



2022 CBREDT Instructor Bios

Divitta Alexander is a managing member of Divitta Alexander PLLC. Her practice focuses on commercial real estate and community development law, with a concentration in affordable and mixed-income housing transactions, as well as other complex real estate development transactions. Ms. Alexander has over a decade of experience practicing law in the state of New York and has represented for-profit and not-for-profit developers, public and private lenders, grantors and investors on projects.

Grace Bird has varied experience in design and architecture. She has worked as a designer for DiGuiseppe Architect and draftsman at RIP Construction Consultants in New York City. Ms. Bird has a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Real Estate Development from the University at Buffalo. She also has experience as a teacher in the Buffalo Public Schools.

Christopher Hogan is the Chief Operating Officer of RP Oak Hill Building Company Inc. Mr. Hogan has a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from Cornell University and an MBA from Baldwin Wallace University. A New York State Licensed Professional Engineer and LEED Accredited Professional, Mr. Hogan has over 40 years of experience on numerous types of construction projects. He also serves as an adjunct instructor for the University at Buffalo's School of Architecture and Planning.

Gwen Howard is Vice President of Architecture at Foit Albert Associates. Ms. Howard has been practicing for over 30 years and is recognized for her commitment to her clients and a passion for technical as well as design excellence. Skilled as a Certified NYS Code Enforcement Official, she is adept at integrating quality design with innovative code solutions. Gwen chairs the City of Buffalo Preservation Board and the Erie County Executive's MWBE Advisory Committee. She also co-chairs the American Institute of Architects Buffalo/WNY Diversity Committee and participates with Buffalo Engineering Awareness for Minorities.

Dan Kohane is a nationally recognized insurance coverage counselor who conducts extensive training, consultation and in-house seminars on this highly specialized practice. For over 30 years, he has served as Adjunct Professor of Insurance Law at the University at Buffalo Law School. Mr. Kohane is also known in the industry for his comprehensive newsletter, Coverage Pointers, a bi-weekly publication summarizing important insurance coverage decisions in New York State courts with overviews of other jurisdictions. Mr. Kohane is an AV-Rated lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell, a Top 50 New York Super Lawyer in Upstate New York and has been listed in Best Lawyers in America since 2009 where he was named Lawyer of the Year in Insurance Law for 2017.

V. Jeffrey LiPuma is a Senior Fellow and Adjunct Professor with the Master of Real Estate Development program at the University at Buffalo. Mr. LiPuma has over 30 years in the commercial real estate field, including over 20 years as the Managing Partner of CBRE-Buffalo. Mr. LiPuma holds a CCIM and a SIOR certification, both widely respected commercial real estate designations. Mr. LiPuma has also served as a past president of the New York State Commercial Association of Realtors and the New York State CCIM Commercial Investment Real Estate Institute. In addition to his role at UB, Mr. LiPuma is active in commercial real estate consulting throughout the US and Ontario, Canada.

Marguerite McAfee has over 15 years of experience in institutional investment transaction analysis and deal structuring across private equity, investment banking, and buy-side direct development. Marguerite holds a master's degree in real estate finance and investment from New York University. She is a previously registered FINRA Series 63 Uniform Securities Agent and Series 7 General Securities Representative. Marguerite is a licensed Real Estate Broker, authorized in NY to grant continuing education credit to real estate professionals, and a long-term instructor in the University at Buffalo's School of Architecture and Planning, within the school's Master of Science in Real Estate Development program. Marguerite is a consultant for companies raising and investing money, in the real estate space and otherwise.

Bernice Radle is CEO and Founder of Buffalove Development LLC, a small scale, incremental focused development company focused on renovating vacant and/or underutilized properties. She is the Vice Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals in Buffalo, N.Y., and a faculty member of the Incremental Development Alliance. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning from Buffalo State College.

Richard Rogers is an attorney who concentrates his practice on real estate development, especially projects utilizing historic, brownfield, or new market tax credits, or opportunity zone incentives. He has a strong interest in land-use and municipal law, especially using conservation to fight suburban sprawl. Richard has an M.U.P. and is also principal at Urban Vantage, an urban planning and economic development consulting firm and a co-founder of Common Owner, a funding portal democratizing development and investment opportunities.

Adam Walters is a partner with Phillips Lytle LLP. Mr. Walters' practice focuses in the area of real estate development from initial planning and entity formation to project completion, including litigation related to project development. Mr. Walters is particularly experienced in land use and zoning matters including environmental impact review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. He also serves as an adjunct instructor for the University at Buffalo's Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

Royce Woods is Vice President for Commercial Real Estate at Evans Bank. Previously Mr. Woods was Executive Director of the Beverly Gray Business Exchange Center. Mr. Woods spent over 10 years working as a commercial banker in the Pittsburgh and Atlanta markets. He also worked for the City of Buffalo's Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning, where he was responsible for financial viability analysis of some of the city's largest development projects. Royce has a BA in Finance from Hampton University and an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh.

Sujata Yalamanchili is a partner with Hodgson Russ LLP. She has extensive experience in business and commercial real estate development, commercial leasing, and real estate investment and financing. Ms. Yalamanchili's background includes structuring acquisition and development projects for office, distribution, and manufacturing facilities; advising retail sector developers and operators in development. Before attending law school, Ms. Yalamanchili worked as a financial analyst for a Fortune 50 company, where her responsibilities included cost accounting, project analysis, budgeting, and forecasting.

Jason Yots has been a tax credit development attorney and presently focuses his practice on historic preservation and community economic development law. Since 2008, Jason Yots also has been a principal and the President of Preservation Studios, a Buffalo-based historic preservation consulting firm. Most recently, Jason started a real estate development firm called Common Bond Real Estate to pursue the rehabilitation of historic buildings in Legacy Cities.

Facilitators:

Tyra Johnson Hux is Deputy Director for Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC WNY). Ms. Johnson Hux was promoted to Deputy Director of LISC WNY in 2021, emerging as a change agent for inclusive economic development in Western New York. Prior to joining LISC, Tyra was an educator and entrepreneur. She served as a project management consultant for select development projects that positively impact our community and strive to lessen their environmental footprint. Deeply engaged in advancing education for inclusive and sustainable design, Ms. Johnson Hux also served as an adjunct professor at Daemen College for eight years, teaching a class on sustainable business practices. Ms. Johnson has over 15 years' experience for public and private clients involving a range of construction and development projects. Additionally, she is on the board of directors of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency.

Dave Stebbins, now retired, was the Executive Vice President of Buffalo Urban Development Corporation (BUDC), a non-profit development entity which specializes in urban redevelopment. Prior to his tenure with BUDC, Mr. Stebbins worked for several public and not-for-profit organizations in the Buffalo area with responsibilities for waterfront planning, economic development, small business assistance and real estate development, including multi-tenant industrial buildings, downtown mixed-use, urban infrastructure, brownfield redevelopment, and business park projects. Mr. Stebbins is also an Adjunct Instructor in the University at Buffalo's School of Architecture and Planning.

