



## **Hank Gruner**

**Vice President of Programs, the Connecticut Science Center**

Mr. Hank Gruner oversees the design and development of educational programming, including a planned new “genomic sciences” initiative that combines both exhibit and program elements for public audiences. He will coordinate the “Genome Ambassadors” project’s joint program research, development and implementation efforts working with the Center’s informal science educators and University of Connecticut faculty and graduate students. He brings more than 28 years of experience connecting public audiences with science and scientific research to the project, with a career that spans work as a conservation biologist and an informal science educator.



## **Rachel O'Neill**

**Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology, University of Connecticut**

Dr. Rachel O'Neill has been a faculty member at the University of Connecticut since 1999 and has been involved in undergraduate and graduate training in both the classroom and laboratory setting as well as K-12 and public outreach initiatives focused on genomics technologies. She has developed novel, modular format courses for workshop-style laboratory training, traditional lecture-based courses, and most recently a course for non-science majors just entering college that focuses on genetics and its impact on society and popular culture. Dr. O'Neill brings to the project her experience in training “ambassadors” to engage the public in translating genomics technologies and their potential societal impact.