breakfast in the Classroom program, initiated an At Risk Supper Meal Program, expanded the farm-to-school program, and established a 100-acre farm. Tony also was recently named one of the top 20 most influential Food Service people in the country.
Dr. Tim Harlan, aka “Dr. Gourmet” • Associate Dean for Clinical Services, Tulane School of Medicine and Executive Director, Goldring Center for Culinary Medicine

“Eating well and eating healthy is the same thing,” says Dr. Tim Harlan, aka “Dr. Gourmet,” who discovered his love of food long before embarking on a successful career as a physician. While completing his degree at Emory University School of Medicine, he began writing about the clear link between food and health, blending his extensive knowledge of food and nutrition with his medical expertise. Teaching patients that eating great food is the easiest path to health, Dr. Harlan launched DrGourmet.com as the definitive evidence-based source for diet, health, wellness and lifestyle information. His books, *It’s Heartly Fare*, *Hand On Heart* and *Just Tell Me What to Eat!*, guide readers on what they can eat for optimum health. Dr. Harlan has appeared on numerous local news programs, demonstrating how to cook healthy meals. His program, “The Dr. Gourmet Show,” earned an Emmy Award for excellence in medical programming. In addition, he has been featured in The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal, and on CNN, as well as other top-tier media outlets.

Will Harris • Owner, White Oak Pastures

Born and raised at White Oak Pastures, Will Harris tends the same land that has been in his family for four generations. He was trained in standard industrial farming methods while attending the University of Georgia’s School of Agriculture, but in the mid-1990s, became disenchanted with industrialized farming methods. In 1995, Will decided to return to the farming methods his great-grandfather had used 130 years before. After successfully implementing these changes, Will has been recognized all over the world as a leader in humane animal husbandry and environmental sustainability. Will is the immediate past president of the Board of Directors of Georgia Organics. He is the Beef Director of the American Grassfed Association, and was selected 2011 Business Person of the Year for Georgia by the Small Business Administration.

Jeremy Lewis • Executive Director, Urban Recipe

Jeremy Lewis is the executive director of Urban Recipe, an organization creating food security for low-income families in the metro Atlanta area for 25 years. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a bachelor of business administration in finance and of Emory University with a master of divinity degree from the Candler School of Theology. Prior to joining Urban Recipe in 2015, Jeremy was the executive director of CDF Action in Clarkston, Georgia. As a former board member of Bread for the World, he advocated on behalf of communities he worked with to be a part of conversations around creating policies that affect access to fresh food for low-income individuals. In response to that work and in connection to his work with the refugee community, Jeremy helped co-found Edible Yard & Garden to work toward increasing the access to fresh food around the Atlanta area through sustainable practices of edible landscaping and urban agriculture.

Ellen Macht • Project Manager, BetterLife Growers

Ellen Macht is project manager for the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta’s social enterprise initiative. BetterLife Growers will be a 1.5 million pound aeroponic lettuce and herb growing operation that will provide approximately 25 good, sustainable jobs for hard-to-place employees. BetterLife Growers will leverage the purchasing power of education and medical institutions, produce distributors and grocery stores to buy its produce. Ellen is one of the founders of Food Well Alliance, which exists to unite the local food movement to build a healthier food system together. She has more than 30 years of experience in corporate and investment banking and is the board chair of Georgia Organics.

Alice Rolls • Executive Director, Georgia Organics

Alice Rolls has devoted her entire professional career to environmental causes, working for 28 years in the nonprofit arena, lending her expertise to the development of three organizations. In 2004, Alice became the Executive Director of Georgia Organics, a nonprofit organization working to connect organic food from Georgia farms to Georgia families. Prior to this position, Alice was executive director of Earth Share of Georgia, an organization she founded in 1992 and which has since grown to support over 60 environmental organizations. She also worked for six years establishing and developing The Nature Conservancy’s Georgia Chapter. She is a 1987 graduate of the University of Virginia with a degree in biology and environmental sciences and a 2004 graduate of the Governor’s Institute for Georgia Environmental Leadership. In her spare time, Alice can be found tending her edible garden and backyard chickens, transporting herself by bike around town, or foraging for mushrooms in undisclosed locations.