

## **Brief Biographies of Panelists**

Political Science and Geography Alumni Panel

Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 12:30-2:00pm

**Kyle Gilmer** graduated from ODU in 2018 with a BS in Geography and a certificate in GIS. Right before graduating, Gilmer was hired as the GIS Analyst for Virginia Beach City Public Schools (VBCPS), Office of Facilities Services, Department of Demographics and Planning, where he currently is still employed. While in this position, he has worked on projects and research involving climate change, satellite imagery, census data, urban growth/planning, community development and engagement, COVID-19 planning, and amongst others. Currently he is obtaining his master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning with a concentration in environmental planning and sustainability planning from Virginia Commonwealth University. His main studies/project is on creating and adopting the first Sustainability Plan for Chesterfield County, Virginia with a majority GIS research.

**Shelley Hackworth** received her BS in Geography in 1997. Shelley has interests in chronic disease management and museum education. Shelley serves as an Online Peer Facilitator for Canary Health's Better Choices, Better Health and Building Better Caregivers Programs. Each program is six weeks and provides digital peer support for health and caregiving self-management for participants across the United States and Canada. Shelley has also served as Group Educator at the Jamestown Settlement. There she guided elementary and middle school students through Jamestown Settlement applying hands on and inquiry based teaching techniques using Virginia Standards of Learning to 17th Century History. Recently Shelley moved across country from Virginia to Oregon. She now resides near Pilot Butte - a lava dome that was created from an extinct volcano.

**Adam Perry** earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Old Dominion University in 2006, a Master of Public Administration from Old Dominion University in 2009, and a Master of Business Administration from Virginia Wesleyan University in 2021. He has been employed at CMA CGM (America) LLC since 2006. Throughout his tenure at CMA CGM, he has served in many roles in the business, including leading intermodal operations teams, logistics analytics, and most recently as Port Operations Supervisor managing the loading and unloading of cargo at the Port of Virginia. Adam Perry is also very involved in his community. He has experience serving as Chairman of the Chesapeake Planning Commission where he provided guidance on all phases of city planning, zoning, use permit issuances, and Comprehensive Plan development. He resides in Chesapeake with his wife and son. During his time as a student at Old Dominion, Perry served as President of the Student Government and won many intramural softball championships.

**Tara Rountree** completed her B.S. in political science from Old Dominion University in 2011 and her M.A. in government from the University of Virginia in 2015. Tara is proud to serve Virginia as Congressman Donald McEachin's chief of staff. She joined Congressman McEachin's team in 2016 as the political director on his successful campaign for congress and has been with him ever since, serving as his scheduler and then deputy chief of staff and district director. Tara is a proud alumna of Emerge Virginia, a former member of the Virginia League

for Planned Parenthood Young Professionals Council, the Richmond Junior League, and a board member on Virginia's Council on Women.