



**Amanda Clavijo**  
**Assistant County Manager**  
**Osceola County**  
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Amanda Clavijo is the Assistant County Manager for Osceola County and Build Back Better Regional Challenge Phase 2 Regional Economic Competitiveness Officer. This role includes overseeing Osceola County's financial operations, Economic Development, Office of Sustainability and supporting NeoCity Development for the County. Prior to this, she served as the Comptroller, Financial Services Administrator and OMB Director for Osceola County. Amanda has twenty years of local government experience including over fourteen years with Osceola County.

Amanda earned a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Central Florida.

Amanda is the current Chair of the Lynx Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority Finance and Audit Committee, Treasurer of the Florida Local Government Finance Committee, as well as member of the imec Steering Committee. She is also a member of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association and Government Finance Officers Association.

## James Vandevere President



James “Jim” Vandevere is an industry professional with more than 20 years of C-level experience in operations, manufacturing, procurement and quality assurance experience in the telecommunications and medical device sectors. Throughout his career, Jim’s primary focus has been with heterogeneous integration of next-generation microelectronics and photonics, united with advanced packaging solutions. As the president of BRIDG, Jim leverages his strengths to lead efforts in revitalizing the domestic semiconductor industry, positioning BRIDG to serve as the nation’s HUB coordinator for advanced packaging solutions at NeoCity in Osceola County, Fla.

Prior to joining BRIDG, Jim worked with high tech startups such as InterDigital, Ciena, Qtera, LiteCure and Skorpios. Jim is experienced in creating and developing production capabilities and infrastructure to enhance operational efficiencies, while executing to ensure financial gains. These efforts led to over \$3B each for Ciena (IPO) and Qtera (Acquisition). Jim’s engagement with R&D teams collaborating on discriminating technologies while establishing business execution strategies are just some of his many strengths.

### **About BRIDG**

BRIDG is a not-for-profit, public-private partnership specializing in digital, RF, and photonics interposer technology development coupled with advanced packaging capabilities. As an ITAR-certified and DMEA trust-ready supplier, BRIDG offers R&D expertise and a 200mm microelectronics fabrication facility geared toward system miniaturization, device integration, hardware security, and product manufacturing key to aerospace, defense, automotive, telecommunications, medical, and the IoT/AI revolution. Supported by Osceola County, Florida High Tech Corridor Council, imec, Orlando Economic Partnership, TEL, SUSS, Siemens, and SkyWater Technology (Center for NeoVation operator), BRIDG provides the physical infrastructure and collaborative process to connect challenges and opportunities with solutions; “Bridging the Innovation Development Gap” making commercialization possible. Located at NeoCity—a 500-acre master-planned community of innovation in Florida—BRIDG is centrally located 20 minutes from Orlando International Airport and within a mile of Florida’s Turnpike. [GoBRIDG.com](http://GoBRIDG.com)

**Biography: Dr. Grace M. Bochenek**  
*Director & Professor*  
**School of Modeling, Simulation and Training,  
University of Central Florida**

Fascinated by the next generation of technology capability, future workforce, and the opportunity to drive innovation, with a view of the strategic and a pure understanding of tactical solutions, Dr. Grace M. Bochenek is a pioneer and leader in research and technology development.

Currently, she is the director of School of Modeling, Simulation and Training (SMST) at the University of Central Florida (UCF) where she is capitalizing on UCF and SMST's 40-year history as early pioneers in human-centered modeling and simulation research to expand M&S at UCF as an innovative, integrative, and inspirational force across campus both in research and academics.

Prior to joining UCF, Dr. Bochenek held positions in both the Department of Energy and Department of Defense serving as a member of the federal government Senior Executive Service, with over 30 years of technical and managerial experience. She served as the Director of the National Energy Technology Laboratory, NETL, and, in the Department of Army, as the Chief Technology Officer of the U.S. Army Materiel Command and the Director of the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center. Dr. Bochenek held a presidential appointment as the Acting Secretary of Energy during the 2017 administration transition. She is well-versed in science, technology investment strategies, commercialization and performance, technology maturation and integration, and performance analyses with an emphasis on strategic alliances, partnerships, and global/international programs.

She has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Presidential Rank Award as Meritorious Executive, a Silver Medal from the National Defense Industry Association, and Decorations for Exceptional Civilian Service from both Departments of Army and Energy.

Dr. Bochenek earned a Ph.D. in Industrial & Systems Engineering from the University Central Florida in 1998. She received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Wayne State University and M.S. degree in Industrial & Systems Engineering from the University of Michigan.





**Jordan DeWitt**  
**Associate Director, Government Affairs**  
**Orlando Economic Partnership**

Jordan DeWitt is the Associate Director of Government Affairs for the Orlando Economic Partnership (the Partnership). In this role, he helps lead the Partnership's policy priorities, including driving investment in semiconductors and transportation and convening regional leaders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors around initiatives that advance Broad-based Prosperity®.

Following the Orlando region's successful *Build Back Better Regional Challenge* award, Jordan led the implementation of the Partnership's two projects, Catalyst Osceola and UpSkill Osceola, serving as the Partnership's Interim Director of Cluster Management and working to stand up the Orlando region's first semiconductor cluster management organization (CMO) alongside the Florida High Tech Corridor.

Jordan completed both his graduate and undergraduate degrees in Orlando at the University of Central Florida, graduating with a Master of Public Policy with a policy specialization in Community and Economic Development.



**Kevin Carr**  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**FloridaMakes**  
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Kevin has dedicated most of his career to enhancing the nation’s manufacturing sector, with a focus on improving the competitiveness and profitability of small and medium-size manufacturers. Kevin comes to FloridaMakes having led the National Institute of Standards and Technology’s Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST MEP). Joining NIST in the first year of this experimental program, Kevin became the first NIST MEP Director, building the program from just 7 pilot states to a nationally integrated system serving manufacturers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

Under his leadership with state and federal policymakers, Kevin has worked to increase manufacturers’ access to appropriate advanced manufacturing technology and resources through the federal labs and centers of excellence, and has challenged the MEP system to cultivate best practices, best-in-class services, and promote increased use of existing public and private resources to improve the foundation and future of American manufacturing. Upon his departure from NIST in 2005 to join the private sector, Kevin was recognized by Senator Hollings, the program’s namesake, for his efforts in transforming the pilot program to its current national scale. To date, MEP has worked with nearly 80,000 manufacturers, leading to \$88 billion in sales and \$14 billion in cost savings, and has helped create more than 729,000 jobs.

As at home on the shop floor, as he is in the C-suite, Kevin has provided management and strategic planning consulting to individual manufacturing companies, boards of directors, economic development organizations, trade associations and more. He has been recognized as FloridaTrend's most influential in Florida and as a finalist for the Service to America for Business and Commerce and Harvard’s Innovation in Government Award. He was awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce Gold Medal for building MEP’s national system and was recently inducted into the NIST Gallery of Distinguished Scientists, Engineers and Administrators for “outstanding leadership of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership and implementing it into a model federal program with national impact on business development, innovation and job creation.”

Kevin studied electronics engineering at Widener University and technology management at the University of Maryland.

Kevin was appointed to the Florida Chamber Foundation Board of Trustees in December 2016.