BUILDING ON THE LEGACY

THE 45TH ANNUAL H. NAYLOR FITZHUGH CONFERENCE

MARCH 24 - 26, 2017 • HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL

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BUILDING ON THE LEGACY AASU THE 45TH ANNUAL H. NAYLOR FITZHUGH CONFERENCE
The HBS Class of 1933 had one black student: H. Naylor Fitzhugh. A Washington, DC native, Fitzhugh’s excellent high school academic record won him a scholarship at age 16 to Harvard College. After graduating with honors in 1931, he crossed the Charles River to enroll in Harvard Business School where he concentrated his studies on accounting and marketing. Diploma in hand, he returned to Washington to continue his career as an independent salesman. He was soon involved in creating the New Negro Alliance of Washington, which led protests and ultimately pursued landmark legal action against major companies that did business in black neighborhoods but refused to hire black employees. He served as the organization’s business manager.

In 1934 Fitzhugh was invited to join the business curriculum faculty at Howard University. Few blacks were pursuing degrees in business, which Fitzhugh sought to change over a 30-year teaching career. He taught accounting and later developed the marketing program at Howard after completing doctoral study in the field at Columbia’s business school. He organized Howard’s Small Business Development Center, and as the business program continued to grow he chaired its advisory committee.

As times changed and the doors of opportunity began to open, many of Fitzhugh’s former students rose to senior executive positions in corporate America or became successful entrepreneurs. Among his numerous mentees was Lillian Lincoln who, with Fitzhugh’s urging, became the first African American woman to graduate from HBS as well as one of the founders of the African American Student Union in 1968.

Through the years, Fitzhugh received, and declined, plentiful offers of corporate jobs. But in 1965 the top executives of the Pepsi-Cola Company enticed him to accept the high profile position of vice president of Special Markets and leverage his expertise in targeted consumer marketing. He consulted on advertising and furthered Pepsi’s support for educational and public affairs programs including sponsorship of the groundbreaking PBS series, Tony Brown’s Journal. He helped guide Pepsi’s philanthropic activities and outreach into the community. In 1968 he created the award-winning Learn and Earn program which introduced young people to business through hands-on experience. He also carefully monitored the progress of minorities he helped to recruit for the company.

Upon his retirement in 1974, Black Enterprise hailed Naylor Fitzhugh as “the dean of black businessmen.” Many accolades and honors followed, including the Heritage Award from the Executive Leadership Council and the Distinguished Service Award from Harvard Business School. A regular attendee of the annual AASU conference, Fitzhugh helped found the HBS Black Alumni Association and served as its first chairman in 1978. He remained active as a consultant and community leader until his death in 1992.

In 1996 a committee led by Nancy Lane (PMD 29), Dennis F. Hightower (MBA ’74) and Professor James L. Cash, established an endowed professorship in Fitzhugh’s name. In 2000, Professor David A. Thomas, a recognized authority on mentoring, executive development, and the challenges of creating and managing a diverse workforce, was named the first incumbent of the H. Naylor Fitzhugh chair. In 2002, the African American Student Union renamed its annual conference in his honor, a fitting tribute to a man revered for his career in business and business education who thought of himself, first and foremost, as a mentor. And his portrait, commissioned by AASU in 1993 and presented as a gift to the school, hangs today in a busy corridor of Aldrich Hall to commemorate his groundbreaking role as a champion of diversity.
On behalf of the African American Student Union (AASU) at Harvard Business School (HBS), we welcome you to the 45th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference. We are excited about this year’s program, as we bring together current students, alumni, and professionals to discuss the most pertinent issues that face current and future African American business leaders.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Building on the Legacy” and we will feature many guests who have lived up to this mantra. Furthermore, our aim is that the content provided throughout the conference will encourage conversation and reflection on how we, collectively and individually, can continue to build on the legacy that has been left before us.

The H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference also provides a unique opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievement of African American business leaders. In addition to our panelists, who bring a diversity of experience, the conference will feature keynote speakers: Arnold Donald, President and Chief Executive Officer of Carnival Corporation; Vicki Fuller, Chief Investment Officer of New York State Common Retirement Fund; and Jonathan Mildenhall, Chief Marketing Officer of Airbnb. We will also honor our Alumni Professional Achievement Award Winner, George Van Amson (MBA 1982), and Bert King Service Award Winner, Shari Hubert (MBA 2000).

As in previous years, the conference will bring together hundreds of professionals who are passionate about African American leadership in business and other issues that affect the African American community. The next three days will provide all conference attendees with meaningful learning and professional networking opportunities through engaging and inspirational panel sessions, keynote speeches, an interactive TEDstyle session, a networking workshop, a closing after-party, and a Sunday morning jazz brunch.

To our current students, we hope that this weekend leaves you feeling motivated and inspired after having interacted with those who have paved the way for us to continue to produce leaders who will make a difference in the world. To our alumni community, we invite you to reconnect with your classmates and the school, while also taking the time to share your insights with the upcoming generation of leaders. To our visiting professionals, we hope the conference displays the best of what HBS has to offer, and we encourage you to find ways to engage with AASU and HBS. To our sponsors and corporate partners, we thank you for your generosity and invite you to connect with the diversity of individuals present at this year’s conference.

Again, on behalf of the African American Student Union, we welcome you to the 45th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference at Harvard Business School.

Sincerely,

Bruce Hampton and Kenny Stone
H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference Co-Chairs
Welcome from the AASU Co-Presidents

On behalf of the African American Student Union (AASU) at Harvard Business School (HBS), we are excited to welcome you to the 45th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference.

Over its nearly 30-year history, AASU has served as one of the most active student clubs at Harvard Business School. AASU’s mission is to serve as a home, a tight-knit and supportive community for black students here at HBS. In addition, AASU seeks to include the broader HBS and Harvard University communities in the celebrations of African American culture by sponsoring events and open dialogue both inside and outside of the classroom. Lastly, AASU supports HBS, the Alumni Association, and other key stakeholders in building a pipeline of talented African American students by taking a leadership role in recruiting and mentoring prospective students.

In line with the mission of AASU, our vision for the 2016-2017 academic year was driven by two main pillars - strengthening the AASU community and increasing AASU’s visibility within the HBS and broader Harvard community.

With the support of our incredible executive team, our academic advisors Steven Rogers and Henry McGee, and the African American Alumni Association, we were able to achieve our goals. Some highlights include:

A Strong, Sustainable AASU
- Over 90% member attendance of Fall retreat
- Diversified revenue streams with sold out first-ever, university-wide social event
- Annual Diversity Career Fair attended by over 15 companies
- Annual men’s and women’s student/alumni dinners

Greater Visibility within HBS and the Larger Harvard Community
- Harvard/Yale cross-university events attended by over 500 people
- Robust Black History Month programming, including 6 events and a portrait project
- Joint events with the Real Estate Club, Media and Entertainment Club, Art Society and the Leadership Initiatives
- Monthly mixers with Harvard black student organizations
- First annual cross-university Black Commencement Ceremony

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2016-2017 co-presidents. It has not only been a wonderful learning experience, but also incredibly fun and rewarding.

Sincerely,

Nkem Oghedo & Tsion Tsegaye
2016 – 2017 AASU Co-Presidents
Welcome from Dean Nohria

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to welcome you to the 45th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference sponsored by the African-American Student Union (AASU) at Harvard Business School. Each year, the AASU conference brings together many hundreds of students, prospective students, alumni, and African-American business and community leaders for an enriching program of intellectual engagement, networking, and personal development. This year’s conference co-chairs, Bruce Hampton and Kenny Stone, and the entire student organizing panel have worked tirelessly over the past few months to put together a timely and outstanding program of panels, workshops, keynote speeches, and activities I know you will find of interest. The conference represents the very best of HBS and its mission: through informed and engaged discussion, we can make a difference in the world, creating value in companies and communities. I hope you enjoy the weekend.

Best regards

Nitin Nohria
George F. Baker Professor of Administration, Dean of the Faculty, Harvard Business School

Welcome from the AASU Faculty Advisors

Dear Friends, Students and Alums,

It is an honor to welcome you to the 45th Annual H. Naylor Fitzhugh Conference, produced by the African American Student Union (AASU). It has been an outstanding year for AASU and this weekend’s phenomenal program will build on that success. As AASU alums, who are now faculty members, we are enormously proud of our students for dedicating themselves since May of last year to the detailed planning of this event. They have put together an amazing line-up of distinguished speakers and panelists who are sure to inspire us all. Thank you for joining us for two days of learning, networking, reconnecting with old classmates and making new friends. It is a pleasure to have you on campus so that you can see first-hand that our AASU students are indeed leaders who will make a difference in the world.

Steven Rogers
Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School

Henry McGee
Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School
Welcome from the HBSAAA

On behalf of the Harvard Business School African-American Alumni Association (HBSAAA), thank you for participating in this landmark event. It represents a unique opportunity to continue to build and strengthen our community in the longstanding tradition of the HBS African American Student Union (AASU) and the HBSAAA, complemented by the spirit of “One Harvard” uniting us with alumni and friends across the University. Given events of the recent past, the spirit of the community is as important today as it was at the founding of AASU nearly 50 years ago.

The H. Naylor Fitzugh Conference has been a cross-generational gathering place for students, alumni, and friends for 45 years and has inspired many milestones in our history of alumni support of HBS and its students. This includes establishment of the largest club-sponsored endowed fellowship at HBS – HBSAAA’s George P. Baker Minority Fellowship; the inauguration of the HBS Summer Venture in Management Program, which encourages diverse future leaders to choose business careers; celebration of Bert King and others who made graduate business education possible for thousands of African-Americans; closing one of the first $5 million Professorships at HBS in support of educating our future leaders; and active engagement with HBS to attract the next generation of global leaders to HBS.

Congratulations to our alumni honorees, Shari Hubert and George Van Amson. They are recognized for distinguished leadership exemplifying the HBS mission to educate leaders who make a difference in the world. Their accomplishments are representative of our global reach in business as well as our active nurturing of those in our extended community coming behind us.

We are especially proud of our record nine African-American professors engaged at the School and look forward to increasing the contributions of HBS to provide leading edge education under the guidance of Dean Nohria.

Alumni are committed to making the H. Naylor Fitzugh Conference the must-attend event of the year as well as provide opportunities for alumni to engage directly with AASU students in other ways as they pursue their aspirations. On the eve of 50 years of AASU coming up in 2017-2018, let us take this time to not only reflect on our past successes, but begin contemplating what can learn from the past and find new ways to strengthen our community and our impact around the globe in the future.

We call on all current and future alumni and our many friends to support this continuing legacy and the HBSAAA as we lay the groundwork for the next half-century for an even greater opportunity to make a difference in the world.

Ken Powell
President, Harvard Business School African-American Alumni Association
Meet the Conference Leadership Team

Bruce Hampton, Conference Co-Chair
Kenny Stone, Conference Co-Chair
Nkem Oghedo, AASU Co-President
Tsion Tsegaye, AASU Co-President
Tracy Williams, Director of Panels
Felisha Pierre-Lous, Director of Operations
Terrance Rogers, Director of Marketing; AASU CMO
Alex Sambvani, Marketing Manager; AASU COO
Tim Okah, Webmaster
April Stewart, Director of Sponsorships

Adam Demuyaker, Panel Manager
Kevin Ferguson, Panel Manager
Ndu Okereke, Panel Manager
Obi Okwara, Panel Manager; AASU Director of Community Engagement
Tabitha Strobel, Panel Manager
Brittany Williams, Panel Manager; AASU Director of Careers

BUILDING ON THE LEGACY
THE 45TH ANNUAL H. NAYLOR FITZHUGH CONFERENCE
Opening Keynote Address

Friday, March 24 | 5:30 – 6:30 PM | Spangler Auditorium

Arnold Donald
President and Chief Executive Officer, Carnival Corporation

Arnold Donald is President & Chief Executive Officer of Carnival Corporation & PLC, the largest travel and leisure company in the world. Their portfolio of ten cruise brands — Carnival Cruise Lines, Holland America Line, Princess Cruises, Seabourn, AIDA Cruises, Costa Cruises, Cunard, P&O Cruises UK, P&O Cruises Australia and Fathom are based throughout North America, Europe, Australia and Asia. Together these brands maintain a fleet of over 100 ships and serve more than 11 million guests annually. Carnival Corporation & PLC also operates Holland America Princess Alaska Tours, the leading tour company in Alaska and the Canadian Yukon with 10 hotels plus rail and bus services connecting guests with the northern interior. Traded on both the New York and London Stock Exchanges, Carnival Corporation & PLC is the only group in the world to be included in both the S&P500 and the FTSE 100 indices.

Mr. Donald has been President & CEO of Carnival Corporation since 2013; prior to that he served on the board for 12 years. He currently serves on the board of Bank of America Corporation and Crown Holdings, Inc.

Mr. Donald spent more than twenty years at Monsanto Company as Corporate Senior Vice-President, and President of the Consumer and Nutrition sector and President of the Agricultural sector. After leaving Monsanto, Mr. Donald was Chairman of Merisant Company whose products included the leading global sweetener brands Equal and Canderel.

Immediately prior to Carnival, Mr. Donald was a founder and President and Chief Executive Officer of the Executive Leadership Council, a professional network and leadership forum for African-American executives of Fortune 500 companies, and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, the largest charitable funder of diabetes research in the world.

A native of New Orleans, Louisiana, Mr. Donald received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Carleton College, a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

Mr. Donald has a strong commitment to higher education and serves on the boards of two of his alma maters, Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota and Washington University in St. Louis, in Missouri. He is also on the boards of the Greater New Orleans Foundation and St. Louis based BJC Healthcare among others.
Moderator:

Henry McGee
Senior Lecturer of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

Henry McGee joined the HBS faculty in 2013 after retiring as President of HBO Home Entertainment, the digital and DVD program distribution division of Home Box Office, the world’s leading premium television company. A member of the General Management Unit, he has taught courses in both the MBA and Executive Education programs. Since 2015 he has served as a director of TEGNA (NYSE: TGNA), a broadcast and digital media company that owns the largest number of affiliates of both the NBC and CBS television networks. He is also a director of AmerisourceBergen (NYSE: ABC), one of the world’s leading pharmaceutical services company and number 16 on the Fortune 500 list of the biggest corporations in America.

Since becoming a faculty member, McGee has co-authored a number of media industry cases and is a member of the school’s Digital Initiative and Business History Initiative. He is also a director of the Pew Research Center in Washington, DC.

McGee joined HBO immediately after graduating from HBS in 1979. During the course of his 34-year career with the company, he held posts in a wide range of areas including family programming, film acquisition and international co-production. Named president of HBO Home Entertainment in 1995, McGee received numerous industry awards for his pioneering use of Internet-based marketing and early adoption of the high definition format for the company’s DVD releases. Named one of the 50 most powerful African Americans in the entertainment business by Black Enterprise magazine, McGee oversaw the digital and DVD release of numerous blockbusters including The Sopranos, Sex and the City, Band of Brothers and Game of Thrones. With the launch of offices in London and Toronto, he drove the expansion of the company’s international business and HBO’s titles are now distributed in more than 70 countries around the globe. McGee also served as a director of the Digital Entertainment Group, the trade association of entertainment and electronics manufacturers focused on fostering new technologies. In 2008 he was inducted into the Video Hall of Fame, the home entertainment industry’s most prestigious honor.

McGee has a strong interest in the governance of non-profit organizations and has been especially involved in the arts. He has served as president of both the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater Foundation, the nation’s largest modern dance organization, and the Film Society of Lincoln Center. He has also been a board member of the Sundance Institute, The Public Theater, the Studio Museum in Harlem and the New 42nd Street, the organization overseeing the revitalization and management of seven historic theaters in Times Square. Currently he is a member of the executive committee of the Black Filmmaker Foundation, the board of overseers of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Global Advisory Council of the Silk Road Project.

Morning Keynote Address
Saturday, March 25 | 8:30 – 9:30 AM | Spangler Auditorium

Vicki Fuller
Chief Investment Officer, New York State Common Retirement Fund

Vicki Fuller is Chief Investment Officer for the New York State’s Common Retirement Fund. As of March 31, 2016, the estimated value of the fund was $178.6 billion. Under the direction of the State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Fuller is responsible for developing and implementing investment strategies to ensure that the Fund remains one of the best-funded and best-managed public pension plans in the country. The Fund holds assets in trust for more than one million employees and retirees from state and local authorities.

Previously Fuller was with Alliance Bernstein for 30 years, most recently as Managing Director.

Fuller has been named one of the most powerful African Americans on Wall Street by Black Enterprise. She has also received special recognition from the Financial Women’s Association - Woman of the Year Award in 2014, National Association of Securities Professionals - New York Chapter - Wall Street Hall of Fame, the SEO Reginald F. Lewis Achievement Award, Chief Investment Officer Magazine’s “Power 100”, and NAACP - 2016 Dr. James E Allen Award.

She earned her MBA from the University of Chicago, and her BSBA from Roosevelt University in Chicago. Vicki is a Certified Public Accountant.
Paula Price
Senior Lecturer, Harvard Business School; Former EVP and CFO, Ahold USA

Paula A. Price was Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of Ahold USA (then a $26B supermarket company in Quincy, Massachusetts) from May 2009 to January 2014. She was responsible for Finance, Accounting and Shared Services; Strategy and Planning; Real Estate Development and Construction; Not-for-Resale Sourcing; and Information Technology. She transformed the Finance function; delivered a $1 billion cost savings program to fund strategic growth initiatives; and led a team of over 1,000. For these accomplishments, she has been recognized as “CFO of the Year” by the Boston Business Journal and featured in CFO magazine.

Ms. Price’s career includes senior-level finance, general management and strategy roles based in New York, London and Chicago in retail (grocery and pharmacy), financial services, and consumer packaged goods industries. Prior to joining Ahold in 2009 as Chief Financial Officer of Stop & Shop/Giant Landover, she was Senior Vice President, Controller and Chief Accounting Officer for CVS Caremark Corporation, and a key player in the $26 billion CVS Caremark merger deal. Previously, she worked in the financial services industry at JP Morgan Chase and Prudential Insurance Co. of America; and in the consumer packaged goods industry at Diageo and Kraft Foods. She began her career in public accounting at Arthur Andersen & Co.

Ms. Price currently serves on the corporate boards of directors of Accenture plc (NYSE:ACN), Dollar General Corporation (NYSE:DG), and Western Digital Corporation (NASDAQ:WDC). She is also a board director of Financial Guaranty Insurance Company, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay, and Beaver Country Day School. She is the Audit Committee Chair of Accenture, and Chair of the Board of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay. Ms. Price was a board director of Charming Shoppes, Inc. (NASDAQ: CHRS) from March 2011 until it was sold, and a board trustee of Newton Wellesley Hospital.

Ms. Price earned her MBA in Finance and Strategy from University of Chicago Booth School; and her BSc in Accountancy from DePaul University. She is a certified public accountant. In addition, Ms. Price is a member of the Massachusetts Chapter of International Women’s Forum, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and National Association of Corporate Directors.
Jonathan Mildenhall  
Chief Marketing Officer, Airbnb

Jonathan started his career as a graduate trainee in 1990 at McCann-Erickson (an agency he will be forever grateful to for the “wild card” bet they made on him). Over the next 15 years Jonathan rose rapidly through the ranks of the London Ad industry working at some of the world’s most respected creatively-driven agencies including BBH, Lowe Howard Spink, Howell Henry, TBWA and Mother. During this time he also worked on some of the world’s most compelling brands including Audi, Smirnoff, Alfred Dunhill, General Motors, Guinness and Playstation.

In 2005 Jonathan spent the summer at Harvard Business School on the Advanced Management Program—an experience that was the turning point in his professional trajectory.

In 2006 Jonathan joined The Coca-Cola Company as VP, Global Advertising Strategy and Creative. In 2007 Jonathan lead the introduction of Coca-Cola’s global marketing platform “Open Happiness,” an initiative that helped contribute to the most profitable growth period in 20 years, helping increase Coke’s share price from $29 to $81. Furthermore, the ‘Open Happiness’ platform went on to become Coke’s most awarded marketing platform in history and helped snare the prestigious accolade of 2013’s Creative Marketer Of The Year at the Cannes Lions International Festival Of Creativity. This was a career highlight for Jonathan.

In 2014 Brian Chesky, CEO of Airbnb, called Jonathan and asked him to dinner. A one hour dinner turned into two hours, then three hours, at which point Jonathan was sold on Brian’s vision to propel Airbnb into the world’s first community-driven SuperBrand.

Jonathan joined Airbnb in June 2014. He says he has never worked harder, never worked smarter, never felt more creative in his life. He says, “Airbnb has literally taken twenty years off me - I feel as energized and excited about the work that I do as I did in my late twenties. My job is to create the most preeminent 21st Century SuperBrandMarketing organization. I have no idea how I will do it. But that’s really the best part about it. We get to invent a whole new playbook.”
MODERATOR:

Tsedal Neeley
Associate Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

Tsedal Neeley is an associate professor in the Organizational Behavior unit at the Harvard Business School. She has taught in both the MBA (LEAD, Leading Teams in a Global Economy, Field Global Immersion) and in various executive education programs such as Global Strategic Management. She currently teaches in the Executive Education offering “Program for Leadership Development.” Professor Neeley has received the HBS Charles M. Williams award for outstanding teaching in Executive Education.

With a forthcoming book entitled, The Language of Global Success: How a Common Tongue Transforms Multinational Organizations (Princeton University Press), Professor Neeley’s research focuses on the challenges that global collaborators face when they work across national boundaries. Successful global collaboration can enable firms to capitalize on the promise of their global reach. For example, firms can draw on their diverse intellectual capital to meet customer demands the world over, giving them a competitive advantage in a range of marketplaces. The scale and complexity of global collaboration, however, makes its promise often hard to realize. Companies now span more languages, geographies, and cultures than ever before, making it more imperative and more difficult for workers to communicate effectively if they are to meet performance targets. To examine the communication challenges that global collaborators face, as well as potential solutions to these challenges, professor Neeley has pursued two interrelated research streams: (1) how language exacerbates but can also bridge differences and (2) how technologically-mediated communication can foster better collaboration. Both phenomena are key determinants of effectiveness in global work.

Professor Neeley has also published her work in leading scholarly and practitioner-oriented outlets such as Academy of Management Journal, Organization Science, Management Science, Journal of International Business, Strategic Management Journal and Harvard Business Review. Her research has been covered in many media outlets such as CNN, Financial Times, NPR, the Wall Street Journal, and the Economist.

Prior to her academic career, Professor Neeley spent ten years in industry working for companies like Lucent Technologies and The Forum Corporation in various capacities including strategies for global customer experience, 360 degree performance software management systems, sales force/sales management development, and business flow analysis for telecommunication infrastructures. With extensive international experience, Professor Neeley is fluent in four languages.

Professor Neeley received her Ph.D. from Stanford University’s Department of Management Science and Engineering specializing in organizational studies. Professor Neeley was a Stanford University School of Engineering Lieberman award recipient for excellence in teaching and research as well as the Stanford Distinguished Alumni Scholar.
Supercharge Your Career: 
The Fundamentals of High-impact Networking

Friday, March 24 | 6:35 – 7:20 PM | Spangler Auditorium

Strong networks are critical when you’re building your career and seeking to make an impact. Studies show that highly successful executives have deep and broad networks. This session will help you to learn how to connect authentically, find the right mentor, and build relationships that will help accelerate your career. Learn about the biggest hang-ups that keep talented people from advancing through networking, and how to overcome them.

Dr. Laura Morgan Roberts
Professor of Psychology, Culture and Organization Studies, Antioch University

Dr. Laura Morgan Roberts is the Professor of Psychology, Culture and Organization Studies in Antioch University’s Graduate School of Leadership & Change. Laura has served on the faculties of the world’s top-ranked business schools, including Harvard, University of Michigan and Wharton. She is also a Visiting Scholar of the Harvard Business School Leadership Initiative, a faculty affiliate of the University of Michigan’s Center for Positive Organizations, and a faculty affiliate of the Center for Gender in Organizations at Simmons School of Management (Boston).

Laura is the editor of Positive Organizing in a Global Society (with Lynn Perry Wooten and Martin Davidson) and Exploring Positive Identities and Organizations: Building a Theoretical and Research Foundation (with Jane Dutton). She is the author of two forthcoming books: Reclaiming your Best Self and Lessons on Alignment from 30,000 feet. She also published #epicenter: heart matters (November, 2016) – a poetic reflection on socio-political dynamics of inclusion and exclusion in the United States.

Laura’s extensive research articles, case studies, books and tools help leaders to cultivate, sustain and restore positive identities at work. She is a thought leader in the areas of strategic authenticity, positive identity, racial, cultural & gender diversity, strengths-based development, spirituality, change leadership and value creation. Her publications “How to Play to your Strengths” and “Creating a Positive Professional Image” are among the most popular articles from Harvard Business Publishing and have been featured in several media outlets.

Laura is the co-founder and CEO of RPAQ Solutions, Inc., an Atlanta-based research and consulting firm that brings strength-based practices to leaders who seek extraordinary performance and personal fulfillment. Laura’s distinctive approach toward leadership development uses her Alignment Quest™ framework – a scientifically grounded, action-oriented approach for strategically activating best selves in workplaces and communities. She specializes in sparking self-reflection, guiding action planning, facilitating group discussion, and surfacing evidence-based practical wisdom.

Laura earned a BA in Psychology (highest distinction & Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of Virginia, and an MA and Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology from the University of Michigan. For more information, email laura@lauramorganroberts.com or visit her website www.lauramorganroberts.com.
Interactive TED-Style Talk

Saturday, March 25 | 9:45 – 10:30 AM | Spangler Auditorium

In this TED-style talk, Professor David Thomas will present insights from his three decades of research examining the influence of race on career dynamics. Questions he will address include: 1) what factors account for people of color reaching c-suite executive level jobs; 2) what are common dynamics associated with derailment? Dr. Thomas will describe what he sees as the unique challenges and opportunities for people of color in the current context of globalization, entrepreneurship, and the increasing requirement for collaboration across the public, private and NGO sectors to address pressing societal challenges and opportunities.

David Thomas
H. Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

David Thomas is H. Naylor Fitzhugh Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. His research addresses issues related to executive development, cultural diversity in organizations, leadership and organizational change. He recently served as a professor of management at Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business, where he served as dean from 2011 to 2016.

During his tenure as dean, he created a culture committed to creating transformational educational experiences that prepare students to become principled and globally minded leaders poised to serve both business and society.

He joined Georgetown McDonough in 2011 following a two-decade career at Harvard Business School. While there Thomas enhanced academic and professional opportunities for the school’s undergraduate and graduate students, including a curriculum redesign and expansion of career management activities for MBA students and the addition of the Global Business Experience and an Office of Professional Development for undergraduates. He also increased the diversity of faculty and staff, launched new research initiatives and increased research funding, grew Executive Education program revenues by 400 percent, and grew the school’s endowment and increased philanthropic giving, ending the school’s capital campaign $30 million above its $100 million fundraising goal.

Partnering with the Washington, D.C., community while at Georgetown McDonough, Thomas was a member of the Federal City Council, and in 2014, the Washington Business Journal recognized him as a top Minority Business Leader.

Thomas received a bachelor’s degree, as well as masters and doctoral degrees in Organizational Behavior, from Yale University. He also holds a master’s in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University. He currently is a member of the Board of Governors for the American Red Cross, the Board of Directors of DTE Energy, and the Estoril Conferences Advisory Board. He also is an industry advisor for Brightwood Capital Advisors.
Performance of The Black National Anthem

Christopher Eaglin, Tenor

Christopher Eaglin

Tenor

Tenor Christopher Eaglin has sung Pinkerton (Madama Butterfly) and Don Jose (Carmen) with The Martina Arroyo Foundation Vaudemont (Iolanta) and Steva (Jenufa) for Opera Slavica and will sing Bacchus (Ariadne auf Naxos) this coming spring with Lowell House Opera and Florestan (Fidelio) with the North End Music and Performing Arts Center. As an apprentice artist at Caramoor, the Art Song Society of New York, and the International Vocal Arts Festival, he performed Brahms’ Liebeslieder, Dichterliebe, and other song cycles. An active song recitalist, he has held concerts in the US, UK, the Bahamas, and South Africa.

He currently is pursuing his doctorate at HBS in strategy focusing on entrepreneurship navigate uncertainty caused by institutional voids and public policy.
AWARDS LUNCHEON AND GOLD SPONSOR LUNCH DISCUSSION
George Van Amson, MBA 1982
Managing Director, Morgan Stanley

George L. Van Amson is a managing director at Morgan Stanley in the Institutional Equity Division-Sales and Trading, Management. He currently serves as head of North American Analyst, and Associate Advising and Development Programs. Prior to assuming these responsibilities he was head of North American Recruiting in the Institutional Equities Division of Morgan Stanley and manager of Sales Trading Service Desk for Global Wealth Management clients. A 35-year veteran of Wall Street with experience in domestic and international markets, Mr. Van Amson was selected in 1993 as a World Economic Forum global leader and was named in 1992, 1996, and 2006 to Black Enterprise Magazine’s “Top African Americans on Wall Street.” He has served as chairman of the International Committee of the Securities Traders Association of New York. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley in 1992, Mr. Van Amson worked at Goldman Sachs as a vice president, Equities–Trading and Arbitrage Division.

Throughout his career, Mr. Van Amson has been active in the community. He has served on the board of Harvard Business School Alumni Association, president of the HBS African American Alumni Association, Columbia College Board of Visitors, chairman of the United Negro College Fund Wall Street Campaign, and board member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Currently, he serves as a trustee emeritus of Columbia University, advisor to the finance committee of the Riverside Church, director of Community Impact, vice chairman of the board of the Amsterdam Nursing Home, and chair emeritus of Columbia Alumni Association.

Mr. Van Amson graduated Brooklyn Technical High School, received his B.A. in economics from Columbia College, and MBA from Harvard.
Distinguished Alumni Awards Luncheon
Saturday, March 25 | 12:00 - 1:15 PM | Spangler Williams Room

BERT KING SERVICE AWARD:

Shari Hubert, MBA 2000
Associate Dean of MBA Admissions, Georgetown University

Shari Hubert has joined Georgetown University’s McDonough School of Business as Associate Dean of MBA Admissions, where she is responsible for planning and executing successful recruitment strategies to attract highly qualified and diverse students to Georgetown McDonough’s Full-time and Evening MBA programs.

Hubert comes to higher education after working at the Peace Corps, where she served as director of recruitment within the Office of Volunteer Recruitment and Selection. In this capacity, she was responsible for recruiting 4,000 volunteers annually and managed the operations of nine regional recruitment offices across the United States. Prior to joining the Peace Corps, Hubert was the senior vice president of campus recruitment for Citibank in North America and was responsible for overseeing the recruitment of analysts and associates into the corporate and investment banks as part of Citibank’s Markets & Banking Division.

She previously served as manager for campus relations in corporate recruiting and staffing at GE’s corporate headquarters where she was responsible for the overall recruiting efforts and budget allocation across the southeast region of GE’s strategic university relationships. Hubert also has experience in the not-for-profit sector where she ran the Executive Leadership and Civic Development Program at the Partnership for New York City, a business advocacy association focused on public and private partnerships. She worked as a consultant for The Boston Consulting Group, and began her career in sales and marketing at Merck & Co., Inc.


The following corporate sponsors will be attending the Alumni Awards Luncheon.
Seats are available at their tables at a first-come, first-serve basis:

HEALTHCARE:

DaVita.

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

Morgan Stanley

ENERGY:

Exelon

MANAGEMENT CONSULTING:

BAIN & COMPANY

BCG

The Boston Consulting Group

McKinsey & Company

strategy&
Shire Presents: The Business Case for Providing Culturally Competent Healthcare and Access to Growing Minority Communities

Saturday, March 25 | 12:00 - 1:15 PM | Aldrich 112

Shire representatives will lead a conversation on the related areas:

- Creating value in healthcare industry via minority communities
- Marketing products/services to specific patient populations
- Increasing the racial and ethnic diversity of the healthcare workforce
- Increasing diversity in clinical trial patient pools
- Fostering research in neglected areas of societal needs
Call to Action: Shaping and Engaging in Our Political Future

Saturday, March 25 | 10:45 – 11:45 AM | Aldrich 112

The purpose of this panel is to highlight ways in which we, as black millennials and future business leaders, can become more involved in politics at both local and national levels. How can we mobilize to ensure that social justice and the needs of our community are served? How can we share our stories in a way that allows us to bridge the gap with our fellow Americans?

MODERATOR:

Leah Wright-Rigueur
Assistant Professor of Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School

Leah Wright-Rigueur is an Assistant Professor of Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. An historian by training, she received her B.A. in History from Dartmouth College and her M.A. and Ph.D. in History from Princeton University. Before joining the Kennedy School faculty, Leah was a professor at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Leah's research interests include 20th Century United States political and social history, and modern African American history. Her work emphasizes race, civil rights, political ideology, the American two-party system and the presidency. At the Kennedy School, she teaches courses on race, riot and backlash in the United States, and the Civil Rights Movement, race and policy in Modern America. Beginning in Fall 2015, Leah will also lead Race and American Politics, a multidisciplinary series of seminars and roundtables, co-sponsored by the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation and the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy, and dedicated to the most pressing political and social issues related to race in the United States.

Leah's first book, The Loneliness of the Black Republican: Pragmatic Politics and the Pursuit of Power (Princeton University Press, 2015) covers more than four decades of American political and social history, and examines the ideas and actions of black Republican activists, officials and politicians, from the era of the New Deal to Ronald Reagan's presidential ascent in 1980. Her work ultimately provides a new understanding of the interaction between African Americans and the Republican Party, and the seemingly incongruous intersection of civil rights and American conservatism. Her book takes a long approach to American history and not only tells an important story about race and the Republican Party, but also expands our understanding of the evolution in opinions and behaviors of everyday African Americans that supported or rejected the GOP on a local, state, and national level, between 1936 and present day.
Leah’s research, writing, and commentary has been featured in a number of different outlets including Polity, Souls, Federal History Journal, CNN, PBS, NPR, Sirius Radio, Washington Post, The Guardian, MSNBC, Politico, The Christian Science Monitor, Chicago Tribune, The Atlantic, Daily Beast, Huffington Post Live, and Salon. Currently, she is working on several projects, including a piece on black women and the Republican Party, an article on black “celebrity” and modern conservatism/neoconservatism, and a book manuscript on African American appointees in the Reagan and Bush administrations, with a focus on economic justice and social welfare policies.

**SPEAKERS:**

**Monique Dorsainvil**
Former Deputy Chief of Staff to White House Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett

Monique Dorsainvil spent the last seven and a half years working in the Obama Administration, most recently as Deputy Chief of Staff to Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett. Over the course of Dorsainvil’s tenure at the White House, her responsibilities ranged from working with grassroots advocates, private sector leaders, celebrity influencers, and local and federal elected officials to lead outreach efforts and create social impact campaigns with communities across the country.

Prior to this role, Dorsainvil served as the Director of Planning and Events for the Office of Public Engagement and the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs where she planned international travel and strategic, large scale engagements for former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama. In this capacity, she developed creative content and campaigns to advance engagement priorities for signature issue based initiatives including Criminal Justice Reform, Health Care Access, Women’s Leadership, LGBTQ Rights, STEM Education.

While at the White House, Monique gained unique experience navigating some of the highest levels of power – both laterally across the U.S. government and vertically within the White House. She managed large work streams, became known for her grace and ability in navigating the internal workings of the Administration and its agencies. Monique creates efficient systems to streamline communication and drive results in fast paced, high stakes environments and has developed a propensity for creating social impact campaigns that sit at the intersection of policy, culture, digital, strategy, and branding.

Before joining the White House, Dorsainvil worked as an aide to House Minority Leader Stacey Abrams in the Georgia General Assembly. Dorsainvil is a native of Los Angeles, CA and matriculated from Emory University with a B.A. in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Global Health.

**Devyn Keith**
Councilman, Huntsville (AL) City Council

Devyn S. Keith was born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, and is a proud product of its large community network. Devyn has always had a passion for public service and a deep connection to the residents of his community. As an accomplished student-athlete at Sparkman High School, Devyn decided to attend Samford University on a full athletic scholarship. Devyn concentrated his course of studies in Human Development and Family Science. During his undergraduate career, his passion for community service led him to start a nonprofit called Brothers of 1 Voice or BO1V. BO1V aimed at educating, empowering and advocating for youths who have aged out of state support services. Throughout his time at Samford, Devyn was involved with a number of Birmingham City based programs, such as the Birmingham Kitchen Table that worked to increase public awareness, municipal accountability and civic engagement.
Obtaining his Baccalaureate Degree in Human Development and Family Science, Devyn chose to further his education and increase his skill set in community development. This led to his enrollment in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts in Boston, where he received his Master’s in Public Administration. While in Boston, Devyn worked in leadership roles at the nonprofit and state levels. Through his education and working relationships with leaders at the federal, state and local levels, Devyn learned innovative ways to work around pragmatic politics, policy and procedures to accomplish sustainable goals.

Most pertinent to these pursuits, is his passion to see positive changes for his fellow North Huntsville residents. Despite opportunities extended for him to plant in Boston or the D.C. area, Devyn wanted to return home to North Huntsville, where he could help in the continued efforts to build up a community that helped build him.

On November 7th of 2016, Devyn became the youngest elected official in the history of Huntsville Alabama after defeating a 28 year incumbent. Devyn is certainly a believer in open-interface and diverse government and because of that continues to work on his ability to analytically review issues, objectively identify resources and create viable solutions. His outlook on increasing civic engagement, progressive policies and positive perspectives have been a mainstay throughout his career and will remain at the forefront of his tenure as the District 1 Representative of the Huntsville City Council.

Bakari Sellers
Political Commentator, CNN; Attorney, Strom Law Firm

Bakari Sellers made history in 2006 when, at just 22 years old, he defeated a 26-year incumbent State Representative to become the youngest member of the South Carolina state legislature and the youngest African American elected official in the nation. In 2014 he was the Democratic Nominee for Lt. Governor in the state of South Carolina.

Earning his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College, where he served as student body president, and his law degree from the University of South Carolina, Sellers has followed in the footsteps of his father, civil rights leader Cleveland Sellers, in his tireless commitment to service taking championing progressive policies to address issues ranging from education and poverty to preventing domestic violence and childhood obesity.

His impressive list accomplishment in addition to having served on President Barack Obama’s South Carolina steering committee during the 2008 election, Sellers is widely considered to be a rising star within the Democratic Party and leading voice for his generation. That coupled with his uncommon ability to reach across the aisle and get things done has led to numerous accolades including being named to TIME Magazine’s 40 Under 40 in 2010 as well as 2014 and 20015 “The Root 100” list of the nation’s most influential African-Americans.

He has served as a featured speaker at events for the National Education Association, College Democrats of America National Convention, the 2008 and 2016 Democratic National Convention.

Sellers practices law with the Strom Law Firm, LLC in Columbia, SC and is a Political Commentator at CNN. He is married to Dr. Ellen Rucker-Sellers.
Call to Action: Shaping and Engaging in Our Political Future
Saturday, March 25 | 10:45 – 11:45 AM | Aldrich 112

Justin Tanner

Executive Director, Georgia Legislative Black Caucus, Inc.; Former White House Appointee

Justin Tanner is a seasoned business development, government relations and public policy professional. A career public servant, he has spent nearly a decade designing and implementing key programs and policies at every level of government.

In 2015, Mr. Tanner was appointed by President Barack Obama as Associate Director for Legislative, Education & Intergovernmental Affairs at the United States Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency. In this capacity, he managed several areas including: communications/public affairs, external relations, research, education and stakeholder outreach, and was responsible for maintaining positive relationships with members of Congress, the White House and the Office of Management and Budget. He also coordinated the agency’s intergovernmental activity and managed its strategic alliances portfolio, which included relationships with public/private sector entities, trade associations, academic institutions, community development organizations, as well as Federal, state and local government officials.

Tanner previously served as a Senior Advisor with the United States Small Business Administration (SBA). Within SBA’s Office of Government Contracting and Business Development, where he worked thousands of small, disadvantaged and women-owned businesses as they competed, annually, for over $350 billion in federal prime/subcontract awards. He also worked to implement a number of key rules and regulations, as mandated by Congress, in the Small Business Act and other relevant statutory provisions.

Prior to joining the Obama administration, Mr. Tanner served as an external affairs/policy aide for Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, where he helped manage the City of Atlanta’s relationships at the state, local and federal levels of government. In the first two years of the mayor’s initial term, he worked in the Mayor’s Office of Communications. Before joining City Hall, he served as Director of New Media on Mayor Reed’s 2009 citywide campaign and 2010 Inaugural Planning Committee.

A Georgia native, Mr. Tanner received a bachelor of business administration degree from Howard University and a doctor of jurisprudence degree from Vanderbilt University Law School.

Christopher Upperman

Former Assistant Administrator, Small Business Administration

Christopher R. Upperman, a former Obama Administration political appointee at the U.S. Small Business Administration, was Assistant Administrator (Head) of the Office of Public Engagement. In his role as the head of the office, Mr. Upperman managed corporate, philanthropic, and public relationships, as well as had oversight of all outreach efforts. His primary responsibility was to ensure proper establishment of strategic partnerships with outside organizations. Chris also managed SBA’s faith-based outreach and community initiatives, which includes increasing entrepreneurship, business opportunities and access to capital for underserved and minority-owned enterprises. He reported directly to the Cabinet Secretary and the Head of the Office of Communications on the design, implementation, and application of strategic partnerships to promote business and entrepreneurship. Prior to his time as Assistant Administrator, Mr. Upperman served as Senior Advisor for Entrepreneurial Development. His role as Senior Advisor focused on strategy and development of national entrepreneurial programs and initiatives, and prioritizing issues related to economic development and small business ownership.

Mr. Upperman served as the agency’s advocate for African Americans and Millennials, which included awareness raising around entrepreneurship among the nation’s Millennial population and increasing participation in entrepreneurship among people of color. He was featured in an Inc.com article “The Triple Bottom Line: Millennials and Purpose-Driven Entrepreneurship.” Mr. Upperman also served as the White House’s “My Brother’s Keeper Initiative” head liaison for the SBS. He is passionate about reaching underserved communities and believes entrepreneurship can be a vital pathway towards economic self-sufficiency.
Prior to his appointment at SBA, Mr. Upperman worked at the White House as an Analyst and Director of Student Correspondence in the Office of Presidential Correspondence. During his time, he was responsible for managing the operations of the department, which included all letter correspondence to U.S. citizens 18 years and below; along with management and oversight of the department's interns and volunteers. Before his tenure at the White House he worked for the United States House of Representatives as an Aide for the District of Columbia's Delegate to Congress, Eleanor Holmes Norton. Mr. Upperman focused on local issues in Delegate Norton's district office, which included coordinating her Commission on Black Men & Boys—a commission that addressed persistent issues that impact Black males in the District of Columbia. In the fall of 2009 Christopher relocated to the Washington, D.C. area to participate in the White House Internship Program.

Prior to his time in Washington, DC, Christopher worked for Bank of America, focusing on consumer credit and debt-risk analysis, as well as financial mitigation. While finishing his college degree he served as a Junior Research Analyst intern for the United States Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR) in the Southern Regional Office in Atlanta, Georgia. At the Commission on Civil Rights, he assisted in researching for, and writing, a federal report underscoring the efficacy of supplemental educational services for The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA; formerly the No Child Left Behind Act) in South Carolina.

Among his various personal and professional accomplishments, Mr. Upperman has always had a heart and passion to work on behalf of others. He formerly served as a Center for American Progress (CAP) Leadership Institute Fellow, where he discussed policy and its implications on minorities and people of color in our changing society. He has guest lectured on separate occasions at the Georgetown Law Center on small business law and entrepreneurship, as well as spoken at numerous conferences.

Christopher attended Georgia State University, in Atlanta, Georgia, where he retained his Bachelors of Arts in Sociology. He is originally from Kennesaw, a metropolitan suburb northwest of Atlanta, Georgia.
Closing the Achievement Gap in the 21st Century

Saturday, March 25 | 10:45 - 11:45 AM | Aldrich 111

The panel will focus on progress that has been made and challenges that remain in closing the achievement gap in education. The achievement gap will refer to differences in educational achievement between black students and other ethnicities as well as issues facing the education of low income students.

MODERATOR:

Ebony N. Bridwell-Mitchell
Associate Professor of Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Ebony Bridwell-Mitchell is an associate professor of education with expertise in leadership, management, and organizations at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Bridwell-Mitchell’s research builds on her three areas of training and study: organizational management and theory, public policy, and education. Specifically, her research and teaching integrates these three fields to examine how organizational factors constrain and enable the success of U.S. public school reform. For example, one of her current research projects asks how teachers’ activities in the classroom are influenced by their integration into local networks or communities of teachers and to what extent community integration depend on factors such as teachers’ status or standing in their schools.

Bridwell-Mitchell graduated, summa cum laude, in 1996 from Cornell University with a degree in American policy studies and a concentration in education policy. She earned her master’s in public policy with a concentration in human labor resources and education from the Harvard Kennedy School in 1999. In 2008, she completed her Ph.D. in organization theory and management with a focus on school organizations at New York University’s Stern School of Business. Bridwell-Mitchell’s research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, presented at numerous professional conferences, and published in high impact academic journals. She works to extend her research and teaching beyond academia by helping leading-edge education organizations provide leadership and management training for schools across the country.
Closing the Achievement Gap in the 21st Century
Saturday, March 25 | 10:45 – 11:45 AM | Aldrich 111

SPEAKERS:

Ronald Ferguson
Director, Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University; Adjunct Professor, Harvard Kennedy School

Ronald F. Ferguson is an MIT-trained economist who focuses social science research on economic, social, and educational challenges. He has been on the faculty at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government since 1983, after full time appointments at Brandeis and Brown Universities. In 2014, he co-founded Tripod Education Partners and shifted into an adjunct role at the Kennedy School, where he remains a fellow at the Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy and faculty director of the university-wide Achievement Gap Initiative (AGI).

During the 1980s and ’90s Ron focused much of his attention on economic and community development. That work culminated in the social science synthesis volume Urban Problems and Community Development (1999), which remains an important text in graduate policy courses.

By the late 1980s he had begun to study education and youth development because academic skill disparities were contributing to growing wage disparity. During the 1990s and early 2000s, his writings on the topic appeared in publications of the National Research Council, the Brookings Institution, the U.S. Department of Education, and various books and journals. In December 2007, Harvard Education Press published his book Toward Excellence with Equity: An Emerging Vision for Closing the Achievement Gap. A February 2011 profile of Ron in the New York Times wrote, “there is no one in America who knows more about the gap that Ronald Ferguson.”

Ron’s current focus as AGI director is an initiative entitled the Boston Basics. It takes a socio-ecological saturation approach, collaborating with many partners to reach extended families with caregiving advice for infants and toddlers. In addition, Ron is co-authoring a book with journalist Tatsha Robertson on the ways that highly successful people were parented.

Ron holds an undergraduate degree from Cornell University and a PhD from MIT, both in economics. He has been happily married for 38 years and is the father of two adult sons.

Julie Jackson
Chief Schools Officer, Uncommon Schools

Julie Jackson is the Chief Schools Officer for Uncommon Schools Elementary and Middle schools, managing 42 schools across Boston, Brooklyn, Camden, Newark, Rochester and Troy. Julie began her career in education as a Teach for America corps member in Paterson, NJ, teaching 8th grade literature in math. In 1998, in its second year of existence, Julie joined North Star Academy, teaching middle school math and science. Since joining North Star/Uncommon, Julie has served in a variety of positions including: Dean of Students, High School Principal, founding Elementary School Principal, and Managing Director of Elementary Schools. She earned her B.A. in Communications from Shippensburg University in 1992, a M.Ed. in Educational Administration from William Paterson University in 2002, and completed graduate work in African-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin. Julie’s leadership and commitment to improving public education has earned her several honors, including a Teacher of the Year award in 1998, the Dodge Leadership Award in 2002, Teach for America’s Peter Jennings Award for Civic Leadership in 2013, Board of Trustee member for the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls, and a Fellowship with the Pahara-Aspen Institute. Julie has conducted numerous national and international presentations on student culture, staff culture and leadership in China, South Africa, Chicago, Detroit, Texas, New York, and New Jersey. After almost two decades in education, Julie’s career underscores her professional and personal commitment to ensuring all children have access to the same quality of education she wants for her own children.
Closing the Achievement Gap in the 21st Century
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Colin Rose
Assistant Superintendent of Opportunity and Achievement Gaps, Boston Public Schools

Dr. Colin Rose is the Assistant Superintendent of Opportunity and Achievement Gaps for the Boston Public Schools (BPS). He works to eliminate cultural and structural barriers and promote culturally affirming practices for student populations who have been marginalized, helping to create the opportunities needed for achievement. In addition to expanding the OAG office during his initial year as the assistant superintendent, some of Dr. Rose’s most influential work has included helping to create the BPS Opportunity and Achievement Gap Policy, collaborating with BPS leadership to create the current BPS problem of practice centering on marginalized student populations, authoring the districts culturally and linguistically sustaining practices (CLSP) competencies and rubric, founding of the MBK Success Mentors pilot directed at providing one-on-one mentorship to chronically absent students, reforming/expanding of the BPS Exam School Initiative, and collaborating with the BPS ASSET team to create the instructional vision for the district.

Prior to his appointment as assistant superintendent, Dr. Rose spent 10 years as an educator in Roxbury and was a member of numerous citywide initiatives including working groups tasked to bridge the district’s alignment to the Common Core, coordinating Acceleration Academies, serving on the Extended Learning Time Taskforce, and was a member of the Male Educator of Color (MEOC).

Beyond the Boston Public Schools, Dr. Rose has worked as a consultant for the University of Pittsburgh’s Institute for Learning and as lecturer at the University of Massachusetts Boston in the Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Rose earned a B.S. in Communications and an Ed.M from Boston University. He received his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Massachusetts Boston, where he served on the initial Doctoral Student Advisory Committee.

Ursula Wright
Managing Director, FSG

Ursula Wright co-leads the Education & Youth practice at FSG, a mission-driven consulting firm for leaders in search of large-scale, lasting social change. Through its combination of customized services, powerful ideas, and learning communities, FSG helps foundations, businesses, nonprofits, and governments around the world accelerate impact. FSG is also a recognized thought leader in creating ‘collective impact’, which occurs when organizations from different sectors agree to solve a specific social problem by aligning their efforts using a common agenda and shared measures of success.

Ms. Wright’s immediate past position was with the Obama Administration where she served as the Associate Assistant Deputy Secretary for the Office of Innovation and Improvement at the U.S. Department of Education. In this capacity, she served as the Department’s policy lead on place-based initiatives like Promise Zones, Promise Neighborhoods, and Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2). Ms. Wright’s portfolio also included the federal Charter Schools Program, personalized learning, and a host of special projects for the White House.

Prior to her government service, Ms. Wright was an executive at the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools (“NAPCS”), the leading national nonprofit organization committed to advancing the quality growth of the charter school movement. She helped grow NAPCS from a start-up to an established organization serving approximately 3 million charter school students nationwide and an additional one million students on charter school waiting lists. Before transitioning to the not-for-profit sector, Ms. Wright developed functional competencies in strategy, operations, finance, and marketing at some of the nation’s most recognized private sector firms.

Ms. Wright has further contributed to public education through her board service, including tenures with The American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence, a national non-profit organization dedicated to preparing, certifying, and supporting people who want to improve their communities by becoming a teacher, and Achievement Preparatory Academy, a high performing charter school in Washington, DC’s most economically disadvantaged ward.

Ms. Wright earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Spelman College and a Master of Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She has also completed executive education coursework at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.
PANEL C

The Changing Face of Private Equity

Saturday, March 25 | 1:30 – 2:30 PM | Aldrich 112

A candid discussion addressing the reasons for the dearth of diversity (at both junior and senior levels) in Private Equity and Alternative Investments. What steps can be taken to change this? What roles do senior black investment professionals play? What roles do newly minted MBAs play? Limited Partners? How is this changing in the current environment, and what further steps need to be taken?

MODERATOR:

Willie Woods
President and Managing Director, ICV Capital

Prior to co-founding ICV, Mr. Woods was a Vice President in investment banking at Deutsche Bank Alex Brown. Mr. Woods was responsible for deal origination and execution of merger and acquisition, leverage loan, high yield bond and equity transactions with a focus on financial sponsors in the basic industries. Prior to Deutsche Bank Alex Brown, Mr. Woods worked in private equity at Levmark Capital, investment banking at Lehman Brothers Inc. and corporate banking at NBD Bank. Mr. Woods serves on the Board of Directors of the Apollo Theater Foundation and The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. Mr. Woods has a BA degree in accounting from Morehouse College and a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

Mr. Woods sits on the boards of the following companies:
- SG360
- Coverall
- SirsiDynix
- OneTouchPoint
- American Alliance Dialysis Holdings, LLC
- Interventional Management Services, LLC
The Changing Face of Private Equity
Saturday, March 25 | 1:30 - 2:30 PM | Aldrich 112

SPEAKERS:

Verdun Perry
Senior Managing Director and Co-Head of Strategic Partners, Blackstone Strategic Partners

Verdun S. Perry is a Senior Managing Director at Blackstone and the Co-Head of Strategic Partners Fund Solutions (“Strategic Partners”). Strategic Partners, a secondary fund of funds manager with over $21 billion of assets under management, has completed over 1,000 transactions focused on the purchase of private equity limited partnership interests and co-investments in leveraged buyout, real estate and venture capital assets. Mr. Perry joined Strategic Partners 2000, the year it was founded. Mr. Perry sits on all of Strategic Partners’ investment committees and his current responsibilities include fundraising, deal-sourcing, negotiating and executing secondary transactions and co-investments, as well as various post-purchase fund monitoring activities. Previously, Mr. Perry worked in the strategic investments group at Bozell, Jacobs, Kenyon and Eckhardt, Inc. and in the Investment Banking Division at Morgan Stanley. Co. Mr. Perry received a B.A. from Morehouse College in 1994, where he graduated magna cum laude and was elected Phi Beta Kappa, as well as an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School in 2000, where he was a Robert Toigo Foundation Fellow. Mr. Perry serves on the boards of The Blackstone Charitable Foundation and Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), and is a member of the Leadership Council for the East Harlem Tutorial Program (EHTP). He also serves as a visitor on the board of Morehouse College.

Greg Shell
Managing Director, Bain Capital

Greg A. Shell co-leads Bain Capital’s Double Impact Fund, a $250m lower middle market private equity fund focused on making Impact Investments. The Fund intends to make $10-30m equity investments in the areas of Health and Wellness, Sustainability and Community Building.

Prior to coming to Bain Capital, Greg was a Portfolio Manager at Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo, (GMO), a $120B global investment management firm committed to providing sophisticated clients with superior asset management solutions and services. The firm offers a broad range of investment products, including equity and fixed income strategies across global developed and emerging markets, as well as absolute return strategies. Our client base includes endowments, pension funds, public funds, foundations and cultural institutions.

At GMO, Mr. Shell lead the Global Focused Equity Fund, a multi-cap concentrated equity product looking to offer clients exposure to global equities. As the lead Portfolio Manager for this Fund, Mr. Shell lead all investment activity in the United States, Canada and Latin America, as well as managing all activity across the rest of the world. He has extensive experience covering the Industrials, Basic Materials, Healthcare, Financials and Consumer Sectors. He represented the strategy with clients, consultants and prospects.

Prior to joining GMO, Greg was a Senior Equity Analyst in the Global Equity Research Group at Columbia Management Group, a $150B asset management firm. Greg led coverage responsibilities for the Industrials and Capital Goods sectors. Prior to that, Mr. Shell was a Consultant at Bain and Company in both the Strategy Practice and the Private Equity Group.

Mr. Shell earned his Bachelor’s degree from MIT in the Political Science department and his MBA from Harvard, where he has been recognized as a Toigo Fellow and a Bert King Fellow. He is a 2011 winner of the Boston Business Journal’s 40 under 40 Award, and the 2012 winner of the Boston Chamber of Commerce Ten Outstanding Young Leaders Award.
The Changing Face of Private Equity
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Ray Whiteman
Co-Founder and Managing Partner, Stellex

Mr. Whiteman is a Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Stellex. He has over 17 years of private equity and distressed investing experience. Before joining Stellex, Mr. Whiteman was a partner at The Carlyle Group and a Managing Director and Co-Head of Carlyle Strategic Partners. Prior to joining Carlyle in May 1996, Mr. Whiteman was a Vice President and Group Head in the Leveraged Finance Department of Credit Lyonnais. Mr. Whiteman has also held several positions at both Citicorp and The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. in leveraged finance and middle market lending.

Mr. Whiteman previously served on the board of Diversified Machine, Inc., DPG Aerospace, RPK Capital Partners, LLC, Metaldyne, LLC, Stellex Aerostructures, Inc., Brintons Carpet Limited and Service King, as well as sitting on the investment committee of RLJ Equity Partners, an affiliate of Carlyle and Robert L. Johnson. In the past Mr. Whiteman has served on Carlyle portfolio companies such as US Marine Repair, Norfolk Drydock and Shipping Company, Key Plastics, Breed Technologies and The Aerostructures Corporation. He has also been a member of the Executive Committee of the National Symphony Orchestra of The John F. Kennedy Center, Prince Georges Community College Foundation and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of African Art.

Mr. Whiteman received his B.A. in political science from Williams College, where he was a Lehman Scholar, and an M.B.A. from New York University Stern School of Business.

Jason Wood
Managing Director, AIG Investments

Jason Wood joined AIG in 2015 as a Managing Director with the Direct Equity team in New York, responsible for building the AIG Investment team’s direct equity co-investment and venture capital platforms.

Mr. Wood’s career in the financial services sector has spanned 16 years. Prior to joining AIG, he held positions of increasing responsibility as an investment banker with Merrill Lynch and as a principal investor at Parish Capital Partners and Zurich Alternative Asset Management. He began his career as an analyst in the Financial Sponsors Group at UBS Investment Bank.

Jason holds a BBA in Finance from the University of Michigan’s Ross School of Business and an MBA from the New York University Stern School of Business. He is currently a board member of Top Honors, a New York based non-profit focused on middle-school math tutoring and development for students that have fallen behind their peer group.
The purpose of this panel is to further the understanding of black representation on corporate boards. We also will explore how to build your personal brand to become a trusted leader and advisor. In addition, we will discuss where corporate boards fit in with the broader goal of advancing diversity in corporate America.

MODERATOR:

Andy Zelleke
MBA Class of 1962 Senior Lecturer of Business Administration, Harvard Business School

Andy Zelleke is the MBA Class of 1962 Senior Lecturer of Business Administration. A member of HBS’ General Management unit, he has taught the Field Immersion Experiences for Leadership Development (“FIELD”) course since its inception in the Required Curriculum in 2011, including service in the section faculty chair role in each of the past five academic years. In the course’s “FIELD 2” module, culminating in a January “Global Immersion,” Dr. Zelleke has led HBS MBA cohorts in Mumbai, Chennai, Beijing, Jakarta and Manila; and he served as the FIELD 2 Module Head for 2015-16. Dr. Zelleke has also taught in HBS Executive Education programs on corporate governance/boards of directors.

Prior to joining the HBS faculty, Dr. Zelleke was Lecturer in Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, teaching “Strategy, Structure and Leadership in Public Service Organizations” and “Introduction to Negotiation Analysis.” He also served as Co-Director of the Kennedy School’s Center for Public Leadership for two years. and taught negotiation, leadership and management in several Executive Education programs. Prior to joining the Kennedy School faculty, Dr. Zelleke taught negotiation in the MBA and undergraduate programs at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, where he also led the development of an executive education program for newly appointed members of public company boards of directors. At both the Kennedy School and Wharton, Dr. Zelleke was recognized on multiple occasions for teaching distinction.

and facilitated discussions on these topics and on negotiation, at venues in Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America; and he has served as a consultant to several leading law firms on corporate governance issues.

Formerly a practicing business lawyer, Dr. Zelleke received an A.B. in Government magna cum laude from Harvard College, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa; and a J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School. He also received an A.M. in Sociology and a Ph.D. in Organizational Behavior from Harvard University. Dr. Zelleke is a member of the State Bar of New York, the National Association of Corporate Directors, and the Council on Foreign Relations. He is also a member of the board of directors of Inodata, Inc., a NASDAQ-traded public company; and of the advisory board of Indensco, a privately held company. Dr. Zelleke lives in Cambridge with his wife, Dina Zelleke, and daughter, Zoe.

In 2016, Dr. Zelleke received the Greenhill Award for outstanding service to the Harvard Business School community.

**SPEAKERS:**

**Reatha Clark King**  
Former President and Executive Director, General Mills Foundation; Former VP, General Mills, Inc

**BOARD EXPERIENCE**
- ExxonMobil (NYSE: XOM)
- Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC)
- Department 56
- International Trachoma Initiative
- Minnesota Mutual Companies

Dr. Reatha Clark King is the Emeritus Board Chair of the Board of the National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD). She has extensive background experience in corporate governance and advancing board excellence. She is a former board member of the Wells Fargo Company, Exxon Mobil Corporation, H. B. Fuller Company, Minnesota Mutual Companies, Allina Health System, and Lenox Group Inc. She is member of the Board of Overseers of the Malcolm Baldrige Program for Excellence, a Life Trustee of the University of Chicago, and board member of the Minnesota Council of Churches Foundation. She has served on the boards of several major non-profits, philanthropic, and government organizations including the American Council on Education, the Council on Foundations, and the Commission on National and Community Service.

She is former president and board chair of the General Mills Foundation and vice president of General Mills, Inc. Prior to joining General Mills, King served for 11 years as president of Metropolitan State University in the Twin Cities, and prior to that position, she was associate dean at York College of the City University of New York. A chemist by training, King began her professional careers as a research chemist at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, DC. King received her undergraduate degree in chemistry and mathematics from Clark Atlanta University, master's and doctorate degrees in chemistry from the University of Chicago, and the MBA degree from Columbia University. She has received numerous awards, including 14 honorary doctorate degrees, and the NACD 2004 Director of the Year Award.

Reatha and her late husband have two sons, a daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. She is a resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota.
Carol Fulp
President and Chief Executive Officer, The Partnership, Inc

BOARD EXPERIENCE
- Eastern Bank
- American Student Assistance Corporation
- Massachusetts Convention Center Authority
- City of Boston Compensation Advisory

Carol Fulp is President and CEO of The Partnership, Inc., New England’s premier organization dedicated to enhancing the competitiveness of the region by attracting, developing, retaining and convening multicultural professionals. During its 30-year history, The Partnership has collaborated with nearly 300 corporations who have sponsored more than 4,000 multicultural executives and professionals in the organization’s innovative leadership development programming. Fulp has expanded offerings by creating the CSuite Program for multicultural executives at the highest levels of corporations. The program was launched last summer at the home of former Governor Deval Patrick and First Lady Diane Patrick and subsequently they have become co-chairs of this program.

Prior to The Partnership, Fulp was Senior Vice President of Corporate Responsibility and Brand Management at John Hancock Financial. Here she led the company’s marketing and sponsorships departments, while directing the company’s $12 million philanthropic giving program. Under her leadership, the company created the largest corporate summer jobs program of its kind in the country and received the Points of Light Foundation’s Corporate Excellence Award. Previously, Fulp was the Director of Community Programming and Human Resources for WCVB, the ABC-TV Boston affiliate. She also served as the Corporate Employee Relations Manager for the Gillette Company.

Given her leadership in business and public service, President Obama appointed Fulp as a Representative of the United States of America to the Sixty-fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Governor de Jongh appointed her as a trustee of the University of the Virgin Islands and Mayor Walsh appointed her as a member of the City of Boston Compensation Advisory Board. Massachusetts State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg also appointed Fulp to her Advisory Committee on Wage Equality.

Fulp serves on the board of trustees for Eastern Bank and as well as the board of directors for American Student Assistance Corporation, where she chairs the search committee for their president. Her civic involvement includes the Harvard Kennedy School Women’s Leadership Board and trustee of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library Foundation. At the Kennedy Library she co-chaired the Profile in Courage Awards Dinner and was a panelist at the JFK Library Symposium in Tokyo, Japan, hosted by Ambassador Caroline Kennedy and keynoted by President Bill Clinton. In addition, she is on the board of directors of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston University and Citizen’s United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE), where she serves as the Chair of the Strategic Communications Committee. She is also a founding co-chair of the Massachusetts Conference for Women, the largest professional women’s conference in the country, attracting 10,000 attendees annually.

Fulp was a member of the Obama for America National Finance Committee. Governor Patrick appointed her to the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority Board where she served for 5 years. She was also appointed by Mayor Menino as co-chair of the Host Committee for the Democratic National Convention held in Boston.

She is the recipient of many honors including the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce Pinnacle Award, Museum of Afro-American History’s Living Legend Award, Anti-Defamation League’s Women of Valor Award, Massachusetts Democratic Party’s Eleanor Roosevelt Award, Boston Bar Foundation’s Public Service Award, Manulife Corporation’s Global Citizen Award, United Nations of Greater Boston Global Leaders Award and South African Partners Corporate Citizen Award. Boston Business Journal has listed Fulp as one of the “50 Most Influential Bostonians” and in 2015 Boston Magazine listed her as one of the “50 Most Powerful People in Boston.”

Fulp is a graduate of the University of the State of New York. She is a recipient of an honorary doctorate of law from New England Law Boston and a honorary doctorate from Salem State University. She is married to C. Bernard Fulp, Chairman of Go-Biz Solutions and Founder of Middlesex Bank & Trust Company. They reside in Boston.
Michelle Gadsden-Williams
Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Ceiling Breakers

BOARD EXPERIENCE
- Jackie Robinson Foundation
- Black Girls Rock
- Hip Hop Sisters Foundation
- SLE Lupus Foundation

Michelle Gadsden-Williams is the CoFounder and Chief Operating Officer of Ceiling Breakers, LLC, a multifaceted business focused on media driven women’s empowerment initiatives, diverse entertainment investments, and management consulting services specializing in: diversity & inclusion, executive coaching, leadership & organizational development, and multicultural marketing for Fortune 500 companies. Michelle is the former Managing Director and Global Head of Diversity & Inclusion at Credit Suisse AG. She provided strategic direction, thought leadership and championed the development of an inclusive environment by integrating diversity practice into all aspects of the business. Michelle is a seasoned and highly sought after diversity practitioner with more than 20 years of experience working in the consumer goods and pharmaceutical industries before transitioning to financial services in 2011. She has held positions of global responsibility in the diversity management arena by living in Switzerland for close to 10 years of her corporate career and managed staffing functions for large multinational corporations such as Credit Suisse, Novartis and Merck & Co, Inc. Prior to her tenure at Merck & Co., Inc, Michelle has also held positions in Human Resources and Product Development at Philips Van Heusen Corporation and Wakefern Food Corporation, both headquartered in New Jersey.

An exemplary role model and advocate for equality and social justice, Michelle has worked tirelessly at refining processes, policies and programs that support an inclusive work environment. Examples include the design and deployment of global diversity strategies, the reconstituting of global diversity councils, the creation of innovative marketing strategies that target diverse consumers, the design and deployment of global diversity training curriculums and the creation of over 50 employee resource groups around the world. Her work has been cited in several research periodicals and trade publications over the years.

Michelle has acquired a multitude of community service awards and accolades for her work as a diversity practitioner. Most recently, she was recognized by the Reverend Al Sharpton as a 2016 honoree at the National Action Network “Woman of Power” Luncheon, an honoree at the Black Institute Awards Gala in NYC and a 2015 Ebony Magazine Power 100 honoree. Throughout her career, Michelle has been profiled in Black Enterprise Magazine, DiversityInc, Diversity Executive, Ebony, Essence, Fortune, History Makers, Heart & Soul, Jet, New Vision, Science Magazine, Sister to Sister, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Target Market News and was recognized as one of 40 Outstanding Executives Under 40 in America in 2006 by the Network Journal. Michelle has consistently ranked as one of the Top 100 Executives in America by Uptown Magazine. In 2010, she was ranked (#6 as one of the Top 25 Women of Substance in Healthcare by Heart & Soul Magazine, (#48) in 2011 and (#31) in 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Her other notable tributes include: being named the 2010 recipient of the Maya Way Award for Diversity Leadership by the incomparable Dr. Maya Angelou, receiving the 2008 Harvard Black Men’s Forum Businesswoman of the Year Award, accepting the Rainbow Push Coalition’s Bridge Builder Award by the honorable Reverend Jesse L. Jackson and also being recognized with an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Kean University for her outstanding personal and professional accomplishments in the field of diversity and inclusion. In 2013 Michelle was appointed as a member of the Global Advisory Council on Gender Parity for the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

In addition to her work as a diversity consultant, Michelle and her husband make strategic investments in diverse entertainment projects including Broadway productions—Romeo and Juliet (Starring Orlando Bloom and Condola Rashad) in 2013 and Black Orpheus which is targeted to debut on Broadway in 2017. Their goal is to have more diverse representation of women and people of color in the arts - specifically on Broadway.

Michelle earned a B.S. in Marketing, a B.A. in Communications from Kean College of New Jersey and an M.S. in Organizational Dynamics from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.
Incorporated and the Executive Leadership Council. She and her husband are staunch philanthropists and have raised over $1.5 million dollars to support causes that positively impact women and people of color. Michelle serves on several boards including the Jackie Robinson Foundation, Hip Hop Sisters Foundation, Black Girls Rock, the SLE Lupus Foundation and an Executive Committee Member of the Women’s Leadership Board of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Michelle and her husband David Jamal Williams, CoFounder and CEO of Ceiling Breakers, LLC, live in New York City.

David Rawlinson
President - Online Business, Grainger

BOARD EXPERIENCE
- Nielsen Holdings (NYSE:NLSN)
- MonotaRO (TYO:3064)

Since 2014, Rawlinson has served on the board of directors for MonotaRO, Grainger’s publicly-traded online business in Japan valued at more than $3.5B. He was one of three founding Managing Directors of Zoro Tools Europe, Grainger’s first online business in Europe. Rawlinson joined Grainger in 2012 as Deputy General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, where he was responsible for the company’s corporate governance initiatives, M&A activities and support for the ecommerce and online business model. Prior to Grainger, he held executive roles with ITT Exelis (XLS), formerly ITT Corp.

Rawlinson served a Presidential appointment as a White House Fellow and held positions in both the Bush and Obama Administrations. In the Obama Administration, Rawlinson served as a Senior Advisor for Economic Policy with the White House National Economic Council where he worked on the financial crisis and initiatives to spur new business growth.

Rawlinson holds a B.A. from The Citadel, a J.D. from the University of South Carolina and an MBA from Harvard Business School.
Building Brands for the Black Community

Saturday, March 25 | 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Aldrich 112

Statistics show that the economic clout of the Black consumer is on the rise and continues to energize the U.S. consumer market. Total Black spending power has increased to over $1 trillion and it is estimated to have increased by over 70% since 2000. Furthermore, Black consumers’ share of total buying power is estimated to increase to 9% by 2017 – 9 cents out of every dollar spent. The primary purpose of the panel will be to showcase successful black business players who are leading thriving brands. We aim to explore some of the key areas of opportunity in building brands for the Black community as Black buying power increases going forward.

MODERATOR:

Stefon Burns
Engagement Manager, McKinsey & Company

Stefon Burns is an engagement manager in McKinsey & Company’s office Northeast Office. He serves clients on commercial and operational topics within the Consumer Products and Retail industries. Stefon is a core member of the advanced analytics deployment team.

His prior engagements include:
- Global Consumer Products – Long term growth strategy
- Canadian Consumer Products – Pricing and promotions management
- North American Consumer Company – Supply chain cost reduction
- Global Gaming Company – Pricing and promotions management
- Global Apparel Retailer – Indirect Cost Procurement

Stefon holds Bachelor of Science in Economics, cum laude, from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He also holds MBA, with Distinction, from Harvard Business School.

He enjoys traveling, collecting sneakers, and finding “hole in the wall” restaurants in New York City, where he resides.
Building Brands for the Black Community
Saturday, March 25 | 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Aldrich 112

SPEAKERS:

Lockie Andrews
Chief Marketing Officer, Nora Gardner

Lockie is the founder of Catalyst Consulting, a boutique advisory firm specializing in all things digital for consumer and retail companies. With 20+ years of general management experience, Lockie has assisted high growth companies (e.g. Nike, Lane Bryant, various start-ups) in diverse areas such as strategy, innovation, digital marketing, social media management, revenue enhancement, operational/financial improvement, workforce automation and fundraising. Catalyst's unique ability to provide clients with strategy and implementation services yields actionable and sustainable results.

Prior to founding Catalyst, Lockie served as Operating Partner at portfolio companies of Sun Capital, Brightwood Capital and Accordion Partners in the areas of finance, strategy, merchandising and operations initiatives. Lockie has also held roles as the COO of Tadashi; head of New Business at Liz Claiborne Accessories (Kate Spade); CMO of Nora Gardner; and VP of Business Development at babystyle.com. Lockie was also a Senior Director at Alvarez and Marsal's Retail Consulting Practice.

Lockie began her career on Wall Street at Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, and holds degrees from Harvard Business School and Georgetown University. Lockie currently serves as a Friend of Education at the Museum of Modern Art, and is the co-head of Fashion Tech at the HBS Alumni Angels of NY.

Jonathan Jackson
Co-founder and Head of Corporate Brand, Blavity

Jonathan Jackson is the Head of Corporate Brand and Co-founder of Blavity, where he looks to push the story and ideology behind Blavity to new markets, establish strategic partnerships, and develop thought leadership about the next generation of makers and creatives. Previously, he worked across various roles at LinkedIn in across HR, Advertising, most recently as an Editor overseeing the Influencer Program.
Larry Miller
President Jordan Brand, Nike

Larry Miller is the President of The Jordan Brand, a division of Nike Inc. This is Miller’s second tour with the Brand as he continues to establish his strong connections within the community having previously held executive positions with some of Oregon’s most recognized brands. He has garnered international respect for his reputation of being an inspirational leader who understands how to build premium businesses in the world of sport.

Miller was named President of the Jordan Brand on July 9, 2012. As President of The Jordan Brand, Miller is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of a billion dollar sports performance and lifestyle brand. Miller works directly with the Nike Inc. global leadership and Michael Jordan to drive the brands business objectives globally. Under his leadership (1999 – 2006 and 2012 – present) the Jordan Brand has enjoyed tremendous growth in all aspects of its business. Miller has led the Brand’s transition from a predominantly basketball focused brand to a widely respected global performance and lifestyle leader.

Prior to joining the Jordan Brand, Miller served as President and Alternate Governor of the Portland Trail Blazers NBA franchise. As President of the Trail Blazers, he was responsible for all aspects of the organization’s business portfolio, including all team business and basketball activities, and the Rose Quarter. Miller joined the team in June 2007 and under his guidance saw the Trail Blazers make three consecutive trips to the postseason while selling out 159 straight games. During the 2010-11 season, the franchise celebrated an 86% season ticket retention rate, and more than 11,000 full season tickets, placing the organization fifth in the NBA. Under Miller’s leadership, the Trail Blazers have become the first American sports franchise to achieve Gold LEED status for an existing arena, earned the 2009 PRISM award and consistently ranks in the top 20 for Portland Business Journal’s Most Philanthropic Companies.

Prior to joining the Trail Blazers, Miller served as Vice President and General Manager of Nike Basketball, where he was in charge of building strategies and executing plans that centered on The Jordan Brand, Nike Basketball and Converse. He was responsible for managing day-to-day operations of the Jordan Brand, where he earned an exceptional track record for growing the brand and setting the standard for athletic luxury footwear. His experience provided strong leadership for Nike’s global category growth in basketball.

Before joining Nike, Miller served as President, Executive Vice President and Controller for Jantzen, Inc. He has also served as a Manager for Kraft General Foods, Assistant Controller at Philadelphia Newspapers, Inc., and held various positions with Campbell Soup.

Miller makes Portland his home, and currently serves on the board of directors for Self Enhancement Inc. (“SEI”), the Oregon Business Council, Oregon Sports Authority, and is a member of the Portland Mayor’s Economic Development Cabinet. He is a passionate advocate for education and mentorship and was previously involved with the Urban League and Junior Achievement.

Miller earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Temple University in 1982, and a master’s degree in business from LaSalle University in 1985. He graduated from the Urban League Leadership Institute in 1987.
Evita Robinson

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Nomadness Travel Tribe

Evita Turquoise Robinson graduated from Iona College in 2006 as her undergrad Commencement Speaker, and now holds a Board of Director position with their Alumni Association.

Since her first taste of Europe at the age of twenty-one, Evita Robinson (Evie), has been to over twenty countries and lived on three different continents. After a year and a half of traveling around the world, she put her degree in Television/Video Production to use, videotaping her life on the NomadnessTV web series. Evie came back to New York on a mission to bridge her love of production and a newfound need for travel.

In September 2011, she created the Nomadness Travel Tribe, an online social community for travelers all around the planet, who have the similarity of an urban background and were looking for likeminded travelers to connect with around the world. Nomadness was the first of its kind targeting diverse millennial travelers, in the newly coined ‘urban travel movement’.

From the success of the online group, Evie thrust herself into the world of entrepreneurship, and in April 2012, launched the business home for all things Nomadness and travel oriented, Nomadness LLC. The group now currently surpasses 15,000 international members, with over 100,000 passport stamps, and nearly 100 meet-ups a year. May 22, 2015 Nomadness launched the travel web docuseries, The NOMADNESS Project, Co-Executive Produced by HBO’s Issa Rae and Evita, housed on her YouTube channel of over 200,000 subscribers.

The continuation of innovating the urban travel space has landed Nomadness in the pages of The New York Times, EBONY, ESSENCE, Entrepreneur.com, The Daily Beast, Huffington Post, Mashable.com, airtime on CNN.com and News One, Facebook Stories, NBC4NY, MSNBC’s former Melissa Harris Perry Show, and as a travel expert regular on the tri-state area’s award winning PIX11 news out of New York City. To date, one of the biggest campaigns Nomadness has been featured in, was with Evita as a part of Oxygen Channel’s ‘In Progress’ during Black History Month 2016.

Nomadness spearheaded NMDN in September 2015, the first alternative travel conference of its kind, targeting diverse urban millennials and has turned it into an annual conference in New York City for this travel demographic. Information can be found at nmdnconference.com.

Previously, while in New York City, Evita worked in television and film production. Her resume included production work with names such as A&E, HBO, MTV, BET, BBC, TURNER, the reality travel series JET SET ZERO, and Spike Lee’s 40 ACRES AND A MULE FILMWORKS. She now serves as a keynote speaker, mastermind behind online courses, and continues her love of seeing the world with Nomadness, while writing her first book.
Power Couples: Effectively Managing Dual Career Households

Saturday, March 25 | 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Aldrich 111

How do couples successfully thrive when managing two demanding careers? This panel will highlight the tradeoffs, decisions, and rewards of successfully navigating a dual career household.

MODERATOR:

Les Williams
Chief Revenue Officer, Risk Cooperative

Les Williams is a Partner and Chief Revenue Officer of Risk Cooperative, a strategy, risk and insurance brokerage focusing on domestic and international mid-market opportunities. Risk Cooperative offers guidance to educational institutions who are navigating the complex world of risk management and insurance brokerage.

He was raised in Alexandria, VA and attended the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. After high school, Les attended The University of Virginia’s Rodman Scholars Engineering Program and graduated in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. While at UVA, Les was a Peer Advisor to younger engineering students in the Office of African American Affairs for three years. Les Co-founded Brother United Celebrating Knowledge and Success (B.U.C.K.S.), a community service organization focused on straightening the relationship between the UVA and Charlottesville communities. He is a member of the Raven Society as well as The I.M.P. Society. At Graduation, Les was one of two students given the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award for outstanding contributions to Student Life during his tenure at UVA. After graduation from UVA, Les was an engineer with Ford Motor Company in Detroit working on the engine programs for the Lincoln LS and Jaguar X-Type.

In 2003, Les left Michigan to attend Harvard Business School (HBS) where he served as Class Co-President. He continues his involvement with HBS to this day, serving as the 2005 Class Fundraising Co-Chair, Director of Underrepresented Minority Outreach with HBS Admissions, and he served on the HBS Global Alumni Board from 2010-2013.

Before joining Risk Cooperative, Les held various positions in sales and marketing with firms in Atlanta (IBM, JLL) and Washington, DC (Landon Butler, SoHookd).

Les enjoys watching professional football, traveling, biking, weightlifting, and reading. He is married to B.J. Wiley Williams (also a graduate of UVA/HBS and CEO and Founder of SoHookd), and they provide annual gifts to UVA and HBS supporting fellowships for future students. They reside in Arlington, VA.
Power Couples: Effectively Managing Dual Career Households

Saturday, March 25 | 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Aldrich 111

**SPEAKERS:**

**Layla Lumpkin**
Corporate Attorney, Horwood Marcus & Berk

Layla D. Lumpkin concentrates her practice in general corporate matters, including business counseling, debt and equity financing, venture capital transactions, contract drafting, corporate governance and mergers and acquisitions. She seeks to understand her clients’ goals and helps them to achieve those goals. Prior to joining HMB, Layla focused her practice on advising start-ups and growth stage companies on general corporate matters and in mergers and acquisitions and financing transactions, primarily representing private equity funds.

Layla enjoys working with entrepreneurs and began representing them during law school as a student clinician in the Bluhm Legal Clinic Entrepreneurship Law Center. Prior to law school, she worked in Finance and Accounting at Procter & Gamble.

Layla is an advocate of engaging with and giving back to underserved communities. She is Chair of the Goodcity Chicago Associate Board and has presented to students and minority and women entrepreneurs on legal considerations when forming a business.

Outside of the practice of law, Layla enjoys cooking, sports, crafting and entertaining.

**William Lumpkin**
Associate Director, Shire

William Lumpkin is an Associate Director at Shire, a rare disease company, and leads Marketing and Sales analytics for the US Immunology franchise. Prior to joining Shire, he served in increasing roles of responsibility at Baxter Healthcare and The Procter and Gamble Company in Global Marketing, Corporate Strategy, and Finance. William also serves on faculty for the @UNC MBA program, Kenan Flagler School of Business, teaching Introductory Finance. William has an MBA from The University of Chicago Booth School of Business and B.S in Business Administration and Finance from Indiana University where he was a Varsity Football Letterman and Defensive Captain. He lives in Chicago with his wife Layla and daughters Ailey (3) and Sage (6 months).

**Nadia Rawlinson**
Chief Human Resources Officer, Live Nation Entertainment

Nadia Rawlinson is the Chief Human Resources Officer for Live Nation Entertainment (NYSE: LYV) based in Beverly Hills, CA. With annual revenues over $7 billion, Live Nation Entertainment is a Fortune 500 global leader in the live events industry operating across four business divisions: Ticketmaster, Concerts (Live Nation and House of Blues concerts, as well as music festivals such as Lollapalooza & Bonnaroo), Artist Nation (an artist management business along with RoNation), and Media & Sponsorships. In this capacity, Nadia oversees HR strategy and development on a global basis for Live Nation’s 22,000 employees as the company continues to drive global growth and increase its organizational strength.

Prior to Live Nation, Nadia worked in Silicon Valley as the Chief Human Resources Officer for Rakuten USA, part of Japan’s Rakuten Group, one of the largest Internet services companies in the world. Previously, Nadia worked in Chicago as Vice President, co-leading Global Human Resources at Groupon Inc., the company known for redefining local commerce via daily deals, travel and online goods, operating with twelve thousand employees in 47 countries.
Power Couples: Effectively Managing Dual Career Households
Saturday, March 25 | 2:45 – 3:45 PM | Aldrich 111

Additionally, Nadia worked at American Express where she directed both strategic HR and business initiatives in the Online & Mobile Enterprise Growth Group and International Recruitment functions in New York and London.

Early in her career, Nadia capitalized on the nascent dot-com wave serving as head of Human Capital for Rent The Runway in New York City, the ecommerce startup praised as the “Netflix for High Fashion” that garnered over $100M in venture funding from Kleiner Perkins, Bain Capital, and Highland Capital Partners. Further, Nadia spent time in People Operations at Google, where she created talent pipeline strategies that identified future business and technology leaders. Nadia received her BA from Stanford University and MBA from Harvard Business School. When not driving the human capital agenda for Live Nation, you can find Nadia involved in civic activities that empower young women and splitting her time between Los Angeles, CA and London, UK where her husband is based.

David Rawlinson
President - Online Business, Grainger

BOARD EXPERIENCE
• Nielsen Holdings (NYSE:NLSN)
• MonotaRO (TYO:3064)

Since 2014, Rawlinson has served on the board of directors for MonotaRO, Grainger’s publicly-traded online business in Japan valued at more than $3.5B. He was one of three founding Managing Directors of Zoro Tools Europe, Grainger’s first online business in Europe. Rawlinson joined Grainger in 2012 as Deputy General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, where he was responsible for the company’s corporate governance initiatives, M&A activities and support for the ecommerce and online business model. Prior to Grainger, he held executive roles with ITT Exelix (XLS), formerly ITT Corp.

Rawlinson served a Presidential appointment as a White House Fellow and held positions in both the Bush and Obama Administrations. In the Obama Administration, Rawlinson served as a Senior Advisor for Economic Policy with the White House National Economic Council where he worked on the financial crisis and initiatives to spur new business growth.

Rawlinson holds a B.A. from The Citadel, a J.D. from the University of South Carolina and an MBA from Harvard Business School.
Exelon’s family of companies represents every stage of the energy value chain. Exelon Generation is one of the largest competitive United States power generators, with approximately 32,700 megawatts of owned capacity comprising one of the nation’s cleanest, lowest-cost power generation fleets. Constellation provides energy products and services to approximately 2.2 million residential, public sector and business customers, including more than two-thirds of the Fortune 100. And Exelon’s six utilities deliver electricity and natural gas to approximately 10 million customers in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania through its Atlantic City Electric, BGE, ComEd, Delmarva Power, PECO and Pepco subsidiaries.

Generation
- Exelon Nuclear
- Exelon Power

Competitive Energy Sales & Home Services
- Constellation
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- Atlantic City Electric
- BGE
- ComEd
- Delmarva Power
- PECO
- Pepco

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FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2017
4:30pm — 5:30pm  |  Registration Check-In  |  Spangler Williams Room
5:15pm — 5:30pm  |  Welcome Address from Conference Co-Chairs and “The Black National Anthem” performed by Christopher Eaglin
5:30PM — 6:30PM  |  OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Arnold Donald, President and Chief Executive Officer, Carnival Corporation
                 |  Moderated by Professor Henry McGee, Harvard Business School  |  Spangler Auditorium
6:35pm — 7:23pm  |  Supercharge Your Career: The Fundamentals of High-Impact Networking
                 |  Dr. Laura Morgan Roberts  |  Spangler Auditorium
7:20pm — 8:30pm  |  Networking Reception  |  Spangler Williams Room

SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017
7:30am  |  Registration Check-In Opens  |  Spangler Meredith Room
7:30am — 8:30am  |  Continental Breakfast  |  Spangler Auditorium
8:15am — 8:30am  |  Welcome and Opening Remarks: Nitin Nohria, Dean of Harvard Business School  |  Spangler Auditorium
8:30AM — 9:30AM  |  MORNING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Vicki Fuller, CIO of New York State Common Retirement Fund
                 |  Moderated by Paula Price, Harvard Business School  |  Spangler Auditorium
9:30am — 9:45am  |  Networking Break
9:45AM — 10:30AM  |  TED-STYLE TALK: Professor David Thomas, Harvard Business School  |  Spangler Auditorium
10:30am — 10:45am  |  Networking Break
10:45AM — 11:45AM  |  PANEL BREAKOUT SESSION
                 |  PANEL A: Call to Action: Shaping and Engaging in our Political Future  |  Aldrich 112
                 |  PANEL B: Closing the Achievement Gap in the 21st Century  |  Aldrich 111
11:45am — 12:00pm  |  Networking Break
12:00PM — 1:15PM  |  DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS LUNCHEON  |  Spangler Williams Room
                 |  Professional Achievement Award: George Van Amson, MBA 1982
                 |  Bert King Service Award: Shari Hubert, MBA 2000
12:00pm — 1:15pm  |  Gold Sponsor: Lunch: Shire Presents  |  Aldrich 112
1:15pm — 1:30pm  |  Networking Break
1:30PM — 2:30PM  |  PANEL BREAKOUT SESSION
                 |  Panel C: The Changing Face of Private Equity  |  Aldrich 112
                 |  Panel D: Corporate Governance: Black Presence in the Highest Levels of Business  |  Aldrich 111
2:30pm — 2:45pm  |  Networking Break
2:45PM — 3:45PM  |  PANEL BREAKOUT SESSION
                 |  PANEL E: Building Brands for the Black Community  |  Aldrich 112
                 |  PANEL F: Power Couples: Effectively Managing Dual Career Households  |  Aldrich 111
3:45pm — 4:00pm  |  Networking Break
4:00PM — 5:30PM  |  CLOSING KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Jonathan Mildenhall, CMO of Airbnb
                 |  Moderated by Professor Tsedal Neeley, Harvard Business School  |  Spangler Auditorium
5:00pm — 6:00pm  |  Closing Networking Reception  |  Spangler Williams Room
10:00pm — 2:00am  |  Afterparty at La Fabrica Central (450 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139 - requires separate ticket)

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2017
10:00am — 12:00pm  |  Jazz Brunch at Darryl’s Kitchen Bar & grille (604 Columbus Ave Boston, MA 02118 - requires separate ticket)