Women’s Leadership Conference  
Connect - Challenge - Create  
May 24, 2022, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., Raleigh Convention Center

Agenda

8 – 8:45 a.m.  
Registration Opens, Networking, and Sponsor Tables

8:45 – 9:15 a.m.  
Opening Remarks/Polls and Audience Questions

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.  
Transition to Breakout Session 1/Networking

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.  
Breakout Session 1 (Choose 1, see descriptions below)
- Sponsorship – Connect
- Authentic Leadership – Challenge
- Creating Your Personal Wellness – Create
- Retention & Recruitment – Challenge
- Creating a Culture to Support Women - Create

10:15 – 10:30 a.m.  
Transition to Breakout Session 2/Networking

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.  
Breakout Session 2 (Choose 1, see descriptions below)
- Sponsorship – Connect
- Authentic Leadership – Challenge
- Creating Your Personal Wellness – Create
- Retention & Recruitment – Challenge
- Creating a Culture to Support Women - Create

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.  
Transition to Breakout Session 3/Networking

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Breakout Session 3 (Choose 1, see descriptions below)
- Sponsorship – Connect
- Authentic Leadership – Challenge
- Creating Your Personal Wellness – Create
- Retention & Recruitment – Challenge
- Creating a Culture to Support Women - Create

12:15 – 12:30 p.m.  
Transition to Lunch/Networking

12:30 – 1 p.m.  
Lunch Service

1 – 1:10 p.m.  
Intro to Keynote Speaker/Presenting Sponsor Remarks

1:10 – 1:55 p.m.  
Keynote address

1:55 – 2 p.m.  
Closing Remarks
Women’s Leadership Conference 2022 Breakout Sessions:

1. **Sponsorship (Connect):**
   Research has shown that women who have a sponsor are more likely to ask for and receive pay raises, join large projects, and achieve career advancement. Sponsors also benefit in their careers by developing the future leaders in their company. Organizations need to recognize the importance of formal sponsorship programs and the positive impact these programs have on expanding leadership teams to include more women.
   
   In this session, attendees will learn the importance of having a sponsor, how to identify their sponsor, and how to engage their sponsor. The session will also help attendees determine when it is their time to become a sponsor. Information will also be shared for implanting a sponsorship program in your company.
   
   • Harris Vaughan, Founder and Partner, Eckel & Vaughan
   • Erin Wallace, Global Customer Experience Manager, BASF
   • Dr. Saundra Williams, CEO, WMS Corporation
   • Moderated by: McGavock Edwards, Partner and Senior Vice President of Strategy and Client Services, Eckel & Vaughan

2. **Authentic Leadership (Challenge):**
   What is authentic leadership and why is it important?
   Leadership success starts with authenticity. To help you enhance your leadership capabilities, in this session attendees will hear from leaders who challenged the traditional workplace norms and used their voices to empower themselves and team members to step into leadership roles.
   
   • Anna Lynch, Professional Engineer and CEO, Lynch Mykins Structural Engineers
   • Lilyn Hester, Head of Southeast External Affairs, Public Policy, and Government Relations, Google
   • Page Fehling, Professional Development Facilitator and Author
   • Moderated by: Kasey Ashton, EdD, Director, Wake Invests in Women

3. **Creating Personal Wellness: Start with YOU (Create):**
   Do you put your needs first or are you trapped in the helper mode? Do you tend to focus on the needs of everyone else, at the expense of your health, career, and wellness?
   In this session, we will discuss ways to prioritize your overall well-being: physical, mental, and financial. Attendees will receive resources that will empower them to set boundaries, ask for support, gain financial independence, and create a healthy and flexible work environment.
   
   • Abha Bowers, Senior Vice President, Walk West
   • Amy Canosa, Program Manager for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Duke Raleigh Hospital
   • Simmi Prasad, Carolinas Market Managing Director, Senior Vice President, PNC Institutional Asset Management
4. Retention & Recruitment (Challenge):
The topic of how to recruit and retain women in the workplace has never been more important. Research by the International Labor Organization shares that the participation rate for women in the global labor force is now under 47%, drastically lower than men at 72%. The loss of women in the workplace impacts gender parity, career progression, and female representation in leadership positions. In this session, we will discuss strategies organizations can implement to help recruit and retain women, achieve equitable compensation, and develop women as organizational leaders.

- Rebecca Joyner, Partner, Parker Poe & Bernstein LLP
- Russell Killen, Partner, Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP
- Shawnice Meador, Senior Director, Global Talent Management, Wolfspeed, Inc.
- Moderated by: Sarah Krepp, Head of People and Culture, FUJIFILM Diosynth Biotechnologies

5. Creating a Culture to Support Women (Create):
How can companies create a workplace where women are valued, able to provide feedback, and part of the process to create an equitable environment for all? What should companies be doing to change the landscape to support women in the workplace?
Attendees will gain insight and perspective in this session on effective methods to promote a supportive culture in the workplace.

- Arthur Samet, President and CEO, Samet Construction
- Jennifer Shevach, Director of Engineering, Pendo.io
- Wendy Gates Corbett, President, Signature Presentations, LLC
- Moderated by: Jennifer Allen, Senior Vice President and CSO, SEPI, Inc.