Liz Bergeron serves as the Senior Director of Research for NTN. Liz has over 10 years of experience in teaching, research, and program management. She was previously an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin La-Crosse where she taught undergraduate courses in assessment, curriculum & instruction, research methods, and instructional technology. Prior to work at the university level, she was the Global Research Manager for the International Baccalaureate (IB) organization where she provided management and oversight for the Program Impact Department. Liz earned a PhD with a concentration in Science Education from George Mason University in 2011.

In partnership with the NTN College Access Team, Liz collaborates with the research consultant in the design of research methods and oversees the consultant hired to collect and analyze data.

“Research is formalized curiosity. It is poking and prying with a purpose.”
- Zora Neale Hurston

Prior to joining NTN, Jennifer served as Program Analyst for Ascendium Education Group where she managed grant dollars awarded to Tribal Colleges and Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the United States primarily serving first generation and students of color. The grant initiative funded math reform, emergency aid, and internship programs aimed to assist students to persist and graduate from college. In addition, Jennifer has worked as a Project Manager for Waukesha County Technical College managing multiple grants targeted to increasing course offerings for students to achieve their academic goals. She has also worked as a Career Advisor pairing students and graduates with local businesses for internship and employment opportunities. Jennifer holds a B.S. in Communication from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

As the College Access Project Coordinator, Jennifer maintains and regularly adjusts detailed project schedules, coordinates activities and resources for the project, and regularly communicates with school teams.

“We don’t have to do all of it alone. We were never meant to.” – Brené Brown
Cindy Bogdan is passionate about working with students, communities, and organizations to bring about transformational change towards educational equity and excellence.

Prior to joining NTN, Cindy established the Alumni program at Students Rising Above (SRA) to bridge the gap between college graduation and entering the workforce by developing a robust career development curriculum and connecting a network of alumni. She also provided college and career advising for low-income, first-generation Bay Area students in getting to and through college and preparing them for post-graduation. Previously, Cindy served in the Teach for America corps, teaching elementary students in California and Arizona. She also led a project-based summer camp program for West Contra Costa youth. Cindy holds a B.A. in Sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles and an M.A. in Urban Education, Policy and Administration from Loyola Marymount University.

As Education Data Coordinator, Cindy supports the data needs of the project evaluation team and involved schools as they engage in the College Access Network by designing, implementing, and managing innovative strategies and mechanisms to ensure consistent data collection and reporting processes.

"Change takes place, not from above, but from within." - Grace Lee Boggs

Lydia Dobyns is the President and CEO of New Tech Network. Prior to joining NTN in 2010, her career included executive roles in the non-profit, education policy and technology/online sectors. Lydia and Tom Vander Ark, CEO of Getting Smart, are co-authors of Better Together: How to Leverage School Networks For Smarter Personalized and Project Based Learning. She graduated with a B.A. in English from the University of California, Berkeley. GO BEARS!

Lydia provides organizational support for the NTN College Access Network, including ensuring alignment to strategic priorities and building district partnerships.

“The arc of the moral universe may bend towards justice, but it doesn’t bend on its own.” - Barack Obama
Prior to joining NTN, Markeisha Grant was the Associate Director of College Transition and Success with the NYC Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Readiness where she helped oversee the NYC Pathways in Technology Early College High School (NYC PTECH) network, an innovative six-year early college high school program that allows high school students to earn college credits towards an Associate Degree while in HS. In this role, she coached school staff and designed and facilitated the College Transition and Persistence Professional Learning Community, a space for college counselors, college advisors, and school based staff to share best practices around the college advising and admissions processes.

Additionally, she was a Research Associate at the Community College Teachers College, Columbia University and has published numerous articles on developmental education in English and math, the transfer pathway from community college to four-year colleges, and the implementation of technology-based advising systems. She also conducted program evaluations and impact assessments of educational programs at Goodman Research Group and Metis Associates.

Markeisha holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and Spanish from Smith College and a Master’s Degree in Education Policy and Management from Harvard University.

“Education then, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men, the balance-wheel of the social machinery.” – Horace Mann

Prior to joining NTN, Ann served as the Director of Operations for the College & Alumni Program (CAP), a program of Making Waves Foundation that provides need-based scholarships, one-on-one coaching, and financial advising to Bay Area college students. She developed her passion for college access and success through her work in the greater Boston area at Citizen Schools, City on a Hill Charter Public High School, and Crimson Summer Academy. In 2010, Ann joined Bottom Line, an organization that supports underrepresented students to and through college. There, she first served as a Senior College Counselor, working with a caseload of high school and college students, and went on to lead Bottom Line’s College Access Program in Massachusetts. She has also served as the New England College Access Director for Let’s Get Ready, leading their efforts to serve 1,100 high school students from 20 historically underserved communities across New England with near-peer mentoring, SAT prep, and college advising. Ann earned an undergraduate degree in Government and Economics from Harvard College and an M.Ed. from Lesley University.

As College Access Coach, Ann is responsible for supporting the design and implementation of the NTN College Access Network that aims to yield improved student outcomes in college matriculation, enrollment, and persistence for students. Ann will partner with and support school teams on-site, during convenings, and virtually.

“I have made a ceaseless effort not to ridicule, not to bewail, not to scorn human actions, but to understand them.” – Baruch Spinoza
Prior to joining NTN, Alana Mbanza has devoted herself to increasing college enrollment and graduation rates for historically underrepresented student populations. Alana has served as a key member on postsecondary leadership teams and has been instrumental in developing and implementing processes and systems at the school and network level. In this capacity, she has also worked closely with counselors and administrators to set postsecondary goals, manage and analyze data, and implement high impact strategies to support student success. Alana has contributed key ideas, lessons, and resources to a variety of publications including National Public Radio (NPR) and Money Magazine. The highlight of her career was winning the White House Reach Higher FAFSA Completion Challenge and meeting First Lady Michelle Obama. Alana Mbanza graduated from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign with a B.S. in Psychology and an M.A in African American Studies and Higher Education from the University of California, Los Angeles.

As College Access Coach, Alana is responsible for supporting the design and implementation of the NTN College Access Network that aims to yield improved student outcomes in college matriculation, enrollment, and persistence for students. Alana will partner with and support school teams on-site, during in-person convenings, and virtually.

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.” - Maya Angelou

Ryan’s work experience has included positions that span across the K-12, higher education, philanthropic, and government sectors. Prior to joining NTN, Ryan served as College Planning Manager with the New York City Department of Education where he helped manage the College Access for All Middle School Initiative, one of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio's Equity and Excellence Reform Initiatives. This initiative was aimed to build stronger college going cultures across all 520 NYC middle schools and impacted 70,000+ students. In addition, Ryan has worked as an Assistant Program Officer for the College Success Foundation in their Washington, D.C. office where he provided academic and scholarship support to college students. Ryan has also worked at the University of Michigan as an Academic Advisor, Community Outreach Coordinator, and College Adviser. Ryan holds a B.A. in English and M.A. in Higher Education, both from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

As College Access Coach, Ryan is responsible for supporting the design and implementation of the NTN College Access Network that aims to yield improved student outcomes in college matriculation, enrollment, and persistence for students. Ryan will partner with and support school teams on-site, during convenings, and virtually.

“There is no passion to be found playing small - in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living.” - Nelson Mandela
As Chief Learning Officer, Megan leads NTN’s innovation and improvement efforts. Megan joined NTN in 2005 and has served in a variety of roles, including school development coach and Senior Director of School Design. Prior to joining NTN, Megan was a lead teacher at the flagship school, Napa New Technology High School. In her current role, she has led key initiatives, including NTN’s elementary design work, improvement cohorts, research and measurement, literacy, math, and assessment. Megan graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in 1999 with a B.S. in Mathematics and an M.A. in Mathematics Education from Sonoma State University.

Megan oversees the NTN College Access Network activity, including working with the project team to ensure delivery of network services, monitoring network progress, providing budget oversight, and leading strategic planning.

“Through learning we extend our capacity to create, to be part of the generative process of life.” - Peter Senge

Prior to joining NTN, Matthew served as the principal of Blytheville High School, A New Tech School. In 2014, he designed and led C^3 (College x Career x Choice) at Cross County High School, A New Tech School with the vision of ensuring that all students had meaningful choices at graduation and beyond. In 2017, he co-designed and co-led the Delta College Attainment Network (DCAN), a network of schools tasked with collaboratively building systems to ensure postsecondary success for all students. Matthew holds a B.S. in philosophy and political science from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Arkansas Tech University.

As Senior Director of College Access, Matthew is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the design and implementation of the NTN College Access Network with the aim of yielding improved student outcomes in college matriculation, enrollment, and persistence for students.

“Every system is perfectly designed to get the results it gets.” - attribution disputed