

FUTURE OF WORK CONVENING – SPEAKER BIOS

Sandra Brown, Vice Chancellor of Research

- Dr. Brown received her Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Windsor. She completed an internship in clinical neuropsychology at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and earned a diplomate in Psychology, with a specialty in clinical neuropsychology, in 1995. Dr. Brown joined the University of California San Diego in 1997.

Tony Boccanfuso, UIDP President

- As the UIDP's President, Tony is a leading expert on university-industry relations and over the past 29 years, he has gained significant experience and insights by working in the academic, corporate, government and non-profit sectors. Tony holds a Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of South Carolina and a B.S. in Chemistry and Political Science from Furman University. Tony also serves as a consultant for government agencies, non-profit organizations and corporations and is the former Chair of the MedStar Health Research Institute. Tony is married to Dr. Laura Boccanfuso, who founded Van Robotics; along with their three children, they reside in Columbia, SC.

Chaitanya Baru, NSF Senior Advisor

- Since September 2019, Chaitan Baru has been on assignment at the National Science Foundation as *Senior Science Advisor* in the Office of Integrative Activities, Office of the Director, NSF. Baru has served in a number of roles at the San Diego Supercomputer Center, including Co-Program Director, Data and Knowledge Systems; Division Director, Science R&D; and Associate Director of Data Initiatives. Prior to joining SDSC in 1996, Baru was at IBM, where he led one of the development teams for DB2 Parallel Edition Version 1 (released Dec 1995); and at the University of Michigan, where he served on the faculty of the EECS Department. He received his B.Tech in Electronics Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, and M.E. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida, Gainesville.

Anne O'Donnell, UC San Diego Corporate Relations

- With 18 years of experience building impactful corporate relations programs, Anne leads a team developing central holistic corporate relationships across campus for industry access to innovation, talent, education and partnerships. Prior to this role, Anne led the UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering corporate engagement programs as the director of the Corporate Affiliates Program (CAP), and she later became the executive director of Corporate Research Partnerships where she built the dean's agile research centers, leveraging multidisciplinary faculty teams on projects highly relevant to industry. An alumna of Mount Holyoke College, Anne earned a master's in public policy and a master's in theology at Harvard University. Anne currently serves on the Board of Directors for University-Industry Demonstration Partners (UIDP) and as the Membership Committee co-chair, and is a member of the National Association of Corporate Relations Officers (NACRO).

Neal Bloom, Founder, Fresh Brewed Tech

- Neal Bloom ('08) completed an engineering degree at UC San Diego before pursuing an MBA from Pepperdine University. At the height of the 2008 recession, went to work on NASA's Space Shuttle program while its astronauts were building the International Space Station. From that experience, Bloom co-founded Portfolium to help new grads promote themselves, launched Hired.com to attract tech talent to the San Diego region and created a venture capital podcast and newsletter to continue to bring venture capital and businesses to San Diego, elevating the community as a top 10 tech and startup hub.

Henrik Christensen, Director UC San Diego Contextual Robotics Institute

- Henrik I Christensen is the Qualcomm Chancellor's Chair of Robot Systems and the director of the Contextual Robotics Institute at UC San Diego and also a Professor of Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering. Most recently, he served as Director of the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Machines at Georgia Tech Christensen is a national policy leader for the field of robotics and has testified before Congress on the subject. He is the head of a nationwide effort to draft a robotics roadmap and explore the field's potential to transform U.S. society.. Christensen's research covers computer vision, artificial intelligence and robotics, and his primary emphasis has been on a systems-oriented approach to machine perception, robotics and design of intelligent machines. He and his team seek solutions that are theoretically sound, with well-defined implementations that can be evaluated in realistic situations. He has worked with a number of industry partners, including Boeing, KUKA, iRobot, BMW and Apple.

Rajesh Gupta, UC San Diego Professor of Computer Science and Engineering

- Rajesh Gupta is a professor and holder of the QUALCOMM endowed chair in Embedded Microsystems in the Department of Computer Science & Engineering at UC San Diego, California. He leads the Microelectronic Embedded Systems Lab and is head of the Embedded Systems Group. Rajesh did his undergraduate education at IIT-Kanpur and his graduate education at UC Berkeley and Stanford. He currently serves as an advisor to Tallwood Venture Capital, ReallIntent, Calypto and Packet Digital Corporation.

Saura Naderi, CEO ViaSaura

- Saura Naderi ('07) earned her undergraduate degree in engineering physics from the UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering. In 2011, she spoke at TEDx San Diego where she shared her efforts to inspire passion in engineering and diversifying STEM fields. Her personal mission and professional passion is to give aspiring engineers the opportunity to research, design and implement their own ideas. Saura's most well-known project became known as the "robotic hats project" where students of all ages used Arduino microcontrollers to create robotic hats that move, illuminate and activate through software and hardware development.

Leanne Chukoskie, Research Scientist, Calit2

- Leanne Chukoskie conducts research on the links between movement and cognition, especially during typical and atypical development. Her work spans both discovery research and translation. Most recently, she has focused on developing and testing behavioral therapeutics for individuals on the autism spectrum. Professor Chukoskie earned her Ph.D. in Neuroscience from New York University and a dual major B.A. in Biological Basis of Behavior and Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania.

Pamela Cosman, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, UC San Diego

- Pamela Cosman is a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the UC San Diego. She received her Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1993 and a B.S.E.E. from the California Institute of Technology in 1987. From 2006 to 2008, she was the Director of the Center for Wireless Communications, and from 2013 to 2016, the Associate Dean for Students of the Jacobs School of Engineering. Professor Cosman is also affiliated with the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology at UC San Diego where she pursues her research on image and video compression, wireless communications, and image and video processing.

Parina Parikh, Director of Programs, San Diego Workforce Partnership

- Parina Parikh is a results-oriented, senior manager with hands-on experience increasing organizational performance and profitability through new initiatives, financial analysis, and project management. As Director of Programs for the San Diego Workforce Partnership, she is producing the Workforce Frontiers Symposium 2019 on Thursday, November 7 in downtown San Diego. The effort has a vast itinerary that will explore the boundary-busting, outer reaches of workforce development where job quality, equity, outcomes and opportunity drive supports for San Diego County's job seekers, families, businesses and economy.

Stephanie Davison, Kresge Foundation

- Stephanie Davison is a program officer for the Human Services program at the Kresge Foundation, which she joined in 2018. Previously Stephanie served as a project manager at FHI 360, where she managed a portfolio of juvenile justice, youth development, and workforce development programs including overseeing program design and execution, subgrantee management, team and consultant management, and policy development. She also supported college and career readiness initiatives, increasing high school graduation rates and post-secondary enrollment rates. In previous roles, she coordinated and supported workforce development and education programs and initiatives, including those funded by private foundations, the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Justice, and the U.S. Department of Education. Stephanie earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from the Mercyhurst University and a Master of Public Affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Bloomington.

Gentry Patrick, UC San Diego Professor, PATHS Program Creator and Executive Director

- Dr. Gentry Patrick is a Professor in Neurobiology, Associate Director of the Neurosciences Graduate Program and Director of Mentorship and Diversity for the Division of Biological Sciences at UC San Diego. Dr. Patrick was born and raised in South Central Los Angeles and received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1999 after working in the laboratory of Dr. Li-Huei Tsai. After joining the UCSD faculty in 2004, he created the PATHS program where he serves as executive director. The purpose of the program is to “increase the number, persistence, and success of under-resourced and underrepresented minority (URM) students in STEM in San Diego.” The integrated approach adopted by the PATHS Program leverages dynamic, multilateral partnerships to systematically address historic challenges facing students from San Diego’s socio-economically disadvantaged neighborhoods. The PATHS Program’s all-access model for support, empowerment, and professional exposure will mobilize a new, diverse generation of STEM leaders.

Linda Awdishu, Chair, Division of Clinical Pharmacy

- Dr. Linda Awdishu currently serves as Chair of the Division of Clinical Pharmacy at UC San Diego. Her role as director of the Interprofessional Education and Simulation program in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences supports the school’s mission to educate future pharmacists, scientists and diverse leaders. The ultimate educational mission of SSPPS is to provide an exceptional training experience that positions graduates at the forefront of the fields of pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences, and embraces effective new models and methods for teaching. Through advanced joint programs that bridge pharmacy practice with both basic and applied research, the school promotes interdisciplinary education and collaboration among pharmacy, medicine, biomedical research and public health disciplines.