



## **Broadband Revolution**

Speaker Biographies

### **Commissioner Michael J. Copps** *Federal Communications Commission*

Michael J. Copps was nominated for a second term as a member of the Federal Communications Commission on November 9, 2005, and sworn in January 3, 2006. His term runs until June 30, 2010. He was sworn in for his first term on May 31, 2001.

Mr. Copps served from 1998 until January 2001 as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Trade Development at the U.S. Department of Commerce. In that role, Mr. Copps worked to improve market access and market share for nearly every sector of American industry, including information technologies and telecommunications. Mr. Copps devoted much of his time to building private sector-public sector partnerships to enhance our nation's success in the global economy.

Mr. Copps moved to Washington in 1970, joined the staff of Senator Fritz Hollings (D-SC) and served for over a dozen years as Administrative Assistant and Chief of Staff. From 1985 to 1989, he served as Director of Government Affairs for a Fortune 500 Company. From 1989 to 1993, he was Senior Vice President for Legislative Affairs at a major national trade association. From 1993 to 1998, Mr. Copps served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Basic Industries, a component of the Trade Development Unit.

Mr. Copps, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, received a B.A. from Wofford College and earned a Ph.D. in United States history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He taught US history at Loyola University of the South from 1967 to 1970.

Copps is married to the former Elizabeth Catherine Miller of New Orleans. They have five children and reside in Alexandria, VA.

### **Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein** *Federal Communications Commission*

Jonathan S. Adelstein was unanimously confirmed twice by the U.S. Senate to be a member of the Federal Communications Commission. He was originally sworn in on December 3, 2002, and sworn in for a second term on December 6, 2004.

A life-long public servant, Adelstein has dedicated his career to fighting for the public interest. As a Commissioner, his approach is guided by the key principle that the public interest means securing access to communications for everyone, including those the market may leave behind.

Adelstein is a particularly strong advocate for media diversity and localism, and works diligently to encourage increased voices on the airwaves to support a well-informed citizenry. He has worked to promote access to telecommunications and media outlets by minorities, rural and low-income consumers, people with disabilities, and non-English speakers.

To ensure that all consumers have access to the latest telecommunications systems no matter where they live, Adelstein has strived to improve universal service. He has also encouraged broadcasters to use the

digital transition to better serve their communities with local, public affairs and other cultural and educational programming. He has advocated for a substantive national broadband strategy with aggressive goals and specific policy recommendations. He also has played an active role at the Commission in promoting new policies that improve access to spectrum by both large and small companies so that consumers can continue to maintain those connections in our increasingly portable world.

Adelstein has been a national leader on combating the negative effects of the increasing commercialization of American media. Most recently, he spearheaded vigorous enforcement against reported violations of federal payola rules – a payola scandal that he believes may represent the most widespread and flagrant violation of any FCC rules in the history of American broadcasting. The effort resulted in an historic settlement with a number of major radio companies that establishes strong procedures to prevent future recurrences of payola.

Before joining the Commission, Adelstein served for fifteen years as a staff member in the United States Senate. For his final seven years, he was a senior legislative aide to then United States Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), where he advised Senator Daschle on telecommunications, financial services, transportation and other key issues. Previously, he served as Professional Staff Member to Senate Special Committee on Aging Chairman David Pryor (D-AR), including an assignment as a special liaison to Senator Harry Reid (D-NV), and as a Legislative Assistant to Senator Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (D-MI).

Prior to his service in the Senate, Adelstein was a Teaching Fellow in the Department of History, Harvard University, while studying at the Kennedy School of Government. Adelstein also was a Teaching Assistant in the Department of History, Stanford University where he received an M.A. in History and a B.A. with Distinction in Political Science. He also served as a Communications Consultant to the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

**Jane Smith Patterson**  
*Executive Director, The e-NC Authority*

Jane Smith Patterson currently serves as executive director of the e-NC Authority, an organization with a goal of bringing affordable high-speed Internet access to the citizens, businesses and institutions of North Carolina, particularly in rural areas. Prior to taking this leadership position in 2001, Jane worked for North Carolina Gov. Jim Hunt through his four terms in office, first as secretary of administration, then as chief advisor for policy, budget and technology, and finally as senior advisor for science and technology and director of the office for technology. Jane's background also includes working in the private industry as vice-president of ITT Corporation- Network Systems Group, of ITT-Alcatel and Alcatel, NA. She consistently leads focused efforts to improve technology and its application, in order to enhance the economy of North Carolina and advance educational opportunities for future generations.

Jane is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and has completed post-graduate work at N.C. State University and Harvard University. She serves on a number of boards for nonprofit organizations, including the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.

**Jim Baller**  
*The Baller Herbst Law Group, Washington, D.C.*

Jim Baller is the founder and president of the Baller Herbst Law Group, a national law firm based in Washington, DC. The Firm specializes in representing local governments and public power utilities in matters involving telecommunications, cable television, high-speed data communications, the Internet, wireless communications, right-of-way management, pole and conduit attachments, barriers to the public-sector entry into communications, bankruptcy, and antitrust. His clients include the American Public Power Association, the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA),

regional and state utility associations and municipal leagues, and numerous public and private entities in more than 35 states. He is also a founder and spokesman of the Community Broadband Coalition, a broad consortium of associations, consumer groups, and high technology companies that support community broadband initiatives.

Over the last fifteen years, he has been involved in most of the Nation's leading public cable, fiber, and wireless projects and in nearly every major legislative and judicial battle against state barriers to public broadband initiatives. The Fiber to the Home Council and the Public Technologies Institute have both called Jim "the nation's most experienced and knowledgeable attorney on public broadband matters," and MuniWireless has observed that he is "the foremost legal expert on U.S. public broadband matters." In 2001, NATOA named him its Member of the Year. In 2006, MuniWireless awarded him its first "Esme Award." In 2007, NATOA honored him as its first "Community Broadband Visionary of the Year," for "almost single-handedly putting the issue of the need for a national broadband strategy to the forefront of public consciousness." Also in 2007, *Washingtonian Magazine* listed Jim as one of Washington's "Best Lawyers" (defined as the top one percent).

**Diana G. Oblinger**

***President and CEO, EDUCAUSE***

Diana Oblinger, president and CEO of EDUCAUSE, formerly served as EDUCAUSE vice president responsible for the association's teaching and learning activities and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Adult and Higher Education at North Carolina State University. Previously, Oblinger held positions in academia and business, serving as Vice President for Information Resources and the Chief Information Officer for the 16-campus University of North Carolina system, Executive Director of Higher Education for Microsoft, and IBM Director of the Institute for Academic Technology. She was on the faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia and at Michigan State University and an associate dean at the University of Missouri.

Oblinger serves on a variety of boards including the National Science Foundation's Advisory Committee on Cyberinfrastructure and chairs the National Visiting Committee for NSF's National Science Digital Library project. Dr. Oblinger has testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Employment, Safety, and Training and the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Technology.

A frequent keynote speaker, Oblinger is also co-author of the award winning *What Business Wants from Higher Education*. She is co-editor of seven books: *The Learning Revolution*, *The Future Compatible Campus*, *Renewing Administration*, *E is for Everything*, *Best Practices in Student Services*, *Educating the Net Generation*, and *Learning Spaces*. She is the author or co-author of dozens of monographs and articles on higher education and technology.

Dr. Oblinger has received several awards for teaching, research and distinguished service. She holds three degrees from Iowa State University and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Sigma Xi.

**Stan Fendley**

***Director of Legislative and Regulatory Policy, Corning, Inc.***

(on behalf of the Fiber-to-the-Home Council)

Stan Fendley serves as Director of Legislative and Regulatory Policy for Corning Incorporated. In that role, he develops Corning's public positions on matters of tax, telecommunications and environmental policy and represents the company before Congress and federal agencies.

Before joining Corning, Fendley worked on Capitol Hill as Counsel to two U.S. Senate Committees – the Senate Finance Committee, where he served under Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-NY), and the Senate Small Business Committee, where he served under Senator Dale Bumpers (D-AR). From 1991-

93, he was in private legal practice with the firm of Popham, Haik, Schnobrich & Kaufman in Washington, D.C. Previously he was a Business Planner with the New Mexico Technology Innovation Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he assisted scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs in developing business plans and obtaining start-up capital. From 1979-83, Fendley served as a Field Artillery and German Liaison Officer for the 3rd U.S. Infantry Division, for which he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

In 2002-03, Fendley served as point person for the FTTH industry's efforts to establish the viability of FTTH in the eyes of the Federal Communications Commission, which was crucial to positioning FTTH as a technology worthy of special treatment in federal regulation. As a result of that effort, the FCC agreed to lift the so-called "unbundling requirements" on incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) when those carriers deploy FTTH – a decision credited with allowing Verizon Communications to embark upon a "fiber to the premises" deployment expected to pass three million U.S. homes by the end of 2005. Fendley's most recent public policy effort came in the form of consumer tax credit for clean diesel vehicles included in the July 2005 energy bill.

Fendley holds a JD from Harvard Law School, an MBA from the University of New Mexico, and a Bachelors degree from Ouachita Baptist University (Arkadelphia, Arkansas). He has been published numerous times on public policy matters, including application of the Commerce Clause of the U.S. constitution and a variety of federal taxation issues.

### **Michael Calabrese**

***Vice President and Director - Wireless Future Program, New America Foundation***

Michael Calabrese is Vice President and Director of the Wireless Future Program at the New America Foundation, a non-profit think tank based in Washington, D.C. He oversees the Foundation's efforts to improve our nation's management of the public airwaves and to promote ubiquitous and affordable wireless broadband access. New America advocates the reallocation of more prime spectrum for open, shared, unlicensed access, as well as the extension of "net neutrality" principles to wireless broadband.

Previously, Mr. Calabrese served as General Counsel of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee and as a counsel at the national AFL-CIO. He is the co-author of three previous books on policy and politics and has published opinion articles in the nation's leading outlets, including *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. Calabrese is a graduate of Stanford Business and Law Schools, where he earned a JD/MBA degree; and a graduate of Harvard College, where he earned a B.A. in Economics and Government.