BIO NOTES

Leila Aridi Afas
Director, International Public Policy - Toyota Motor North America, Inc.

As the Director of International Public Policy, Leila collaborates with Toyota’s external affairs and corporate strategy teams to develop and advocate positions on global issues, as well as provide insight and guidance on geopolitical trends and market developments.

Leila most recently served as an appointee for President Obama at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). In that role, she promoted global sales of U.S. equipment and technology through market development, client advocacy and interagency coordination.

Previously, Leila served as USTDA’s Country Manager for the Middle East and North Africa under President George W. Bush, managing a multimillion-dollar portfolio of grant funds for infrastructure projects. She also served as a Manager in Grant Thornton’s Global Public Sector practice, helping clients around the world improve efficiency, increase foreign direct investment and advance economic growth.

Ms. Afas began her career at the U.S. Trust Company in New York, where she executed trades and managed overdrafts for asset management accounts in excess of $3.1 billion. She has also advised the World Economic Forum during their Annual Meetings in Davos, Switzerland.

Ms. Afas earned a Master’s degree in International Economics from Columbia University where she was awarded a Program Assistant Fellowship. She also earned a B.A. in Political Science and English from James Madison University.
Stacie Berdan

*International Careers Expert & Award-Winning Author on How to Succeed in the Global Marketplace*

Stacie Berdan is a seasoned global executive, a marketing and communications consultant, and an award-winning author. As a senior adviser to global organizations, she brings 25 years of extensive leadership experience in global communication and marketing, brand positioning, public affairs and organizational communication across four continents. She is a strategic thinker with excellent communication and business management skills, coupled with an entrepreneur’s discipline, drive and creativity.

Stacie has served as coach, counselor, strategist and adviser to CEOs, heads of state, politicians and senior executives around the world. Her cross-cultural consulting experiences enable her to work well with a diverse mixture of professionals across industry, seniority level, nationality and gender. She brings a unique perspective to the table as a female leader with both integrated marketing and international experience in these dynamic times.

Stacie spent the majority of her career at Burson-Marsteller, one of the world’s leading global communications firms, rising from entry level to senior leadership. There she distinguished herself as a results-driven leader who developed and oversaw the implementation of successful internal and external brand, marketing and communications models designed to drive business objectives. Her clients included management consulting, consumer goods and health care companies and several foreign governments. After leaving Burson-Marsteller, Stacie joined Unilever where she was responsible for the development and roll-out of the new corporate brand.

In addition to her consulting practice, Stacie uses her international business experience to promote the need for global awareness and cross-cultural competency through her books, media appearances and speaking engagements. She has authored five award-winning books on the intersection of globalization and careers.


Website: [www.stacieberdan.com](http://www.stacieberdan.com)
Christine Brown-Quinn

Career Expert, Author & Thought Leader on Women in Business

Following nearly 30+ years in the corporate world, Christine Brown-Quinn, embarked on a new career in 2010 to share with aspiring professionals globally, practical, hands-on business strategies to fast track their careers (the stuff they don’t teach you in business school!). She’s also been on a mission to bust the myth that a rewarding career and a fulfilling personal life have to be at loggerheads.

Through her webinars, coaching and in-person workshops, Christine unveils what really matters in getting ahead in demanding corporate environments. As a former Managing Director in International Finance, Christine is well versed in what it takes to forge a thriving career in highly pressurized, alpha environments.

Christine is an accomplished international speaker and commentator on a range of issues relevant to the success of female professionals through blogs, articles, radio & TV shows (e.g. BBC Sunday Live, BBC Big Questions, Financial Times, London Evening Standard, Women in Banking & Finance Magazine, The Glass Hammer, Association of Women Solicitors’ Link magazine, Computer Weekly, WDRC 1360 AM, and many others).

She is also a published author on work-life balance for professional women. Step Aside Super Woman is resonating with professional women across a wide range of age groups, sectors as well as continents. In the words of one reviewer, Cherie Booth (Blair), QC Barrister, “Well written & entertaining." Step Aside Super Woman provides women with a positive and interesting angle to what it means for the individual and the family when a woman pursues a professional career. Christine has also co-authored the chapter "How to Self Promote Without Losing Self-Respect " in 101 Great Ways to Compete in Today’s Job Market and the chapter "Sponsorship - Essential for Career Success" in Tell Stories Get Hired.

Christine has an undergraduate degree in Foreign Languages from Georgetown University (Cum Laude) and an MBA in International Business from The George Washington University (Beta Gamma Sigma scholar). She has also tutored for Georgetown University’s Graduate Program in International Management at Oxford University on managing diversity in the workplace, as well as delivered workshops for The George Washington University's On the Board programme.

Christine is currently a Member of The George Washington University School of Business Dean’s Board of Advisors. The Board of Advisors is comprised of prominent leaders dedicated to sharing real-world experience, while promoting programme initiatives and long-term planning strategies, as well as fostering collaboration between The George Washington University School of Business and local, national, and global organizations.

Website: http://www.christinebrown-quinn.com/
Myra Lee
Head of U.S. Marketing, Conning

Myra Lee is the Head of U.S. Marketing & Communications at Conning, a global investment firm with more than $130 billion assets under management, where she is responsible for branding, public relations, advertising, and communications. Based in Hartford, CT, Myra is a member of the Conning North America leadership team, leads the firm’s Global Marketing Team, and co-chairs its Women Initiative Network (WIN) group. Conning is owned by Cathay Financial Holdings Co. Ltd. in Taipei, Taiwan.

Prior to joining Conning in 2012, Ms. Lee was the Director of Marketing Communications for Newell Brand’s industrial tool business. Earlier in her career, she served for 12 years in a variety of roles at United Technologies Corporation (UTC), including business development, distribution, communications and investor relations for a Fortune 50 company.

Prior to her work in the private sector, Ms. Lee held positions in government and non-profit organizations. From 1990-1991, she served in the consular section and the foreign commercial office at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, when this mission supported all republics of the former Soviet Union during a period of significant political and economic turmoil in the region. From 1992-1995, she worked in Washington, DC as a Program Officer for IREX, a global non-profit organization that specializes in education and democracy-building. In this capacity she traveled frequently to Russia (including Siberia), Ukraine and Belarus to promote US-government funded initiatives to provide market reform training for municipal and academic leaders.

Ms. Lee graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Chicago with a BA in Russian and a minor in Spanish. She studied abroad in Valladolid, Spain. She also earned an MBA in General Management from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. Ms. Lee is on the board of the Friends of the Welles Turner Memorial Library and on the United Way Women’s Leadership Council. She has also served as a judge at the CIBER Global Business Case Challenge held at the University of Connecticut 2013-2016. Ms. Lee enjoys traveling and has recently visited Cuba, Spain, Hong Kong, Taipei, London and Normandy, France with her D-Day veteran father.
Gretchen Moxcey  
*Managing Director, Talent Services – Deloitte*

Gretchen Moxcey is a Managing Director at Deloitte, and serves as the Lead Talent Director for 10,000 people across the Enabling Areas businesses, responsible for the strategy and delivery of Talent Services including acquisition, development, total rewards, and strategic operations. She leads a team of Talent professionals responsible for delivering on Deloitte's value proposition to Enabling Areas professionals by fostering a leadership culture focused on their development and well-being. Additionally, Gretchen serves as an Advisor to Deloitte’s U.S. India Talent leadership team with a focus on integrating and collaborating across the U.S. and U.S. India talent channels. Gretchen is a member of Deloitte’s Talent Executive Group.

Previously, Gretchen was the Managing Director of Global Mobility & Immigration for the Deloitte U.S. Firms and U.S. India. She joined Deloitte in 1999 and has held various Talent Leadership roles across Talent Business Advisor and Centers of Excellence service delivery models, and served as the Co-National Inclusion Leader for Talent. Prior to Deloitte, Gretchen worked for Fidelity Investments in the U.S. and Europe in Business Advisor, Acquisition, and Consulting roles, with an expat assignment in London, and Bank of America leading Talent Development for the New England region.

Outside of work, Gretchen enjoys restoring properties and had her own restaurant and multi-use commercial property in Maine on the National Register of Historic Places. In the Dallas community, Gretchen has served on the Girls Inc. Board of Directors and the Dallas Human Resource Management Association’s Diversity Committee. She holds her GPHR, a BA from Simmons College, and an MBA from Babson College, and lives in Southlake, Texas with her husband, Zack. Gretchen has 3 children – Malak, a freshman golfer at CU Boulder; Ella, a choir singer and senior in high school; and Harper, a competitive tennis player in 8th grade.
Colleen Pritchett
*Global Business Director, Advanced Printing - DuPont*

Colleen Pritchett is a senior Global Business Director serving the polymers, consumer electronics, digital printing, packaging, automotive and photovoltaics industries. She has led $500M to $1.5B global businesses and served as strategic planning manager supporting the CEO and Board for a $25B chemical and specialty materials firm. Renowned for growing global businesses, leading turnarounds, improving profitability, championing the customer’s needs and motivating teams to deliver significant results. She is a noted speaker at international forums; packaging, plastics, industrial printing, sports and fitness.

Currently, Ms. Pritchett serves as Global Business Director for the DuPont Electronics & Imaging Advanced Printing business within DowDuPont Specialty Products Division. Ms. Pritchett is responsible for global profit and loss, business development, strategic planning, as well as leading innovation and growth. She has improved profitability, turned around declining revenues and launched a market disrupter platform of products leading to $63M in new revenues within 24 months, earning her team the 2017 Electronics & Imaging Excellence Award.

Prior to 2016, Ms. Pritchett led multiple business units including Electronics & Communications Microcircuit Materials, Performance Polymers Kalrez® and Vespel® and Engineering Polymers. She delivered above market revenue growth and market share gain for the Performance Polymers business while leading a team of employees throughout Asia Pacific. Pritchett led the turnaround of the Electronics business gaining significant market share and delivered double digit earnings improvement.

Earlier in her career, Ms. Pritchett held positions as North American Sales and Distribution Manager, Strategic Planning Manager, National Accounts Team Sales Manager and positions in Engineering and Finance. She obtained her Six Sigma Black Belt and led a cross functional team implementing an innovative customer process resulting in significant earnings improvement; procedure adopted across business.

She has served as Board Chair for DuPont’s Xinda Filaments Company Limited, Chair of Penn State Chemical Engineering Industrial and Professional Advisory Board, President of Graduate Business Association, Emory University, and Vice President of American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Penn State University. She completed a Harvard Business School Leadership Program.

Ms. Pritchett served as coordinator for Days of Caring event at Ronald McDonald House and sponsor for the United Way campaigns.

Pritchett earned an MBA from Goizueta Business School, Emory University, Atlanta, GA and a BS in Chemical Engineering from Penn State, State College, PA.
Laurie Tasharski
*Education Liaison - International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC)*

Laurie Tasharski has lived, learned and taught internationally most of her life. Laurie worked in Tokyo on international educator exchange, researched belonging in culturally mobile students in Dublin, piloted computer-based instruction in New Delhi, and consulted on school choice and abuse prevention in Berlin.

She currently resides in Washington, DC and serves as the Education Advisor for the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC). Laurie oversees all aspects of the ICMEC Education Portal including development, review, and creation of child protection resources. She delivers presentations and training to child-serving professionals around the world where she always finds time to get a little lost and eat something new.

Laurie has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA; an M.Ed., First Class Honours, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland; and a Master’s thesis “Fostering Belonging in Culturally Transient Primary Students”. Her writing has been published in *Raising Children in the Foreign Service* and *A Cup of Culture and a Pinch of Crisis*. 
Roxanne Taylor

Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, Partner - Accenture

As a business leader, Roxanne Taylor is a game-changer across three forces at the heart of today’s economy: digital transformation of industries, the global workforce and inclusion and diversity. She is especially passionate about the power of technology to drive innovation to benefit businesses, the workforce and the next generation of innovators, particularly in promoting opportunities for women and minorities.

As Accenture’s Chief Marketing & Communications Officer from 2007 to the end of 2017, Roxanne’s accomplishments include the company’s growth into one of the world’s leading brands—a 65% increase in brand value to more than $12B per Interbrand’s Best Global Brand Rankings. From playing an integral role in Accenture’s public offering, to leading a team of 1,300 marketers in 50 countries, to establishing and driving the company’s digital transformation and revenue goals, Roxanne has been a passionate advocate for the technology-driven and cultural changes today’s marketplace demands.

“Roxanne has made a significant contribution to Accenture during her 23-year career with our company, including more than 10 years as Chief Marketing & Communications Officer. We believe constant reinvention is key to our success, and at every major milestone for our company, Rox’s vision and leadership have helped shape our business and brand strategy,” said Accenture Chairman and CEO Pierre Nanterme.

Roxanne reimagined Accenture’s global digital ecosystem, integrating content, mobile and social strategies to share the company’s vision of a connected business environment and to elevate awareness of the need for the world’s leading companies to re-skill their workforces for AI and automation-driven changes. As a corporate leader in diversity initiatives, she was committed to eliminating bias in the workplace and championed inclusion throughout the company. A trailblazer for women, she prioritized recruiting talent from across the globe, with a goal of gender parity at Accenture by 2025.

A frequent speaker at conferences and events including the World Economic Forum in Davos, Roxanne was named by Forbes as one of the “World’s Most Influential CMOs” in 2017, and honored with a “Changing the Game” award by the Advertising Women of New York. She is a member of the Marketing 50, Arthur W. Page Society, the Committee of 200, and the Women’s Forum of New York. Roxanne is on the Boards of the Ad Council, OpenX, AESC, Journalists Without Borders, and Only Make Believe, a non-profit organization that creates and performs interactive theatre for children in hospitals and care facilities throughout New York City and Washington, D.C.