



INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AUDIT FORUMS

Speaker Bios

May 21, 2025

NEW ENGLAND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUDIT FORUM (NEIAF)

CATHLEEN DAY

General Counsel

Texas State Auditor's Office



Cathleen (Cat) Day is General Counsel for the Texas State Auditor's Office (SAO). She authored the SAO's Generative AI policy, emphasizing responsible oversight and cautious use of AI.

MICHAEL LAWRENCE EVANS

Director of Emerging Technology
City of Boston



Michael Lawrence Evans is the Director of Emerging Technology at the City of Boston. He leads the City's exploration and adoption of new technology to support more responsive and equitable services. Previously, he directed Boston's Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics and led their civic technology portfolio. Michael cut his teeth as a design technologist at Stamen Design and Code for America, where he was a member of their inaugural class of fellows in 2011 and served as a Google Summer of Code mentor.

SANTIAGO GARCES

Chief Innovation Officer
City of Boston



As a kid growing up in Bogotá, Colombia, Santiago “Santi” Garces witnessed the near collapse of the national government and the general disillusionment of national politics, along with creative and unconventional approaches to solve issues at the local level. Those experiences developed a lifelong passion for making government more efficient and effective for citizens. Santi joined the City of Boston as Chief Innovation Officer (CIO) to help push forward Mayor Wu’s vision of building a government that earns the trust of its people.

As CIO, Santi oversees the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) and a team of nearly 150 employees. DoIT provides and maintains mission-critical technologies for the City’s more than 18,000 employees and hundreds of thousands of constituents.

In the last few decades, DoIT has been an enabler of progress in Boston. Santi’s goal is to create a new chapter in that history so that DoIT can continue to be an engine of transformation in the service of residents and employees. Through data science, statistics, and human-centered design, Santi will empower his staff to deliver more dignified experiences for residents and optimize the role of government. He also plans to leverage the City’s relationships with academia, local industries, and civic organizations to make sure big decisions reflect the many voices of Boston.

Before becoming CIO of Boston, Santi was the Executive Director of the Department of Community Investment in South Bend, Indiana, and formerly served as CIO of South Bend and of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Before working in civic tech, Santi helped found enFocus, a nonprofit dedicated to providing innovative solutions for government and industry. He is a graduate of Notre Dame with degrees in Electrical Engineering, Political Science, and a master’s degree in Technology Entrepreneurship.

As a lover of languages, Santi speaks fluently in Spanish, English, some French, and dabbles in Portuguese, Italian, German, Quechua, and Irish while trying to learn Chinese. Santi enjoys learning programming languages as well, including C/C++, Python, Ruby, Julia, and R. As a new Chinatown resident, he’s open to any and all recommendations for neighborhood cuisine. He also really likes Corgis.

JO DALE GUZMAN

Director of Strategy and Operations
Texas State Auditor's Office



Jo Dale Guzman is the Director of Strategy and Operations at the Texas State Auditor's Office. In her current role, she oversees several non-audit teams, including the State Classification Team, Information Technology, Communications and the Data Solutions Group. Prior to this role, she was the Professional Development Manager with responsibilities in change management, training oversight and hiring.

Jo Dale has a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Saint Edward's University and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Texas State University-San Marcos. She has completed mediation training, holds the Professional in Human Resources (PHR) certification and the SHRM-CP certification.

She is an avid reader, adores her Bernedoodle and loves to talk about all things dress code!

PARIS HALL

Analyst

United States Government Accountability Office



Paris began her career at the U.S. Government Accountability Office in 2014 as an auditor with the Information Technology and Cybersecurity team. For the past several years, she has led various efforts including government-wide audits related to artificial intelligence and audits on agency system modernization efforts. Mrs. Hall has a Bachelor of Science degree in General Business. She also has a Master of Science degree in Cyber Security and a Master of Business Administration. She is originally from Washington, D.C., but now resides in Chesapeake Beach, Maryland with her husband and two daughters. Mrs. Hall enjoys spending time with her family, going out with her friends, and traveling.

MICHAEL HUANG

Productivity Product Manager
City of Boston



As the Productivity Product Manager of the Department of Innovation and Technology at the City of Boston, Michael Huang spearheads transformative initiatives that leverage technologies to optimize workstreams. His leadership is pivotal in enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of City employees, directly impacting Boston residents. Michael's prior experience is rooted in the biopharmaceutical and life sciences sectors, where he drove technology implementations to accelerate the discovery and development of life-changing therapeutics at industry leaders AbbVie, Thermo Fisher Scientific, Danaher, and TetraScience. This unique background allows him to bring a powerful, results-driven approach to public sector innovation.

WELLING LAGRONE

Vice President

Triverus Consulting



Welling believes great solutions start with a deep understanding of business problems and strong relationships with business partners. An accomplished, hands-on technologist with a history of building and leading great teams, he has delivered numerous game-changing client initiatives utilizing Applied AI and fit for purpose technologies across a variety of industries, including public sector, healthcare, finance and retail. Welling is a sought-after speaker and enjoys sharing his experiences and technical expertise to help others tackle business challenges with efficiency and ease.

Welling holds an MBA from Vanderbilt University and a degree in Art History and Administrative Science from Colby College. Residing outside Boston with his family, he is an endurance sports enthusiast, martial artist, and musician. As a retired Ironman triathlete, he now focuses on gravel cycling, constantly training for his next adventure.

JESSICA STEELE

Assistant Director

United States Government Accountability Office



Jessica began her career at the U.S. Government Accountability Office in 2002 with the Information Technology and Cybersecurity team. For the past several years, she has worked on government-wide IT issues, such as artificial intelligence, IT portfolio management, and the modernization of legacy systems. Jessica has a Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Northern Colorado. She also has a Master of Science degree in Information Systems from the University of Colorado – Denver. Jessica is originally from a small town in southern Colorado, but now resides in Littleton, Colorado, with her children.