

Symposium Speakers – Leadership & Career Development



Praful Madhani

**Director
Analog Technology Development**

Texas Instruments

Building Mentor-Mentee Relationships: Roles and Responsibilities

Praful Madhani is a graduate of University of Arizona with a MSEE degree. He has held various field and engineer management positions in Analog Technology Development (ATD) at Texas Instruments. These include Process Integration, Device Characterization, Spice Modeling, ESD, and Technology Platform management.

Abstract:

Mentoring is an equal partnership. It is a two way learning experience. When you agreed to participate in a Mentoring Program, you agreed to take on a challenge. A challenge to be fully committed to this mentoring relationship to ensure the relationship is a productive one. Mentees should encourage their mentors to give specific feedback and should not take criticisms personally.



Dr. Patrick M. Martin

**Professional Psychological
Solutions, PLLC**

Leadership in the Workplace

Patrick M. Martin is co-owner and practitioner at Professional Psychological Solutions, PLLC in Plano, Texas. He has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, a Master's degree in Management and Business, and a Ph.D. in Psychology. He and his wife, Dr. Sylvia G. Garza, specialize in the educational aspects of teaching and learning. Through their company they offer student assessments, student advocacy and student planning for effective educational outcomes.

It was during the early portion of his educational career that he also discovered a lack of understanding regarding leadership. Dr. Martin's training and understanding of the role of leadership in both educational and work settings comes from 54 years of work experience, education and training. In addition to his academic training he has received extensive training from the USAF Officer's Training School, the USAF Squadron Officer's School, and the USAF Air Command and Staff College. He has been President of two different HOAs, Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus (Council #13044), President of the Irving Local of the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) and President of two different Parent/Teacher Associations.

Dr. Martin is also a well- respected public speaker having delivered over 20 major presentations in Texas over the last 10 years.

Abstract:

Dr. Martin will be covering "Leadership in the Workplace". He will explore leadership, definitions of leadership, and common misinterpretations of leadership. This will be presented in the context of working within a team environment.

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Elaine Kung

**Product Marketing
Director (Fiber to the
Building)**

AT&T

Investing in Networks of Relationships

Elaine Kung's career at AT&T spans 29 years, from technical R&D at Bell Labs and business and marketing in a wide range of telecom products and services to service delivery and operations. She has achieved several millions of dollars in revenues and delivered significant profitability initiatives. She has been elected numerous times to AT&T's high-potential programs and received AT&T-sponsored executive education training at Columbia, Cornell and Wharton. Elaine graduated from Cornell with B.S. in Electrical/Materials Science Engineering, from Princeton with M.S. in Electrical Engineering. Elaine also holds many leadership roles in giving back to the community, at her church, at Cornell and Princeton, at UT Dallas.

Elaine has been married to Dominic since 1986. AT&T relocated them from NJ to Dallas in 2013. They have two grown children, working in NYC and San Diego.

Abstract:

There is a human element to business and the workplace. Taking consideration of the process of how employees interact and work together will add to the bottom line, bigger picture impact, and sense of meaning employees and customers experience when they function well, beyond what industrial efficiency can do alone.



Dr. Kamakshi Sridhar

**Director
Wireless CTO office**

Alcatel-Lucent

Role of the Educational Counselor

Dr. Kamakshi Sridhar is a Director in the Wireless CTO office in Alcatel-Lucent where she works on 4G strategy and solutions. She has over 17 years of experience in telecom during which she has held research and management positions in Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs and Nortel Networks. Dr. Sridhar received her S.M. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1991 and 1995 respectively. She is a Distinguished Member of Technical Staff and a member of Alcatel-Lucent Technical Academy. She is an Educational Counselor at MIT and also an Adjunct Faculty member at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Abstract:

This talk will address Dr. Kamakshi Sridhar's perspectives as an Educational Counselor in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The role of the Educational Counselor (EC) at MIT combines three tasks as a part of the admissions process: Recruiting, Interviewing, and Acting as a community resource. In this talk, she will share insights into the educational experience at MIT and describe the purpose and broader impact of the Educational Counselor's role in the undergraduate admissions process.

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Navigating Selective College Admission



Abby Chu

**Senior Admission Counselor
First-Year & Transfer
Undergraduate Admission**

SMU

Abby Chu is a graduate of Northwestern University with a B.A. in Psychology with a concentration in Cognition & Neuroscience and a minor in the Business Institutions Program. Prior to Northwestern she attended and graduated from Plano Senior High School; this first-hand experience has provided her with keen insight into the Plano ISD curriculum as well as an understanding of the DFW Asian community. She is currently serving as a Senior Admission Counselor at SMU, and works with local schools including Plano Senior High School, Texas Academy of Math & Science (TAMS), and John Paul II High School.

Abstract:

Earning admission at prestigious colleges and universities now involves a complicated fusion of rigorous academics, dedication to extracurricular activities and leadership opportunities, and a compelling life story demonstrated through personal essays and letters of recommendation. For students of Asian descent, college admission also involves receiving advice from everyone they know, battling the “model minority” stereotype, and facing the pressure of becoming the next student to receive admission to all 8 Ivy Leagues. This talk will go beyond basic admission processes and address how students can navigate selective admission smoothly, set themselves apart from the competition, and prepare for a successful college experience.



Alison Chapman

**Alumni Relations and
Admissions**

**Texas Academy of
Mathematics and Science**

Alison Chapman has nine years’ experience at the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science (TAMS) hosted at the University of North Texas. Areas of experience include Student Life, Administration, Archives & Historical Preservation, Admissions and, for the past 2 ½ years, Alumni Relations & Research. Her interests are in early-college entry programs related to fast-tracking gifted and talented students in STEM fields, not just academically, but from a whole-person approach. This is an interest she shares with all TAMS staff as evidenced by the comprehensiveness of each arm of the program.

Abstract:

How do institutions like TAMS contribute to industries, institutions, and the economy dependent on highly-trained and intelligent young people in STEM fields? A look at TAMS may provide some answers. The talk will cover a profile of TAMS and the typical TAMS student; an overview of the timeline students experience as they move through the two year program, and some thoughts on where TAMS students go after completing this rigorous course of study.