Women in Leadership League Conference

Friday, March 12, 2021
9:00am – 12:30pm
Virtual Conference

Conference Theme:
Women in leadership - Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world

On Friday, March 12, 2021, the Lucas College of Business will host the 4th Annual Women in Leadership League Conference. This conference brings together top Silicon Valley leaders, alumni, and students from all disciplines. The day is a mix of a panel discussion and breakout group discussions, providing participants with inspirational experiences as well as practical advice and strategies from successful leaders. Hear about career and life journeys and personal perspectives on leadership. There will be many opportunities to ask questions and for informal conversations.
SJSU Lucas College of Business would like to thank the generous support of our sponsors.

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The Day will Include:

View the recording of the 2021 WILL virtual conference [here](#).

- 9:00am – 10:00am: **Panel** of influential Silicon Valley leaders (webinar). Women in Leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world.

  **Moderator:** Mary Papazian, Ph.D, President, SJSU

  **Tony Colon,** SVP, Customer & Partner Experience Engineering

  **Lecia Roundtree,** Vice President HR & Organizational Development, PremierOne Credit Union

  **Manjula Talreja,** Chief Customer Officer, PagerDuty

- 10:30am and 11:30am: Networking with a Purpose - Discussions with **Industry Mentors** from top Silicon Valley Companies (breakout rooms)

**WILL 2021 ATTENDEE Guide** – find the discussion topics you want to join and the zoom login links.

For questions please contact: [womeninleadership@sjsu.edu](mailto:womeninleadership@sjsu.edu)

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  [Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#) - [Instagram](#)
Tony Colon
SVP, Customer & Partner Experience Engineering
Cisco

Tony Colon leads a team of 1,400 engineers, designers and researchers across the globe. Customer & Partner Experience Engineering focuses on delivering integrated digital experiences for customers and partners everywhere they connect with Cisco. Tony is a strong believer that the best companies instill as a core foundation a culture that embraces diversity, cares for its people, and is committed to helping others. He is a champion for life-long learning, with his signature motto, "Always be learning; Always be coachable."

He is also active in a number of social and professional causes. Inside Cisco, he is the executive sponsor for the Men for Inclusion employee network and the Latinx Conexión community. He serves on the advisory boards of the March of Dimes and the Hispanic IT Executive Council (HITEC) and is a member of the Forbes Technology Council. Tony was named to the HITEC 100 list in 2019 and selected as a 2019 Gender Equality Superhero by Fairygodboss. He is an industry influencer on topics of inclusion and diversity, leadership, creating strong team culture, addressing IT skills and talent gaps, as well as innovations in cloud computing and agile delivery.

Prior to joining Cisco, Tony served as the senior vice president for Success Cloud Product Management & Innovation at Salesforce. Earlier, he co-founded a successful social business platform venture and served as chief architect for eGain Communications. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Computer Science from the Illinois Institute of Technology and a master’s degree in Computer Science from the MIT Sloan School of Management.
Lecia M. Roundtree  
Vice President, HR & Organizational Development  
PremierOne Credit Union

Lecia has over 20 years of executive level experience managing Human Resource functions, including Staff Development, Recruitment and Compensation and Employee Relations management.

Lecia is a certified public speaker and has presented information on a variety of topics both locally and internationally related to the discipline of Human Resources. Other personal accomplishments include a Master’s Degree in Human Resource Management, as well as several certifications, including Recruitment and Leadership Development.
Manjula Talreja  
Chief Customer Officer  
PagerDuty

As Chief Customer Officer, Manjula Talreja leads PagerDuty's global customer success group, including customer success, professional services, support, renewals, and PagerDuty University. Her passion is in advising her customers in their digital transformation journey.

Manjula brings nearly three decades of IT industry leadership, with extensive experience in general management, business strategy consulting, and operations of large scale IT systems. Prior to PagerDuty, Manjula was the SVP of Customer Success at Salesforce, where she led teams to deliver world-class customer outcomes across large Enterprise, Commercial and SMB customers. Before Salesforce, she spent over two decades at Cisco in various senior leadership roles.

She was named 2020 Top 50 Women in Technology. Manjula continues to give back via her work in the community as board member of the City Year, a non-profit focused on underserved schools and providing young people a chance at a better future. Manjula holds a B.S. in Business and Information Systems from Santa Clara University, as well as a B.S. in Economics from the University of Delhi.
Debbie has over thirty years of experience in marketing and finance with leading Silicon Valley companies. Currently, she is the Director of Content and Campaigns Marketing for Flex. She leveraged her social media network to land this role a little over a year ago. She believes networking through social media is an essential tool for all job seekers. It’s not just what you know, it’s who you know. Debbie also has been teaching Finance at San Jose State University since 2006. After receiving her MBA in Finance from UCLA, Debbie worked as a financial manager at Xerox for ten years where she was recognized for her financial forecasting and planning. She has also held senior marketing management positions at Cisco, Xerox, Plantronics and Proxim and consulted for companies such as Charles Schwab, Symantec, Yahoo, Intuit and more.

Usha is an experienced product marketer with Cisco’s Intent Based Networking Group focused on Data Center Networking (DCN), cloud and cloud-native initiatives around automation, orchestration and insights as well as AR/PR initiatives. Prior to DCN, she was responsible for developing gold-standard global thought leadership initiatives with the Cisco Service Provider marketing and Multi-Domain Marketing (MDM) teams. She
was a lead contributor to the Cisco Annual Internet Report, Cisco Visual Networking Index (VNI) and Cisco Global Cloud Index (GCI) — the company’s efforts to forecast and analyze the growth and use of the Internet, IP networks and cloud based networks worldwide — resulting in data driven market insights for the SP product portfolio and launches. Usha has been with the company for 14 years. She started her career with Cisco’s Strategic Marketing Organization focusing on the Enterprise and Consumer segments. She has earned an M.B.A. from San Jose State University and has a BSEE from Bangalore University. Usha has served as an adjunct faculty member at the College of Business at SJSU, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses.

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**Marjorie Bailey**  
Corporate Practice Lead and CFO  
Consultant  
Greenough Consulting Group (GCG)

Marjorie is an accomplished Chief Financial Officer and dynamic leader. She is a strategic and results oriented Financial Executive with extensive history implementing efficient and cost-effective business practices that generate revenue growth, profitability and strengthen company operations. Having over 20 years of experience in working with “C” Suite Executives in many industries, she applies her wide variety of private and public experience towards optimization, business planning, funding, culture and longevity of companies. Marjorie has a BS in Accounting from SJSU, and is a Certified Public Accountant - CPA (in-active).

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**Tina Belford**  
Internet Infrastructure Controller  
Keysight Technologies, Inc.
Tina Belford is a certified public accountant and the Internet Infrastructure Controller at Keysight Technologies, Inc., a leading technology company that helps enterprises, service providers and governments accelerate innovation to connect and secure the world, headquartered in Santa Rosa, California. She joined Keysight in 2014. In her current role, she provides business financial leadership, support, and analysis for an $800 million business serving the commercial communications market. Prior to joining Keysight, she was with Deloitte & Touche LLP for 16 years where she assisted clients in all facets of financial reporting. She received her Bachelor’s in Accounting at Sonoma State University.

Lynda’s area of expertise is individual tax preparation and planning, as well as specializing in non-profit accounting and auditing. She knew early in her college career that she wanted to become a CPA and planned to own her own firm one day. This goal was accomplished in 2003, through help and guidance through mentors, professors, and friends. She has thoroughly enjoyed working in the accounting profession and cannot imagine doing anything else. She currently serves on the Management of an Accounting Practice state committee for the California Society of Certified Public Accountants, as well as served as a Vice Chair for the California Society of Certified Public Accountants. She currently teaches “Tax Factors of Individuals and Pass-through Entities” at SJSU.
Gabrielle Capolupo
Software Engineering Sr. Manager
Juniper Networks

Gabrielle is currently Software Engineering Manager Sr. Manager, Chief Development Office, Office of the CTO. She is responsible for program managing the Principal and Distinguished Engineer communities. Previously, during her more than 11 years with Cisco Systems, Inc., she was a Senior Engineering Manager for the IOS Packet Engineering Group, responsible for large-scale, corporate wide software infrastructure planning and implementation. In addition, she remotely managed the Edge Services software teams in Bangalore, India, and the collective engineering teams for the leading Broadband Aggregation platform. Prior to her employment at Cisco Systems, Ms. Capolupo spent over seven years in various positions at Novell, Inc. Ms. Capolupo received her Master of Business Administration degree in 1994 from San Jose State University and her Bachelor of Arts, from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Ms. Capolupo has been a judge for the International Collegiate Business Strategy Competition (ICBSC) for the past 27 years.

Harshika Chadha
Technology Risk - Business Consultant
Ernst & Young (EY)

Hershey graduated summa cum laude from SJSU with a B.S. in Business Management Information Systems (MIS). During her 4 years at SJSU, Hershey served many different roles including Salesforce lab TA team lead, Resident Advisor, President & Senior VP of MISA, and VP Alumni of Alpha Kappa Psi. As a strong advocate for Women Empowerment, Hershey has contributed to Women in Technology by founding a Women Mentorship Program as well as her research work.
Hershey currently works at Ernst & Young (EY) as a Technology Risk Business Consultant and enjoys traveling, cooking, mentoring, and working out in her free time.

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Annie Chen  
Sr. Director of Consumer Business  
Trend Micro Inc.

Annie is a senior-level business professional with 20 years of software industry experience, ranging from product marketing, online marketing, e-commerce operation, to business management. She currently serves as Sr. Director at Trend Micro, a global leader in cybersecurity solutions, and is in charge of the consumer business in North American and European markets. Annie has a track record of driving business results through strategic planning and solid execution, and she is known for her ability to build and lead talented and motivated global teams. Annie cares deeply about diversity and inclusion and is part of Trend Micro’s Trending Women’s initiative, which is designed to help women enter and grow in the world of cybersecurity. She holds a B.S. in International Business from Taiwan University and an MBA degree from the University of Washington.

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Rebecca Haggerty  
Senior Manager, Advisory Services, MGO CPAs and Advisors

Rebecca has over 25 years of experience with local government agencies in the Bay Area. She has provided a wide range of services to local governments including auditing, advisory, and accounting. Currently, Rebecca serves as the contracted Deputy Auditor General for Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. Recently, Rebecca served as the Chief Audit Officer reporting directly to the Port Commissioners.
at the Port of Oakland. Prior to that, she was the Internal Audit Manager at the County of Santa Clara.

There are massive changes happening in healthcare. I’ve been an executive leading change for the majority of my career in multiple industries. Today, that breadth of perspectives is helping me bring to market a medical technology that freezes and immediately kills cancerous and benign breast tumors in under 30 minutes in a doctor’s office. I’m BJ Hardman, Chairman of the Board of Sanarus Technologies, and we will bring this minimally invasive treatment to patients with breast cancer!

Sandhya leads the development of supplier financing, spend management, and supplier onboarding products. Sandhya has spent over 25 years in the software technology industry creating and managing strong and innovative teams to deliver world-class enterprise applications in SaaS, PaaS, Cloud and Mobile environments. She is passionate with a proven track record of bringing clarity, vision and solutions to large and very complex technology problems. She is a believer in engineering excellence through collaborative resilient teams, robust design, and commitment to quality. Sandhya holds a Masters in Computer Science from Kansas State University. In her free time she enjoys creative pursuits such as cooking, painting, and gardening.
Linda has 30 years experience working for early stage growth companies. Broad spectrum of expertise in organizations structure, finance, accounting, legal, human resources, business strategy, negotiations and operational process organization. Integral member of leadership teams taking new companies from initial stages through successful organizations. Successfully completed over 15 M&A transactions with companies that include eBay, Smith Micro, AT&T and Numera.

Tanvi has extensively published in leading International Business journals including the *Journal of World Business, Journal of International Management, and Management International Review*. Tanvi’s research interests focus on internationalization of innovations originating in emerging markets, migrant women entrepreneurship, adoption and impact of digitalization on various organizations. Currently, Tanvi serves on journal Editorial Boards, is the treasurer for the Academy of International Business (US West Chapter), serves on the Women of Academy of International Business (WAIB) Board and is the Chair of the SJSU Faculty Diversity Committee. In her role as a faculty member she has led many initiatives to globalize the Campus, and is the 2013-14 *Salzburg Fellow*. Prior to joining SJSU in 2012, Tanvi was a faculty member at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and Fox School of Business, Temple University. She earned a PhD in Business Administration and a Master’s from Temple University and Bachelor’s from Mumbai University, India. Tanvi has held management...
and research positions with international companies and research organizations like Thomas Cook, Philadelphia Marriott, Melrose Hotel Co. and the National Laboratory of Tourism & eCommerce.

Cassie Kwong
Founder
Mighty Buns Athletics

Cassie is the founder and Creative Director of Mighty Buns Athletics. She is also working full-time as a Growth Marketer at goPuff. On her free time she focuses on helping individuals stay accountable, organized, and focused as an accountability coach. She graduated from SJSU in Spring 2017 and co-founded the WILL Conference and Women In Business in SJSU and was the President of AKPsi.

Debra Lee-Rizzi
CFO
The Evergreen School

Raised in New York, Debbie moved to California almost the day after she turned 18. Graduating from San Jose State in 1985, she then moved to Hawaii where she managed large resort accounting offices. Wanting to try her own thing- she opened a health center for 4 years before returning to accounting but this time in Independent Schools where she has been for the past 17 years. Currently as CFO of The Evergreen School, a PS-8 in Shoreline, WA, she oversees not only the Business Office but also Facilities and IT. When not working, she can be found traveling to really fun places or camping all over the beautiful Pacific Northwest and California.
Denise Lombard
Director, Responsible Procurement/Acquisition Integration
Cisco

Denise is well known for her ability to build and lead high performing global teams. Her expertise in solving complex business problems and providing outstanding service to internal and external customers sets her apart in transforming operations. She just celebrated her 14th anniversary with Cisco, where she has held various leadership positions within Services, Sales, and Operations. Prior to Cisco, she was with Sun Microsystems where she led their Technical Support Organization and various Sales Operations teams. Denise currently leads Responsible Procurement, ensuring that suppliers GPS engages with are committed to the same high standards to social, economic and environmental issues as well as adherence to our ethics and code of conduct. This role is ideal for Denise because it plays to her passion for social responsibility and her goal of making a significant difference within Cisco and the community. She recently added Acquisition Integration to her portfolio, ensuring Cisco’s acquired companies are integrated into Cisco’s procurement system, tools and processes while focusing on ensuring agility and compliance. Denise also co-Leads the SJ Women of Cisco’s Community Outreach pillar, which is focused on increasing young women’s excitement and awareness around Science, Technology, Engineering and Math careers. She received Silicon Valley Business Journal's Women of Influence for 2017 and was featured in Profiles in Diversity Journal as Women Worth Watching 2018. Denise is also a Court Appointed Special Advocate for foster children and board member of Child Advocates of Silicon Valley. She graduated from San Jose State University with a BS degree in Management.

Sylvia Pedder-Khanna
Owner
Rahulia Inc - DBA Sir/Madam, thomas paul, Siren Song, Thomas O/Brien, Martyn Thompson
Sylvia is a manufacturing and trading entrepreneur based in New York City and Mumbai. She is co-founder of the home goods brand Sir/Madam, producing partner of the brands Thomaspaul, Siren Song, Thomas O/Brien Aero, and Martyn Thompson Studio, and a third-party supplying partner to many more. Sylvia was born and raised in Mumbai, and grew up quietly learning the ropes while watching her father at work overseeing a broad network of businesses before defying the odds as a woman in the traditionally male world of Indian manufacturing. Sylvia works out of her office in New York City, travels back and forth to oversee her team in India as well as production in several other countries, and lives in New York City with her husband, where together they have raised two children. She is a proud supporter of the continuation of traditional crafts through sustainable artisan networks, and a lifelong advocate for woman in business.

Giulia Pontani
Project Manager
Tetra Pak

Giulia holds a Master degree in Industrial and Management Engineering and is certified as a PMP Project Manager by the PMI. Giulia started her career in Belgium working as Project Manager in the Automotive sector where she led international teams in European Funded projects. Lately she returned to Italy to join the Food and Beverage sector where she manages international projects in the Packaging field. Thanks to those experiences Giulia has been traveling the world and is working with people from all backgrounds and cultures. Being a non-Tech in Technical industries Giulia is continuously learning how to leverage her soft skills to effectively manage teams in the projects she runs.
Sarika teaches introductory and advanced courses in entrepreneurship and international business. Her research on immigrant and social entrepreneurship, venture capital/private equity finance, has appeared in top peer reviewed journals. Sarika is passionate about the cause of innovation and student success. She organizes the Silicon Valley Innovation Challenge (SVIC), an annual business ideas competition, and advises Delta Gamma and IDEAS student clubs at SJSU. Prior to joining SJSU, Sarika taught and researched at King’s College London, University of London, and the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom (UK), where she also earned her MA and PhD.

DeAnna Pursai holds a Master’s in Education Policy Analysis in the School of Education from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an undergraduate degree in Elementary and Special Education from Purdue University. DeAnna has been named an Architect of Change on the Maria Shriver blog and co-awarded the Delta Kappa Gamma State Distinguished Career/Professional Service Award with CAA’s Co-Founder and Dean of Instruction, Dr. Pamela Lindsay. DeAnna is active in the downtown Rotary Club of San Jose, as a newly elected board member, as the Chair of the Rotary Play Garden Ambassadors Committee, the administrator of the newly formed Rotary Climate Action Committee with Rod Diridon, and a member of the
SJSU I-House Committee. She is also a proud board member of Christmas in the Park, and she is an active member in a vibrant Bay Area leads/referrals group called MyProGroup. She is big sister to Angel Ellenberger, who happens to have Down syndrome and is an exquisite actress, entertainer and comedian. One of DeAnna’s bucket list items is to give a Ted Talk on the subject of how knowing and enjoying an individual with a disability completes those without disabilities and makes life worth living.

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Natalie is the Chief Financial Officer of the California Society of CPA's and CalCPA Education Foundation, the nation’s largest state CPA society. Prior to CalCPA she was the Controller of the San Francisco Ballet Association and a non-profit audit manager in a regional CPA firm. Natalie holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from San Jose State University, is a Certified Public Accountant, graduate of the Stanford University's Emerging CFO Financial Leadership Program and graduate of the CFO Leadership Council CFO Accelerating Growth Through Leadership Executive Program at MIT. In her spare time, Natalie sits on various non-profit boards and is currently Co-Chair of Circus Center, where she also practices circus arts.

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Sumita Raghuram Ph.D  
Associate Professor, Alan and Lori Kessler Endowed Professor in Human Resource Management, School of Management, Lucas College and Graduate School of Business, San José State University
Sumita received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in Human Resource Management. She then was a faculty member at Fordham University, New York and at Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania. With over 30 years of teaching and research experience, she teaches subject areas in Human Resource Management at SJSU. Her primary research areas are in virtual work, international human resource management and tech workers. Topics such as employee identity, employee turnover and engagement, well-being and impact of tech work on human resource management are of particular interest to her. She has published her research in journals such as the Academy of Management Annals, Organization Science, Journal of Management, Personnel Psychology and Journal of Organization Behavior. Sumita has also been a visiting faculty at international business schools such as Copenhagen Business School, Bologna Business School, and Indian School of Business.

Giada serves as Finance Manager in the Sales and Service Finance division for Cisco Systems in San Jose, CA. She is an experienced Finance leader with a demonstrated history of working in the computer networking industry. Skilled in Channel programs, Deal Negotiation, FP&A, Compliance, Sales Operations, and Strategic Planning, over the past 20 years she has been involved with many key initiatives enabling change management and process improvements in Europe, Emerging Markets and Americas to grow business and profits. ROI focused professional, adept at evaluating and mitigating project risks, employing strategies to maximize investment returns, defining KPI’s to monitor program performance, and monitoring margin/sales growth, she has been instrumental in in driving strategic projects, prioritizing investments, structuring/negotiating contracts, budgeting and forecasting, and conducting P&L reviews supported by MBA qualifications in Corporate Finance. She orchestrated annual financial plans, long range strategic forecasts, asset management plans and capital improvement plans. She represented the needs and goals of company management to negotiate the most favorable terms for contracts and agreements.
Sally Smith
Senior Director Market Management
Expedia Group

Sally is the Senior Director of Market Management at Expedia Group overseeing the West Region in North America. She leads a team who are responsible for helping lodging partners maximize sales and exposure through the portfolio of Expedia Group brands. Sally graduated from Penn State University focusing in Hospitality Management and started her career in 2005 with Starwood Hotels & Resorts. Sally worked with a group of hotels focusing on Revenue Management and Sales Strategy. She joined Expedia in 2012 as a Market Manager and has since worked in several US markets and roles within the company. Sally believes that travel is a force for good and is passionate about how technology will continue to benefit the industry and help people experience the world. She knows the power of building strong teams, is passionate about sales enablement, solving challenging problems and is a lifelong learner. Supporting Women in Leadership is very important to Sally, she has participated in many events and mentorship programs to help empower current and future leaders. Sally and her husband have two young children, enjoy being outdoors as much as possible and are dreaming about their next travel adventure.

Maria Stefanou
Chief Financial Officer
Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc.

For the past 15 years, Maria has been the Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President of Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc (CBHI) Maria also oversees 35 real estate investment partnerships and a Captive Insurance Company. She is in charge of the accounting, financing, and investing activities for the group of companies. For approximately 7 years, Maria was the controller of a Long Term Care Pharmacy in Stockton, CA. Maria started her career at Arthur Andersen in Athens, Greece. She
worked in the Athens office auditing various shipping companies for approximately two years. She came back to San Jose, CA and worked for Coopers & Lybrand as an audit supervisor for another 3 years. Her audit clients included venture capital and software companies. Maria graduated from San Jose State University with a BA in accounting. She also received her Masters in Organizational Management from Phoenix University in 2004. Maria is a Board Member of the Dreamcatchers Empowerment Network. She is also a Board Member and Treasurer for the Sacramento Choral Society and Orchestra.

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Christi Wigle  
Co-founder and CEO  
United Against Slavery

Christi is the CEO and Co-founder of United Against Slavery. She has worked on the frontlines of anti-human trafficking work for eleven years, serving in leadership and survivor advocacy for sex and labor trafficking survivors. Drawing upon two decades of business ownership and product development experience, she created an innovative methodology to perform comprehensive frontline research and data collection, using a unique Collaborative Research Model. Today, she continues to advocate directly on behalf of sex and labor trafficking survivors and serves as a mentor to leaders across the country. She serves on the Transportation Research Board Human Trafficking in Transportation Common Interest Group Steering Committee, the Alliance 8.7 Communications Engagement and Advocacy Group, and as Co-Chair of the United Against Slavery Judicial Working Group. In addition, Christi serves as a Board Member for multiple non-profit organizations. She holds an ABA from Walters State Community College. Christi lives in East TN and is a proud mom and soon-to-be grandmom.
Yanxia is a Senior Machine Learning Research Scientist at TRI. Her area of expertise lies in inventing novel data-driven technologies to sense and understand human behaviors. Previously, Yanxia worked as a research scientist at FX Palo Alto Laboratory, focusing on vision-based activity recognition. And, prior to that she was a postdoctoral researcher in the Pattern Recognition & Bioinformatics Group at TU Delft in the Netherlands and KTH in Sweden. She received her PhD degree in Computer Science from Lancaster University, where she was also a Marie Curie research fellow. While in Lancaster, she investigated novel video-based gaze estimation techniques and the use of eye tracking for detecting dementia and health monitoring.