

Executive Women in Government 2020 Leadership Summit

Keynote Speakers and Panel Experts Offer Impressive Expertise in Their Fields

When the [Executive Women in Government \(EWG\) 2020 Leadership Summit](#) takes place on Thursday, March 12, you can expect a day filled with informative topics offered by impressive keynote speakers and panel experts. These individuals will take the spotlight and inform and educate the crowd on topics related to their specialized field.

The itinerary has been released and we are pleased to announce the following keynote speakers and panel experts who will be featured at the Leadership Summit:

Opening Keynote Speaker:

Beth Hannan, The Arbinger Institute



[Beth Hannan](#) is a consultant and facilitator dedicated to helping organizations orchestrate programs and strategies to maximize growth and impact. With more than ten years of experience in the healthcare and non-profit sectors, Beth's background ranges from supporting grief-stricken families in the most challenging of times to helping tech entrepreneurs identify their value proposition and mentoring African professionals as they become leaders in their communities. Prior to working with Arbinger, Beth developed and led high-performing teams at various organizations to increase the number of organ transplants done for needy recipients. Beth was a key influencer and leader who was able to inspire and motivate others to have a greater impact, even in high-stress environments. Beth earned a bachelor's degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and an executive master's degree in leadership from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business.

Personal Branding Panel Experts

Carole Stizza, Relevant Insight Coaching



[Carole Stizza](#) is an ICF-certified executive and leadership coach, senior certified human resources professional, and a strength strategy specialist who now consults, trains, and coaches professionals on their way up in their career success and helps them communicate their value.

She holds a master's in industrial-organizational psychology and has been responsible for supporting a military family across the U.S. for 26 years until landing in northern Virginia. During the many military relocations, she reached top leadership levels in sales organizations, consulted for the National Confectioners Association's for 10 years, advanced in human resource roles to maximize her impact on organizational effectiveness, and now coaches executives and their teams to elevate engagement within IT, marketing, hospitality, financial investing, and contracting organizations.

She speaks regularly and is a contributing author in *Compassion @ work* (2017) and *Coach Wisdom Vol 1* (2019).

George Worrell, George Worrell Style, LLC



[George Worrell Style, LLC](#) specializes in workforce development and fashion consulting in the Washington, DC, area and throughout the world. We have worked with everyone from large corporate clients to individuals, and we always take a personalized approach to our work. Since we believe real style comes from being comfortable in your own skin, we offer so much more than just mere fashion advice. We also provide related services, event planning, workforce development, and motivational speaking. Fashion is incorporated into everything we do for our clients, because what we see on the outside is a direct reflection of what is inside. This is true for both individuals and companies. By using George Worrell's HELP acronym — Health, Energy, Longevity, Productivity — we work to help clients achieve both their personal and professional goals.

George is also a recurring style contributor for CBS News, ABC News, NBC News, and Martha Stewart Living XM, both regionally and nationally. He was recently interviewed by WUSA Ch. 9 Great Day Washington and hosted WHUR Radio's Style Segments. George's public speaking skills have additionally set him in great stead for hosting segment TV features and award shows. George is the author of "On the Other Side of Style: A Memoir" which chronicles the journey of style expert George Worrell from growing up in a middle-class home in Atlantic City, NJ to being homeless and drug-addicted on the streets of Philadelphia to being a much-sought after stylist and event planner. This is a story of finding one's inner strength after enduring the worst of life's situations. George's speaking skills extend to career development and preparation through speeches at Yeshiva University, Anacostia High School Career Day, and DC Incarcerated Youth, while sharing a strong range of knowledge and insights. He has also been featured in the Washington Post and the Atlantic City Press.

Described as a visionary, he's a most sought after celebrity stylist and planner. George's 20 years in the industry of event planning include: Israeli-Prime-Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dinner for 6500 guests and inaugural events for Mayor Adrian Fenty. George Worrell Style, LLC won an

award to host 2017 MBSYEP for DC summer youth related to workforce development and career preparation. As a self-professed creative and analytical team leader, George Worrell's strategic planning trends have set him apart as a community force to be reckoned. Catch George Worrell on TLC's 'Say Yes to the Prom' annual prom give-back campaign with stops in Miami, Los Angeles, New York City, and Atlanta. George currently resides in Washington, DC wherein his passion lies with empowering others to design their ideal life of success through real style and to pay it forward by "Crossing the River Together."

Annette Harris, President/Founder of ShowUp!



What started nearly 20 years ago as a drive to climb the corporate ladder; managing global marketing programs and leading teams for multi-million-dollar proposals for major corporations like Deloitte & Touché, MCI, and Verizon, as well as several federal government contractors – transformed into a passion to help high potential professionals get noticed and get ahead. In 2007 Annette launched Harris ImageWorks, LLC. Annette re-branded the company under the new name of ShowUp, LLC (ShowUp!) in 2013.

ShowUp! provides a one-stop shop for all aspects of personal brand development—from identifying and defining talents, strengths and unique attributes; and then activating a personal brand visibility campaign—to elevating executive presence in terms of professional dress and appearance, communication, and business acumen, gravitas, and etiquette skills. In addition to coaching individuals one-on-one, Annette facilitates dynamic corporate and group workshops and training sessions. Her corporate clients include top companies and organizations to include, Project Management Institute, Deloitte & Touch, Freddie Mac, Hogan Lovells, Viking Cruises, Cherry Bekaert, Fannie Mae, Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital, Exelon Corporation, Verizon Wireless, Marriott, Navigant, National Black MBA Association, Johns Hopkins Carey School of Business, and National Hispana Leadership Institute, just to name a few.

Annette earned her undergraduate degree from James Madison University, her MBA from George Mason University, and was later certified by the leading accreditation organizations in her field, the Association of Image Consultants International (AICI) and the Protocol School of

Washington (PSOW). Annette also studied under famed stylist Stacy London (of TLC's hit television show What Not to Wear) and was hand-selected to join her acclaimed Style for Hire network. Annette is certified as a 360Reach Personal Brand and Social Brand Analyst by Personal Branding Guru, William Arruda.

Annette has been a featured expert guest on WJLA News Channel 8 Let's Talk Live, Channel 7 Good Morning Washington, Fox5 News DC, and contributor to a number of online and print publications to include, ESSENCE, DC Inno, Glamour, Monster, Today.com, BUSTLE, Washingtonian (2019 Most Stylish Photo People's Choice Winner), MSNBC, CareerBuilder, Yahoo News, Business Management Daily, Real Simple, Food and Beverage, Prevention, Stylecaster, and SheKnows.

Keys to Success Panel Experts

Patricia F.S. Cogswell, Acting Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration

[Patricia F.S. Cogswell](#) is the Acting Deputy Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, overseeing the day-to-day operations of TSA in its mission, with particular focus on security of aviation (passenger and cargo) and surface (rail, bus, mass transit, and pipeline) transportation security.

Prior to joining TSA, Cogswell served in several positions within the Department of Homeland Security, including Assistant Director for Intelligence at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Acting Undersecretary within the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy Integration and Implementation, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Screening Coordination.

Cogswell has more than 20 years of national security experience, receiving the DHS Policy Thought Leadership Award in 2010 and 2011 and the DHS Secretary's Award for Excellence in 2008. She has led a number of security initiatives at the White House, Department of Homeland Security, and Department of Justice related to intelligence, border security, screening and watchlisting, aviation, maritime and surface transportation, and information sharing. She previously served as Acting Deputy Assistant to the President for Homeland and Special Assistant to the President for Transborder Security at the National Security Council.

Cogswell received a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania with a minor in economics and a Juris Doctor degree from the College of William and Mary, Marshall-Wythe School of Law.

Susan Gibson, Inspector General, National Reconnaissance Office



Susan S. Gibson was confirmed as the Inspector General for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) by the United States Senate, and appointed by President Obama in September 2016, making her the NRO's first Senate-confirmed Inspector General. As the Inspector General, Ms. Gibson oversees the work of the NRO Office of Inspector General, which includes investigators, auditors, inspectors, and support staff, whose mission is to promote economy and efficiency in NRO operations and to detect and deter waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct in NRO programs and personnel.

Prior to her current appointment, Ms. Gibson was the Principal Deputy General Counsel for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI). Ms. Gibson provided legal advice and counsel for all issues affecting the ODNI, with an emphasis on privacy and information sharing, ethics, government procurement and fiscal law, and administrative law. Before joining the ODNI, Ms. Gibson served for over 20 years in the Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, retiring as a Colonel.

She has received a Presidential Meritorious Rank Award and the National Intelligence Superior Service Medal. Her military awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, two Legion of Merit Medals, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, and three U.S. Army Meritorious Service Medals.

Ms. Gibson received her B.A. from Monmouth College, Illinois; her J.D. from Seattle University; and two LL.M.s: one from the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School, and a second from the University of Virginia School of Law, in National Security Law.

Ms. Gibson and her husband, Tim Gibson (Col, Ret.), have two adult daughters. They volunteer with and support several theatres in the D.C. area, and travel the world as amateur photographers.

Lynne Platt, Former U.S. Consul General Vancouver, Department of State

Lynne Platt is the Canada Institute's North American Competitiveness Fellow for 2017-2018, focusing on themes of cross-border innovation, entrepreneurship and inclusion. A member of the Senior Career Foreign Service (with the rank of Minister Counselor), she is on detail from the U.S. Department of State.

From 2014-2017, Lynne was Consul General of the United States in Vancouver, the senior U.S. representative to British Columbia and Yukon. She worked closely with Alaska and Washington states and Canadian provincial authorities to broker agreements on long-standing issues of trans-boundary water pollution.

Lynne's career specialty was public affairs and media relations, and she served as Spokesperson at U.S. Embassies in London (2011-2014) and Paris (2004-2008). She also served in Brussels as Press Officer/Spokesperson at the U.S. Mission to NATO (2001-2004).

Lynne has administered major U.S. foreign assistance programs. She was Deputy Director of the Office of Provincial Affairs (2008-2009) at U.S. Embassy Baghdad where she managed 20+ civilian-led provincial reconstruction teams fanned across Iraq. In Haiti, she headed the Office of Law Enforcement and Narcotics Affairs at Embassy Port-au-Prince (2009-2011), managing a \$165 million program budget. She began her foreign service career in management positions at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo (1995-1997), the U.S. Consulate in Casablanca (1997-1999), and the State Department's Near East Asia Bureau (1999-2000).

Lynne graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Washington, with bachelor's and master's degrees in political science. Based on her graduate work in media and politics she co-authored (in her maiden name Gressett) with W. Lance Bennett and William Haltom "Repairing the News: A Case Study of the News Paradigm" which appeared in the *Journal of Communications* in Spring 1985. She is married to Judson Hamblett, a retired foreign service officer.

Beth Shaw, President/Founder of YogaFit



As a creative visionary and entrepreneur, Beth Shaw has redefined wellness in America. Author of four books, her work has challenged industrialized wellness and paved the way for a passionate and responsible approach to all-around wellness.

Beth revolutionized the fitness industry by bringing yoga into the mainstream with her inclusive and impactful style of yoga for over 22 years. She has been exploring, researching, and developing fitness and wellness programs for more than 25 years.

As a philanthropist and animal activist, Beth prioritizes service in her business and personal life. Beth serves on many boards for health, wellness, and animal advocacy.

In her latest book, Healing Trauma With Yoga & Mind-Body Techniques, Beth provides tools and techniques drawn from her work as a recovery and health coach. She offers a deep understanding of the physiological, psychological and emotional changes brought on by trauma and depression, with techniques to survive and thrive through these sometimes debilitating conditions.

HEALING TRAUMA WITH YOGA & MIND-BODY TECHNIQUES:
Published by Blue River Press

YOGALEAN: Published by Ballantine Books

YOGAFIT THIRD EDITION: Published by Human Kinetics

THE YOGAFIT ATHLETE: Published by Ballantine Books

Luncheon Keynote Speaker

E. Anne Sandel, Executive Director, Office of Naval Research



Ms. Sandel assumed the duties of Executive Director, Office of Naval Research in July 2018 where she is responsible for oversight of the coordination, execution, and promotion of science and technology for the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

Ms. Sandel was appointed to the Senior Executive Service during May 2000 for the position of Deputy Program Manager for the newly established Program Executive Office (PEO) Carrier Programs Office (PMS 378) where she was responsible for the CVN 77 Nimitz Class Aircraft Carrier Acquisition Program, the CVNX (1 & 2) Future Carrier Acquisition Programs, (Later the Ford Class) as well as all aircraft carrier technology development.

In October 2002, the ASN(RDA) assigned her to be the founding Executive Director, for the PEO Integrated Warfare Systems (PEO IWS), responsible for realigning all Navy surface ship and submarine combat systems, missiles, radars, launchers, electronic warfare systems, anti-submarine warfare systems, and gun systems from five PEOs into a single integrated organization.

During January 2004, Ms. Sandel was requested by the ASN(RDA) to be the first Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Integrated Warfare Systems (DASN IWS), exercising advisory and oversight responsibilities for the cost, schedule, and performance of all surface ships, submarines, and Marine Corps combat systems, weapon systems, electronic warfare systems, shipboard radars, and Navy missile defense programs. She was the DASN responsible for initial implementation of Open Architecture within the DON.

Ms. Sandel was requested by ASN (RDA) during August 2008 to be the Program Executive Officer for Littoral, Mine Warfare (PEO LMW). She was responsible for design, development, production, testing, and delivery of all warfighting capabilities for the littoral battlespace as well as lifecycle support. She led eight program offices comprised of over 220 programs, including multiple Acquisition Category I programs and several SOCOM initiatives addressing urgent warfighting needs.

Ms. Sandel was later requested by ASN(RDA) to lead the transformation of PEO LMW into the newly established PEO Littoral Combat Ships (PEO LCS) where she was responsible for establishing the organizational structure, operating precepts, and business processes necessary to integrate Littoral Combat Ship development and construction programs, mission modules, and the newly created Fleet Support Program Office.

In November 2012, Ms. Sandel reported for duty as Executive Director, NAVSEA Surface Warfare Maintenance and Modernization, responsible for Fleet support of all Navy non-nuclear surface ships (surface combatants, amphibious, auxiliary, mine warfare and patrol craft), inactive ships, foreign military fleet support, and ship transfer programs. Her management oversight responsibility for the Surface Warfare portfolio exceeded \$15 billion.

Ms. Sandel was later requested to take over the role of Executive Director, Navy International Programs Office in March 2016 where she was responsible for oversight of the development, planning, and implementation of the Department of the Navy's International Programs, primarily in the areas of Security Cooperation, Cooperative Production, Research and Development, Technology Transfer, and Strategic Planning.

She began her professional career with the Newport News Shipbuilding Engineering Team where she worked aircraft carrier and submarine design & production. She was recruited to join the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Engineering Directorate in 1988 Ms. Sandel served in a series of progressively more responsible positions associated with design and development of surface combatants, aircraft carriers, submarines, polar icebreakers, and mobile offshore base design, construction and management.

Ms. Sandel's personal awards include the Silver Medal Award, Association of Scientists and Engineers, the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award (3 Awards), the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award (3 Awards), and the Navy Distinguished Civilian Service Award (3 Awards).

Crowd lifting Panel Experts:

Liz Reinert, Executive Director of Suited for Change



[Liz Reinert](#) became the executive director of Suited for Change in August 2019. Ms. Reinert joined Suited for Change after eight years of service to DC Central Kitchen, a DC-based nonprofit and social enterprise where she served as the director of workforce development. With over a decade of experience in nonprofit management, Ms. Reinert has significant knowledge working with diverse communities and has become a leader in fostering strategic partnerships that empower clients served by Suited for Change. This organization is Washington, DC's leading nonprofit for women in transitional circumstances in need of professional attire and job readiness support as they enter and re-enter the workforce.

Ms. Reinert has long been dedicated to the Washington, DC community, creating pathways to employment, adult education, and financial independence to residents interested in the restaurant and hospitality industry. She has also achieved quantifiable success in all aspects of fundraising and program management.

Ms. Reinert holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science comparative government from UCLA and a Masters of Public Administration in nonprofit management from George Mason University.

Laura F. Klein, Pro Bono Program Manager, Department of Justice

[Laura F. Klein](#) is the Department of Justice Pro Bono Program Manager, a position she has held since 2002. She is also the Chair of the Federal Government Pro Bono Program, which is comprised of approximately 50 federal agencies and operates in six cities: Washington, DC; Chicago, IL; New York City, NY; San Francisco, CA; Dallas, TX; and Denver, CO. Under her leadership, the Federal Government Pro Bono Program received the American Bar Association Pro Bono Publico Award in 2009 and the Neighborhood Legal Services Program of DC's Justice in the Community Award in 2018.

Prior to becoming Program Manager, Ms. Klein was a Senior Counsel in the Department's Office of Legal Policy. She also previously served as a federal litigator, both as a Trial Attorney in the Department of Justice Civil Division and as a Trial Attorney in the Federal Election

Commission's Office of General Counsel. She currently is a member of the DC Circuit Judicial Conference Standing Committee on Pro Bono Legal Services, the DC Bar Association's Pro Bono Committee, and the DC Bar Association's Pro Bono Task Force. She also is a previous recipient of the Washington Council of Lawyers' Government Pro Bono Award.

Ms. Klein grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. She attended Dartmouth College and the Ohio State University College of Law, where she served as editor in chief of the *Ohio State Law Journal*.

Marguerete Luter, Member, Board of Directors, Women in Technology



Marguerete Luter is President and owner of The Process Pro, an LLC fueling organization growth strategically and tactically through focus on strategic planning, business process, organization development and operations. Ms. Luter's entire career has been focused on helping organizations grow. Her efforts at Xerox, Unisys, and now the Process Pro demonstrate an uncommon common sense—i.e., the wisdom *and practice* of integrating strategic thinking and planning with tactical and performance objectives, and rolling it all together into business processes that serve the organization's mission and goals.

Before founding The Process Pro, Ms. Luter held significant positions with Unisys Corporation. Just prior to leaving Unisys, she was the Vice President, Global Bid Management for the Global Infrastructure Services business unit. She was accountable for pre-sales processes, effectiveness and costs on a worldwide basis. She led this capture organization in its mission to provide global structure, processes and resources to qualify, design, price and cost client-centric, marketplace-competitive, integrated solutions based on the Outsourcing and Infrastructure Services portfolio. Her responsibilities covered all phases of opportunity management including qualification, project management, engagement solution management and financial management.

Before assuming that role, Ms. Luter was Vice President, Global Network Services Delivery for the Unisys U. S. Federal Government Group. In that role she was responsible for the successful delivery of the Global Infrastructure Services organization's contract engagements with Federal Government customers. In an expanded role, Marguerete also chaired the Unisys Federal Employee Diversity Council that focused on the creation and implementation of a Diversity

Strategic Action Plan to serve as the Unisys Federal platform for the achievement of the business objectives. For her work with the Diversity initiative in 1999, she was recognized with a U. S. Federal Government Group President's award, and in June 2000 she was appointed by the CEO of Unisys to his Global Diversity Council and forum.

Before joining Unisys in December 1998, Marguerete Luter was at Xerox Corporation for over 20 years where she held a variety of significant line management and staff positions in their U.S. Customer Service Operations organization. While there, she was recognized numerous times for the performance of her operations, consistently overachieving financial and customer satisfaction objectives.

Ms. Luter has a Master's degree in guidance and counseling from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D. C. and is a member of the 2012 inaugural class of The Leadership Foundry, a Women In Technology program to prepare women to serve on corporate boards. She is a Past President of Women in Technology (WIT – www.womenintechology.com), where she has served many years on the Board of Directors and as Chair of the Mentoring Program. She is now Vice Chair of The Leadership Foundry, the WIT initiative to increase the number of women serving on corporate boards in the DC region. She is also on the board of the *STEM for Her* Foundation, where she has served for several years and is currently the Board Chair. She served six years on the national board of The Lupus Foundation of America and also served for several years on the board of the LFA DC / MD / VA Chapter, where she was a Past Chair. Luter was appointed by the Arlington County Board to serve on the advisory Commission on the Status of Women. She has also served other nonprofits in the region.

In 2003, Marguerete Luter received the Women in Technology 'Champion' Leadership award. She has also received the organization's Founders Award. In 2012, while she served as Immediate Past Chair, the LFA-DMV board received the Center for Nonprofit Advancement's Board Leadership Award. The following year, she was invited to serve on the Center's selection committee for the award, a privilege she continues to perform. In 2013, Luter was named LFA-DMV Volunteer of the year and received a Congressional Resolution in her honor from the Honorable James Moran. In 2015, she received the Influential Women of Virginia award.

She has a personal commitment to the development and advancement of African American women and men, and has worked with and supported a variety of organizations that have this focus. She is a native of Philadelphia but makes her home in the Washington, D.C. area.

Desiree Tucker-Sorini – Director, AmeriCorps VISTA | the Corporation for National and Community Service



[Desiree Tucker-Sorini](#) brings 30 years of high-level government, private, and nonprofit experience to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). She has served in several executive positions such as CNCS's Chief of Staff, where she oversaw operations of over six departments and managed the day-to-day operations of CNCS for the CEO. Tucker-Sorini was also appointed by President George H.W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate as the Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs and Public Liaison at the Department of Treasury, in addition to a multitude of civic-centered positions that gave her a deep appreciation for the impact of civic engagement and public service. She brings her wealth of knowledge in communications strategies, domestic and international press, budget and nonprofit management, and team development to aid the VISTA program in alleviating poverty across the nation.

Afternoon Keynote Speaker

**Dr. Mamie Parker, M.A. Parker & Associates, Former
Assistant Director of Fisheries and Habitat Conservation at
the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

A current board member of the Chesapeake Conservancy, [Dr. Mamie Parker](#) is the former Assistant Director of Fisheries and Habitat Conservation at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Prior to this position, she made history when appointed the first African American as the FWS Regional Director of the 13 Northeastern states. Dr. Parker has an extensive amount of experience as a fish and wildlife biologist and an executive. She has worked in the following locations: Genoa, La Crosse, Madison, and Lake Mills, Wisconsin; Columbia, Missouri; New London and Minneapolis, Minnesota; Atlanta, Georgia; Hadley, Massachusetts; and,

Washington, DC. She served as the Ecosystem Coordinator in the Great Lakes and Big Rivers Region and worked in many programs including the national fish hatcheries, national wetlands and coastal mapping, contaminants, invasive species, marine mammals, wetland restoration and protection programs, among others.

Parker was designated the authorized official for the negotiations with General Electric Corporation to clean up the Hudson River and played a major role in helping to protect our nation's waters from the invasive species such as the Asian carp and snakehead fish. This extensive amount of experience led her to receiving the Annual Ira Gabrielson Award, an award given by FWS leaders to the most outstanding leader. The President of the United States presented Dr. Parker, a senior executive service member, with the Presidential Rank award, the highest award given to government employees. She has appeared on the Steve Harvey Show and was featured in Dudley Edmundson's *Black and Brown Faces in America's Wild Places*." She is an author in the American Fisheries Society's most recently released book entitled, "The Future of Fisheries." The Governor of Arkansas inducted her into the Arkansas Hall of Fame for her accomplishment as the first Arkansas native to rise to the Head of Fisheries in this country.

Parker is a leader in various organizations and serves on the board of directors of the following organizations: National Wildlife Refuge Association, Defenders of Wildlife, and the Chesapeake Conservation Partnership Steering Committee. The Council of World Women Leaders, under the leadership of former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and women prime ministers, awarded her with an Aspen Institute fellowship. In this capacity, she participated in an exchange program and gave speeches to the Prime Minister cabinet members, legislators and the U.S. Ambassador in the Kingdom of Lesotho, in addition to various natural resource organizations in Cape Town and Johannesburg, South Africa.

Connecting Panel Experts

Portia Wu, Director, Workforce Policy at Microsoft, Former Assistant Secretary of Labor



Portia Wu is Managing Director of U.S. Public Policy for Microsoft, where she oversees a team tackling federal policy issues critical to the technology industry, including Artificial Intelligence, cloud computing, workforce, and emerging technologies. She first joined Microsoft as Director of Workforce Policy and continues to focus on federal policy regarding workforce, skills, and the future of work.

Wu has extensive experience developing and implementing policy solutions at the federal level. She previously served as Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration at the U.S. Department of Labor, where she oversaw billions of dollars in federal workforce and training investments; prior to that she served as Special Assistant to the President for Labor and Workforce Policy in the Obama Administration. She also worked as a legislative staffer for Senator Edward M. Kennedy, holding several positions at the Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee, including Labor Policy Director and General Counsel. Her prior experience in the private sector includes serving as Vice President at the National Partnership for Women & Families and as an attorney at Bredhoff & Kaiser, PLLC.

Jennifer Sellers, President, The Training Connection



JENNIFER SELLERS, B.A., is the President of **The Training Connection, Inc.(TTC)** and has two decades of mentoring and business development experience. She is responsible for tailoring mentoring program design and processes to each customer's specific needs. Jennifer has been instrumental in the development of "The Mentoring Connection," an innovative, user-friendly web-based mentoring program platform. She has facilitated the matching process for thousands of mentoring partnerships over her 20 year career in federal, private and non-profit organizations. As a **Certified Professional Behavioral Analyst (CPBA)**, Jennifer carefully examines how behavior impacts the success of formal and informal mentoring matches. Jennifer also serves on the Dynamic Mentoring training team

Anita K. Grant, Asian American Government Executive Network



Anita began her career with the Social Security Administration (SSA) in 1992. She spent 23 years in SSA Operations, working in both the Dallas and the Seattle Regions, before coming to SSA Headquarters in Baltimore. Anita was selected for the Seattle Regional Leadership and Management Development Program in 2006 and was a graduate of SSA's National Advanced Leadership Program (ALP) in 2008. She also worked with the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders at the Department of Education. She was selected as the Lead Project Manager for the Ready Retirement Team where she oversaw and coordinated the rollout of SSA's online benefits application, iClaim, in 2009, and developed and implemented all subsequent releases of iClaim, including the Medicare Only application in 2010. This online application currently accounts for over half of all retirement and disability applications and over 70 percent of Medicare Only applications filed annually. Additionally, Anita was instrumental in creating policy changes that simplified the process of filing and adjudicating benefit applications, also resulting in significant savings to both the agency and the public.

In 2012, Anita was selected for the Asian American Government Executive Network's inaugural Senior Executive Service Career Develop Program. Anita then joined the Social Security Advisory Board in November 2016 as a Senior Advisor. During her long federal career, she received numerous Deputy Commissioner and Associate Commissioner Citation awards and was honored with a Commissioner's Team Award Citation. And in 2010, she was the recipient of the Nextgov Award for her work on the Ready Retirement Initiative. Anita has a BA in Psychology from the University of Texas at Arlington and a MS in Management from Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA.

Anita retired from federal service in January 2020 and is currently the Secretary and the interim Executive Director for the Asian American Government Executive Network in Washington DC.

Shoshana Grove, CEO International Bridge, Former Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer in the Office of Secretary and Administration for the Postal Regulatory Commission



[Shoshana Grove](#) is an award-winning executive with more than 35 years of leadership experience in the public and private sectors. In her current role as Chief Executive Officer at International Bridge, Inc., she has primary responsibility for driving the company's global parcel delivery strategies.

Prior to assuming her current role, Ms. Grove served as Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer of the Postal Regulatory Commission, the regulatory body charged with oversight of the United States Postal Service (USPS). With \$69 billion in revenue and nearly 500,000 employees, USPS is the world's largest postal operator.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Grove was Manager of Ground Products at the United States Postal Service, where she managed relationships with some of the Postal Service's largest mailers and business partners.

Ms. Grove serves on the boards of Executive Women in Government (EWG) and The Parcel Shippers Association and she chairs Women in Delivery and Logistics Services. Ms. Grove is a lifetime member and past president of EWG.

Closing Remarks

Kathy Kraninger, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau



[Kathy Kraninger](#) became Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in December 2018. From her early days as a Peace Corps volunteer and her role establishing the Department of Homeland Security to her policy work at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the CFPB, Director Kraninger has dedicated her career to public service.

Director Kraninger came to the CFPB from the Office of Management and Budget, where as a Policy Associate Director she oversaw the budgets for executive branch agencies including the Departments of Commerce, Justice, Homeland Security (DHS), Housing and Urban Development, Transportation (DOT), and Treasury, in addition to 30 other government agencies.

She previously worked in the U.S. Senate, where she was the Clerk for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, which provides DHS with its \$40 billion discretionary budget. On Capitol Hill, she also worked for the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security as well as the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

Ms. Kraninger also served in executive branch posts with the Department of Transportation. There, after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, she volunteered to join the leadership team that set up the newly created DHS.

Her work at DHS led to awards including the Secretary of Homeland Security's Award of Exceptional Service, the International Police and Public Safety 9/11 Medal, and the Meritorious Public Service Award from the United States Coast Guard.

Ms. Kraninger graduated magna cum laude from Marquette University and earned a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. She served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Ukraine.

Thank you to the 2020 EWG Leadership Summit Sponsors!



**FEARLESS
ADVOCATES FOR CHANGE.**

 **BlueCross
BlueShield**
Federal Employee Program.

www.fepblue.org

Proudly supporting the Executive Women in Government (EWG) and the 14th Annual Leadership Summit.

Providing federal employees with more healthy benefits, smart online tools and incentives than any other provider since 1960.



The **Federal** Long Term
Care Insurance Program™

www.LTCFEDS.com



Tickets Are Now Available for the Executive Women in Government 2020 Leadership Summit

Attend the Executive Women in Government 2020 Leadership Summit on Thursday, March 12, and take part in a day filled with extraordinary guest speakers and panel experts. Purchase your tickets [online](#) today!