Industrial Advisory Board Members

Todd Colvin
SVP, Chief Information Security Officer

Todd Colvin is the Senior Vice President and Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) for Rochester Regional Health, a truly integrated health services organization. In this role, he is responsible for developing and driving a strategic information security plan to identify and reduce risks to the operation of critical technologies necessary for the delivery of patient services.

Prior to joining Rochester Regional Health, Mr. Colvin was the Senior Director and Chief Information Security Official for Paychex, Inc. a leading provider of integrated human capital management solutions for payroll, HR, retirement, and insurance services. During his tenure, Mr. Colvin developed and staffed separate functions to deliver an all hazards information security program that included: Identity and Access Management, Engineering, Vulnerability Management, Governance, Risk and Compliance, Investigations, Insider Threat and Cyber Crisis Management.

In 2015, he assumed responsibility for the Physical Security department and all related functions, to become the first fully converged Security Official for Paychex, Inc. In addition to building the security program from the ground up, Mr. Colvin was trained and responsible for the delivery of a Technical Surveillance Countermeasures program (TSCM). By leveraging spectrum and telephone analyzers, in combination with non-linear junction detectors, Mr. Colvin demonstrated the unique ability to protect the financial information and strategic direction of the company during these highly disruptive and competitive times.

Mr. Colvin's interest in the development of an integrated all hazards program evolved during his tenure at Sprint where he was the resident representative to Homeland Security. Located in Washington, D.C., Mr. Colvin resided at the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) headquarters where he was solely accountable for supporting all National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) activities as declared by the federal government. Mr. Colvin routinely collocated with government representatives at remote coordinating centers to ensure communications were available to key decision makers at all times. In support of this activity, Mr. Colvin helped coordinate government sponsored programs including Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP), Wireless Priority Service (WPS) and Government Emergency Telecommunication Services (GETS).

Mr. Colvin has a Master of Science in Information Security and Assurance (MSISA) with a concentration in Incident Response and Digital Forensics. He is a member of the Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society and was singularly recognized as the Outstanding Student for MSISA

Program at Norwich University (Northfield, VT) in June 2017. He possesses a bachelor degree in Information Security and an associate degree in Homeland Security from the State University of New York. Mr. Colvin completed the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) CERT Certificate in Cybersecurity Oversight, issued by the CERT Division of the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. He has received numerous accolades for his many accomplishments and contributions to the information security profession over the course of his career.

Bruce E. Jones
SVP, Chief Information Officer

Bruce Jones is Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer (CIO) of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. His responsibilities include the Enterprise Information Technology (EIT) operations for a family of companies which finance and deliver vital health care services to about 1.9 million people across upstate New York.

Mr. Jones was previously the Chief Information Security Officer for the Lifetime Healthcare Companies. Prior to that he was the CISO at Eastman Kodak Company where he had a successful thirty-two year career in a variety of leadership positions.

Mr. Jones holds a BS Degree in computer science from Saint John Fisher College as well as numerous industry certifications. Bruce is active in the IT Security industry speaking at conferences and webinars, publishing articles on IT Security and risk management, serving as an industry advisor for the Rochester Institute of Technology Master's Degree in Computing Security and as Director on the Rochester Chapter of the FBI InfraGard group. Bruce founded the Rochester Information Technology Security Executive Council in 2012 which provides a forum for information sharing among the top companies in upstate NY. He has won numerous awards within the IT industry for his leadership and accomplishments in building and implementing a world class security, risk and compliance programs.

Bruce actively volunteers within his community and serves on the Board for Gates Volunteer Ambulance Services, Inc.

Mr. Jones and his wife, Kyle, reside in Rochester, New York.

Bob Kalka
CRISC, Vice President

Bob Kalka, CRISC, is Vice President of the IBM Security Business Unit.   Bob is responsible for IBM's global technical professionals and vertical industry programs. He has also been intimately involved for the past two decades in developing IBM's overall strategy for its comprehensive security-related investments.

Bob has been involved in the information security industry for 24 of his 29 years with IBM.   He has held a number of leadership positions in product management, sales, business development, marketing management and product development. He is a frequent international speaker on the relationship of business with Information Technology, risk management, cloud computing and cognitive security, and has had numerous papers and articles published on these topics. He also holds a United States Patent related to secure distributed computing software.

Bob received a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree in Organizational Change and Development from Syracuse University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from the Rochester Institute of Technology. Bob also holds a certificate in strategic marketing planning from the Indiana University Graduate School of Business.

Bob is Certified in Risk and Information Systems Control (CRISC) by ISACA. He is an active member of the Industry Advisory Boards for the Darwin Deason Institute for Cybersecurity in the Lyle School of Engineering at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, as well as the Department of Computing Security at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York.

Bob is also a highly active musician in Austin, Texas, where he fronts several groups, spanning jazz, rock, funk, blues and worship styles.

Jennifer Kusse
CIO, Director of Information Services

Jennifer Kusse is the Chief Information Officer and Director of Information Services for Monroe County, New York. She has strategic management and oversight responsibilities for computer and server systems, networking infrastructure, telephones, help desk services; application selection, development and implementation - including a growing SAP application; and responsibility for the information and data security initiatives. Jennifer has been a PMP since 2008, has a Master of Information Systems degree and more than 18 years of Information Technology experience. She also works closely with the County's department of Public Safety and Emergency Operations Center, as well as State and Federal agencies including Homeland Security and the FBI. Jennifer expects to finish her Doctorate in Organizational Leadership from Northeastern University early in 2020.

Garland Nichols
VP

Garland Nichols is the Vice President of Information Security for Research & Product Development at Xerox Corporation. She is responsible for leading the development and execution of an end to end approach to Information Security in the offerings Xerox delivers to their customers. The mission is to deliver standardized and proven security solutions, processes and tools to ensure that information security becomes part of our everyday business practices. These initiatives further enhances Xerox offerings by embedding security into each step of the value chain from the very beginning.

She enjoys volunteering as a Science Consultant, teaching Science in a fun way to 4th & 5th graders. As Board President at Webster Montessori School in 2012-2014, she led a $1M+ building expansion to ensure a sustainable growth strategy. She's also served as Treasurer for Pultneyville Yacht Club for 3 years, establishing standardized processes while managing her fiduciary duties.

Garland holds a Ph.D. in Polymer Science from University of Connecticut, an MBA from Rochester Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Rochester Institute of Technology. She is a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, holds over 10 patents and has received Xerox's President Award for extraordinary contributions. She is the 2017 Digital Rochester's Technology Woman of the Year. She strives to continue to learn and earned her Security+ and CISM certifications.

Michael Palmer
VP, Chief Information Security Officer

Michael Palmer is the Vice President and Chief Information Security Officer for The National Football League. A business leader with deep technical expertise, he determines the NFL's security strategy, policies and programs to meet the league's corporate objectives while protecting its brand, intellectual property and assets. A proven leader, change agent and subject matter expert in risk management, Michael is a key member of the executive team. He established and chairs the NFL's Information Risk Management Committee that identifies threats and vulnerabilities, the associated business risks and determines how to address them. With more than 20 years professional experience across multiple industries including finance, insurance, technology and retail, Michael builds and oversees teams and budgets. Passionate about cybersecurity, he works closely with his peers, providing guidance and sharing information. Michael has US Department of Homeland Security secret clearance and holds several industry certifications.

Greg Platt
Sr. Cyber Advisor

Greg Platt is a 32 year veteran of the Defense Department and the Intelligence Community. He has held a wide range of operational and leadership positions and served at numerous overseas postings working on a variety of global national security challenges. For the past ten years, his primary responsibilities have focused on strategic planning for the establishment and evolution of the Army's premier Cyber Warfare unit. These duties include organizational and operational paradigms as well as, recruitment, training, and professional development of the civilian workforce.

Jeremy Pollard
Network and Site Reliability Engineer

Jeremy Pollard (ANSA '12) is a Network and Site Reliability Engineer at Caffeine.tv, a video live streaming platform, where he helps maintain, grow, and scale infrastructure and systems to support over 200 million users. In previous roles, Jeremy specialized in automation tooling to manage security policies across networks of thousands of nodes. In addition to his work at Evernote, he serves on the ACM SIGGRAPH GraphicsNET committee to coordinate network connectivity needs for the annual Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques conference. Away from the keyboard, Jeremy travels the country dancing Lindy Hop and Blues.

Richard Savacool
CIO

Rich Savacool is the Chief Security Officer for Nixon Peabody, LLP, a law firm based out of Rochester, N.Y. He has twenty years of experience in networking and systems security for both commercial and government sectors. Rich holds numerous industry certifications including the CISSP, CEH, CCE, and GPEN, and has a Master of Science degree in Computing Security and Information Assurance from Rochester Institute of Technology. When not at work, Rich is an assistant instructor of Aikido at the Eastern Sky dojo in Fairport, NY under the tutelage of Paul Gardner Sensei."
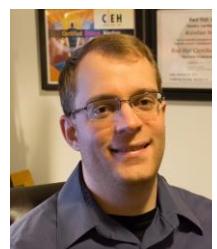
Kristian Stokes
Systems Engineer

Kristian Stokes is a Systems Engineer for FUSE Engineering, a professional services company serving the U.S. Government Intelligence Community. Mr. Stokes earned a B.S. in Applied Networking & Systems Administration from Rochester Institute of Technology. After completing his undergraduate

degree, Mr. Stokes was awarded the Department of Defense Information Assurance Scholarship to continue graduate studies in Computer Security & Information Assurance at RIT. Since graduation Mr. Stokes has served as an engineer to deploy specialized data communications technologies for the Department of Defense. Outside of the office Mr. Stokes spends his time skeet shooting and on home improvement projects.

Steve Surdu
Principal of Surdu Consulting

Steve Surdu is the Principal of Surdu Consulting. He assists clients in a variety of computer security and general management areas such as: managing incident response investigations and the associated remediation efforts, assuming interim senior executive roles in security products and services organizations and consulting with information security product and service companies to improve their capabilities and execution.

From 2007 until 2014 Steve was the Vice President of Professional Services at Mandiant. At Mandiant Steve oversaw all aspects of Mandiant's consulting organization – including sales, business development, service delivery, research, recruitment, personnel development, process improvement and financial management. During his time at Mandiant his group conducted approximately 350 investigations while working for more than 30% of the Fortune 100. The work included investigating site defacements, personally identifiable information thefts, ACH account fraud, payment card thefts, ATM cash drawdowns and intellectual property thefts. Earlier in Steve's career he held management positions at Foundstone, BBN, Cerner Corporation and Accenture.

Steve earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Timothy Watt
Software Engineer

Timothy Watt is a Software Engineer with Parsons Government Services within Parsons, Inc. He received a B.S. in Software Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology in 2005 and a M.S. in Computing Security and Information Assurance from RIT in 2012. He designs, develops, and supports software to meet clients' needs and requirements.