



Workforce 2030: Masterminding Success in Your Organization

Speaker Bios

Val Grubb – Trainer|Coach|Public Speaker, President, Val Grubb and Associates

Valerie Grubb is an innovative, visionary, operations leader with an exceptional ability to zero in on the systems, processes and human capital issues that can hamper a company's success — and a strong history of solving those problems with maximum buy-in and minimal disruption. Immediately prior to founding Val Grubb & Associates in 2008, Valerie served as the Vice President of Strategic Operations & Initiatives at NBC Universal, where she oversaw activities from business development to quality initiatives in preparation for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China. Earlier, Valerie was a key figure in the start-up of Oxygen Media. As Vice President of Operations, Val's responsibilities encompassed all areas of back-office operations including human resources, risk management, training, facilities, security, travel, purchasing and real estate operations for all U.S. Oxygen offices. She was also a key part of the sale and transition process when Oxygen was ultimately purchased by NBC Universal. Val also served as Corporate Director of Operations for Barry Diller during the inception of InterActive, Corp. A sought-after Speaker, Coach and Training Expert, Valerie regularly presents at conferences and company off-site meetings to motivate and engage employees and senior leaders alike. Valerie graduated with a mechanical engineering degree from Kettering University and obtained her MBA from the Indiana University Kelley School of Business. She remains highly involved with the Kelley School as an active member of the Dean's Advisory Council and the Women's Philanthropy organization at the IU.

Pandit Dasa – Mindful Leadership Expert|Speaker|Author

Pandit Dasa is a Mindful Leadership Expert. He has spoken on Mindful Leadership and conducted workshops at Google, IBM, JPMorgan Chase, Citi, State Farm, Bank of America, Nationwide, Intel, Novartis, The World Bank, UBS, Royal Bank of Canada, AMC Theatres, UNICEF, Bank of Montreal, Harvard, Columbia University, and many other institutions. He has also presented at the World Government Summit in Dubai, the national SHRM convention, SHRM Arkansas, Oracle HCM conference, ATD2018, LEAD2017 and the WorkHuman Conferences. At these workshops, Pandit presents the research on Mindfulness and explains the importance of leading by example, appreciation, communicating mindfully and managing one's emotions. He also engages the audiences in various breathing and focusing exercises that individuals will be able to implement at work and at home. Through these workshops, Pandit helps individuals develop positive leadership qualities, lower stress and anxiety, increase focus and productivity, and boost emotional intelligence. Pandit has spoken at a TEDx conference and has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, PBS, NPR, The New York Times, Psychology Today and writes for The Huffington Post. In his book, Urban Monk, Pandit writes about the turning point in his life that came after his family lost their multimillion-dollar business, which ultimately led him to living as a monk for 15 years in New York City. He uses his training and experiences to help corporate and student audiences manage stress and develop a work-life balance.

Ira Wolfe – President, Success Performance Solutions

Ira S Wolfe is a “Millennial trapped in a Baby Boomer body.” Fueled by his fierce passion for embracing exponential change and his commitment to understanding its impact on people, jobs, and work, it’s not surprising he has emerged as one of HR’s most prominent and influential leaders in human resources today. His enthusiasm and engaging approach inspire his clients and audiences to challenge preconceptions about what it takes to attract, select, manage, and retain top talent and take the initiative to make change work for them. Ira is an accomplished speaker/author and President of Success Performance Solutions, one of the most prominent pre-employment test and leadership assessment consulting firms. As a hiring expert, he has presented on the prestigious red carpet of TEDx and on the stage of DisruptHR. His first book *The Perfect Labor Storm* launched him into national prominence. This was followed by *Geeks, Geezers, and Googlization*. His 2016 TEDx Talk *Make Change Work for You* became the inspiration for his latest book *Recruiting in the Age of Googlization: When the Shift Hits Your Plan*. Wolfe is also a prolific business writer, podcaster, and blogger, contributing to *CornerstoneOnDemand’s ReWork*, *Forbes*, *Huffington Post*, *Lehigh Valley Business Journal*, and numerous industry and business publications. He’s been featured in *INC Magazine*, *Fast Company*, *Business Week*, *American Express OPEN*, *NFIB, Inc.*, *Intuit Small Business* and *Fox Business*.

Rob Croner – Vice President, Senior Executive Services, CCI Consulting

Rob is a highly regarded human resources leader, with over 25 years of experience building and leading successful HR initiatives for various prominent organizations in the Philadelphia area. As Vice President of Senior Executive Services at CCI Consulting, Rob harnesses his extensive executive-level experience and human resources background to help senior leaders and senior teams push their capabilities forward and adapt to the ever-changing dynamics of today’s complex business environment. Known for his strategic insight, interpersonal skills, and cordiality, Rob develops a collaborative and productive relationship with executives that focuses on uncovering their personal strengths, passions, and purpose, as well as creating successful strategies to help them navigate the next steps in their professional journey. Prior to joining CCI Consulting, Rob was Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer for the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), where he was responsible for the oversight and direction of all human resources activities for the organization, including the hospital, research institute, and several physician practice plans. Under his leadership, CHOP’s HR team was recognized with HR Awards for Excellence in 2009 and 2010 from the Delaware Valley HR Department of the Year awards program. Additionally, Rob received the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014 from this program. Before his role at CHOP, Rob was Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer for Radian Group, Inc., a Fortune 1000 mortgage insurance firm headquartered in Philadelphia. A notable outcome of his efforts at Radian was an HR Department of the Year Award in 2007 for the HR team’s accomplishments in support of a proposed merger. Rob also served as Vice President of Human Resources at Independence Blue Cross and held senior-level HR positions for Fidelity Bank (Wachovia)

Panel Moderator:**Pam Varkony – Writer | Speaker | Womens’ Advocate**

Pamela Varkony is a dynamic speaker who has inspired audiences from America to Australia through her passion for improving the lives of others. Her insights on life, leadership, politics, and the human condition are read and heard across four continents. Considered to be a thought-leader in women’s empowerment, Pam speaks and trains frequently on the subjects of leadership, gender diversity, and

their impact on corporate cultures and government policies. From 2012 to 2014 she served as a gubernatorial appointee to the Pennsylvania State Commission for Women. Through “Conversations & Inspirations”, Pamela provides personal motivation and mentoring to women looking to enhance their lives and careers. She has taught management techniques to female entrepreneurs in emerging markets, assertiveness skills to businesswomen in Australia, established a leadership program for one of the Czech Republic’s largest corporations, and has twice traveled to Afghanistan as a writer, consultant, and advocate. Pamela began her career in advertising and marketing, serving as a Director of Co-op Advertising in a major U.S. market for Media General, before becoming President and CEO of her own advertising and PR firm. Looking to pursue her passion of empowering other women, Pam founded “Power of Women” a networking, mentoring, and education initiative dedicated to helping women achieve their goals through a personal and holistic approach to success. “POW” is now a keystone of the Women’s Leadership Institute at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Panel Members:

Don Cunningham – President, Lehigh Valley Economic Development Council

Don Cunningham is President and CEO of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC). Prior to leading the region’s economic development organization, Cunningham served in a variety of key public and private positions for three decades in the Lehigh Valley and Pennsylvania. He was twice-elected Mayor of Bethlehem, twice-elected Lehigh County Executive, and the appointed Pennsylvania Secretary of the Department of General Services in Governor Ed Rendell’s administration. He also served as President of the Pennsylvania League of Cities and as a member of Bethlehem City Council. Prior to his public sector career, Cunningham worked for the Fortune 500-company, PPL, in Allentown and served in the Moravian College administration in Bethlehem. He started his career as a newspaper reporter in Bethlehem and Philadelphia and contributes a monthly column on business and economics to The Morning Call newspaper in Allentown.

Matthew Green, VP & Chief Info Officer

Matt Green is the VP and Chief Information Office at PPL. Prior to holding this position, Matt was the Director - Strategy and Business Development. In that role, Matt was responsible for developing the long term strategy for PPL Electric Utilities, to act as the lead for innovation and emerging technology, and to work with stakeholders to deploy both regulated and deregulated business strategies to help position PPL Electric Utilities to transform into the utility of the future. Major focus areas include Renewables, Distributed Energy Resources, and more. Matt also served as the Director of Asset Management and Strategy. He received his BS and MS in Electrical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an MBA from Lehigh University.

David Yale – President and Chief Operating Office at Just Born

Mr. David L. Yale has been the President and Chief Operating Officer at Just Born, Inc. since February 15, 2011. Prior to this, he served as Chief Executive Officer and President at Cuisine Innovations, LLC. He also served as a Co-Chief Executive Officer and Co-President of The Manischewitz Company since April 2009, where he oversaw a portfolio of its kosher brands. Mr. Yale is a respected food and beverage industry veteran with over 30 years of experience. He served at Nestle Food Co. and Kraft Foods/Nabisco, where he headed the Planters Snacks Division, as well as the Condiments Unit, featuring A.1 steak sauce and Grey Poupon mustard. He also was President of the Snacks Division of the Hain

Celestial Group and served as Managing Partner of Oceanview Partners (a joint venture with AEA Investors, LLC). Mr. Yale is a Member of the Board of Trustees of National Confectioners Association. He holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BA from Brandeis University, where he graduated cum laude.

Alma Scott-Buczak -, Associate Vice President of HR for Lafayette College

Alma Scott-Buczak is an accomplished Human Resources Executive with extensive domestic and international experience in the conceptualization, design, development and implementation of creative human resource management programs. Demonstrated ability to use innovation, process design and problem-solving skills to drive business solutions that meet strategic and practical challenges. Experienced in providing state-of-the-art human resources support to Sales, Transportation, Manufacturing, Finance, IT, Medical, Marketing and headquarters organizations in both individual contributor and team leader roles. Prior to her role at Lafayette, Alma was the Associate Executive Director of Human Resources for New Jersey Transit. In that role, Alma was the leader of a team providing staffing, training, Medical, EAP, Compensation, Performance Management, Employee Relations, HRIS, and general human resource support for one of the largest public transportation authorities in the US. Alma's area of expertise includes: Solution Design and Implementation, Human Resource Function Management, Situation Analysis, Effectiveness Monitoring, Project Management, Continuous Improvement, Strategic Implementation, Team Leadership and Member Development, Change Management. Alma holds a BA in Economics from Lafayette College and an MS in Human Resource Management from New York University.