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Jon spent nearly twenty years as a senior administrator at PSU and Arizona State University, including serving as Vice President for Research and as Sustainability Director at both schools. His areas of research expertise include volcano science and urban sustainability. He received a B.A. from Colby College and a PhD in geology from Stanford University. He is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Geological Society of America. He is also a board member of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, the Oregon Chapter of The Nature Conservatory, and KB Home.