



DISCOVER 6TH ANNUAL
NETWORKING & DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT
discover-org.us

October 17-18 • Hershey, PA

**ANNUAL
SUMMIT**

2022 DISCOVER

Rising Together

October 17-18, 2022
Garden Terrace Ballroom
Hotel Hershey, Hershey, PA

Program Book



Cross-industry organization to promote and inspire the advancement of people of color in supply chain

DISCOVER's Objectives

Via cross-company collaboration, DISCOVER focuses on the **advancement**, **development**, and **engagement** of diverse leaders in supply chain functions, thereby adding value to member organizations and the supply chain industry.



Our Audience

Diverse students seeking exposure to supply chain career options and opportunities

Mid-level diverse professionals seeking opportunities for networking, development and advancement



Our Collaborators

Supply chain executives seeking talent and opportunities to network/collaborate with peers and face supply chain challenges together

Academic institutions seeking collaboration within the supply chain industry



Our Programs

Annual Summit with networking and mentorship opportunities for students and professionals

Professional development webinars with senior leaders in supply chain

Speaking opportunities and outreach at supply chain events and symposiums

2022 Annual Summit

The Annual Summit is DISCOVER's flagship event to connect with peers and learn from senior leaders from across the supply chain industry. Our speakers share their insight and best practices for DEI in an intimate atmosphere that fosters conversation and collaboration. (See next page to get started!)





Thank You 2022 Partners!

Guardian

Johnson & Johnson

Champion

HERSHEY

Advocate



Bristol Myers Squibb

Walmart



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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN



2022 Collaborators



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DiversityInc



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AWESOME

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THANK YOU!



Meeting Agenda



Monday, October 17, 2022

7:30am–9:30am	Breakfast Buffet
10:00am–10:30am	DISCOVER Leadership Connect <i>Attendance limited to Board of Directors and Sponsors</i>
11:00am–11:15am	President's Welcome <i>Rakhi Agarwal – President, DISCOVER 2020-2022</i>
11:15am–12:00pm	Day One Keynote Address - "What Will It Take?" <i>Heidi Landry – Chief Procurement Officer, Enterprise Supply Chain, Johnson & Johnson</i>
12:00pm–1:00pm	Lunch Break
1:00pm–1:45pm	Insights & Trends <i>Anita Ricketts – Head of Strategic Partnerships, DiversityInc.</i> We will discuss the importance and value of sustained individual and organizational accountability to achieving outcomes that will lift everyone in the workplace equitably. The presentation will provide a framework for what it means to be accountable, actionable tips for deepening individual and organizational accountability, and best practices for successfully sustaining accountability.
1:45pm–2:30pm	Leveraging the Power of Collaboration <i>Moderator: Dawnel Kraus – Johnson & Johnson</i> <i>Jason Reiman – SVP, Chief Supply Chain Officer, The Hershey Company</i> <i>Bala Sreenivasan – SVP Supply Chain Management, Merck</i> <i>Neha Desai Shah – President & Co-founder, GEP</i> <i>Imara Charles – VP, Strategic Supplier Relationships & 3rd-Party Risk Management, BMS</i> Join DISCOVER and senior leaders as they discuss the benefits of a diverse workforce and combining diversity awareness with the power of collaborative action. Creating and nurturing a collaborative work culture reveals a rich benefit of organizational effectiveness and innovation, aspiring to a future that brings out the best in everyone and reflects our highest aspirations for our workplace and society.
2:30pm–3:15pm	Diversity Equity and Inclusion for Accountability and Impact at SANOFI <i>Stuart Persky – Director, EEO & HR Compliance, Sanofi</i>
3:15pm–3:30pm	Coffee Break
3:30pm–4:30pm	Student Coaching and Professional Mentoring Sessions Student Coaching: Our participating university students will have a rare opportunity to meet with a junior professional in breakout sessions for a highly interactive session to ask questions and draw insight and wisdom about the increasingly complex transition from student to professional. Executive Mentoring Session: In this sessions, leaders from DISCOVER's member companies will share their career journey and answer many of your burning questions around career advancement. Our leaders will tackle questions such as "How to prepare for the next level," "How to transitions from one pillar of supply chain to another without having direct experience," "How can I strengthen my pipeline and retain colleagues," and more!
4:30pm–5:00pm	Day One Closing Thoughts <i>Alicia Petross – Chief Diversity Officer, The Hershey Company</i>
6:00pm–8:00pm	"Sweet Celebrations" Award and Dinner Join us for a night of food and celebration as we acknowledge the hard work of our partners and volunteers <i>*Cocktail Attire Requested</i>

**Topics and speaker(s) subject to change based on availability*



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

Meeting Agenda



Tuesday, October 18, 2022

- 7:30am–9:30am** **Breakfast**
- 10:00am–10:30am** **Day Two Keynote Address: "AI: The Catalyst to Resiliency"**
Curtis Ijames – Executive Director, Demand Planning and Inventory, IBM
- 10:30am–11:00am** **Conversations: "How We Leveraged Digital Solutions to Manage the Pandemic Chaos"**
Nasir Iqbal – SAP SCM Optimizer Expert, Global Supply Chain, McCormick & Company
Geraldine Jay Hall – Director, External Manufacturing, Novavax, Inc.
- 11:00am–12:00pm** **Embedding Inclusive Behaviors in Day-to-Day Leadership**
Moderator: Vicky Sanchez – Johnson & Johnson
Michael del Rosario – Senior Director, Transportation, Walmart
Brittany Walker – Director, Corporate Administration and Communications, Walker SCM
Tarbinlam Lafon – Global Procurement Executive
Qing Zhao – Partner, BCG
Our executive leadership conversation panelist share how they continue their focus on DEI-focused behaviors as they continue to lead through change and what they see ahead. Learn what they do differently to recruit, hire, and retain diverse talent in supply chain, and learn how everyone can do their part in moving the supply chain industry forward.
- 12:00pm–12:45pm** **Lunch Break**
- 12:45pm–1:30pm** **Developing Diverse Talent in Supply Chain**
Dr. Kevin Lyons – Associate Professor, Supply Chain, Rutgers Business School
Developing more diversity talent in the supply chain talent profession can help organizations navigate the continuous wave of new global challenges. The supply chain industry needs a fresh influx of talent, and leaders should cast their nets far and wide to catch these shining stars. Talent continues to be a top priority for companies in a variety of industries and of all sizes as they work to recruit top talent into new, evolving roles and ensure existing employees have the skills they need to succeed. This session will provide some insights on identifying the top reasons why the recruitment, promotion, and development of diverse talent is so critical to organization success ... the diversity bonus!
- 1:30pm–2:15pm** **Building Your Brand: A Practical Guide**
Matt Schlosser – VP, Supply Chain Strategy & Program Management, The Hershey Company
What is your brand and how does it show up at work? What are the foundations of trust and how are they built? How do you differentiate skills, knowledge, and talent, and how do you tie it all to the big picture? In this interactive session, Matt Schlosser guides us through some key principles in creating your own brand and understanding the importance of marketing that brand to build relationships and trust. Learn the three levels of trust and how to identify the difference between knowing someone and having an effective relationship with someone in the workplace.
- 2:15pm–2:45pm** **Wellness Break**
Get re-energized with a health and wellness session, compliments of The Hershey Company!
- 2:45pm–3:30pm** **The Importance of Supply Chain Collaboration & Resiliency**
Alex Zhong – Director, Marketing, GEP
- 3:30pm–4:15pm** **Day Two Closing Thoughts and Remarks**
Jason Reiman – SVP, Chief Supply Chain Officer, The Hershey Company
Anu Hans – VP, Strategic Initiatives, Janssen Supply Chain, Johnson & Johnson

**Topics and speaker(s) subject to change based on availability*



DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

Speaker Profile

Rakhi Agarwal

AVP, Global Head of Supplier Diversity, Office of
Sustainability, Risk and Citizenship
Sanofi



Rakhi Agarwal is the AVP, Global Head of Supplier Diversity at SANOFI, Office of Sustainability, Risk and Citizenship. She is also the President of a Non-PROFIT Organization- DISCOVER. She is a visionary sourcing and Supply Chain Leader with a proven track record of two decades of rich industry experience. Rakhi joined SANOFI in April 2022 to create the best-in-class Supplier Diversity program for Sanofi globally by leveraging her expertise in supply diversity through her diversified roles in her career with companies like Johnson & Johnson, Merck, and BMS, among others.

Rakhi has an MBA in Operations Management from the University of Southern Indiana and an undergraduate degree in Supply Chain Management from Eli Broad Business School at Michigan State University.

Rakhi has also been a very active member and volunteer at Drugs Chemicals and Associated Technologies (DCAT) for nine years. Recently, she served as the chair of the sourcing and procurement task force at DCAT. She has been instrumental in driving the educational program content for the pharma industry for DCAT.

Rakhi is a thought leader and has numerous negotiation and risk management articles published in the well-known *Inside Supply Management* (ISM) magazine. She has also been featured in the October 2017 publication of ISM.

Rakhi is passionate about diversity and inclusion and has been leading DISCOVER since 2019 to advance its vision to develop talent and break barriers for people of color in the supply chain industry.



Speaker Profile

Imara Charles, PhD

**VP, Strategic Supplier Partnerships and Third Party Risk
Management
BMS**



An analytical and transformative global pharmaceutical executive, Imara Charles, PhD, is known for setting industry standards through her visionary thought leadership, agility in ambiguous environments, and cross-functional collaboration. Throughout her career in the pharmaceutical industry, she has served in multifaceted roles where she has defined best practices, optimized supply chain and operational processes, and expedited the delivery of life-saving drug therapies to market.

Dr. Charles demonstrated natural leadership abilities early in her career as a scientist in the product development division at both ImClone Systems Inc. and Laureate Biopharmaceutical Services (now Thermo Fisher Scientific), rapidly advancing to management roles in laboratory and commercial operations while leveraging her scientific acumen. She was then tapped for progressive executive roles at Bristol Myers Squibb (BMS), cultivating broad expertise across operations, business strategy, commercialization, and product development. She currently serves as Vice President, Strategic Supplier Partnerships and Third Party Risk Management at BMS, leading a cross-functional team in the comprehensive design, development, and implementation of an enterprise-level supplier risk management program and collaboration model.

Dr. Charles's cohesive knowledge of business operations, eye for performance gaps, and analytical skills have generated exponential growth and opportunity across the global product development and supply organization at BMS. She played an instrumental role in launching Opdivo-Yervoy, the industry's first groundbreaking immunotherapy combination drug approved for melanoma. In addition, she led the BMS- Celgene integration across the combined manufacturing organizations, and has supported the commercialization and launch for over a dozen industry-leading drug therapies.

Dr. Charles is well-respected in the biopharmaceuticals space and has contributed numerous articles in noteworthy scientific publications. She is a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt and was formally recognized at BMS with the Global Business Operations Award for her outstanding leadership of the global COVID-19 response team in 2020.

Dr. Charles holds a Doctorate in Analytical Chemistry and a Masters in Biochemistry from Seton Hall University, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Biophysics from the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania. She currently resides in Morristown, New Jersey, with her family.



Speaker Profile

Geraldine Jay Hall

Director, External Manufacturing
Novavax, Inc.



Geraldine Jay Hall is a Director in External Manufacturing at Novavax, Inc. She is a Relationship Manager for Drug Product Contract Development Manufacturing Organizations. Ms. Hall is an influential, decisive, and customer-focused executive and thought leader in the pharmaceutical industry. She has over 20 years of experience that includes directing end-to-end supply chain activities, contract manufacturing operations, and distribution and logistics management, with a focus on Biologics, Vaccines, and Sterile products.

Geraldine is a strategic and proactive thinker and possesses the innate ability to identify and drive continuous process improvement opportunities. She stood up supply chain organizations within External Manufacturing and managed several cross-functional domestic and international relationships.

Ms. Hall holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Central Missouri and an MBA in Management from Eastern University. She is also recognized as a Certified Supply Chain Professional by the Association for Supply Chain Management.



Speaker Profile

Curtis J. Ijames

Demand Planning and Inventory
IBM



Curtis Ijames is Director, Demand Planning and Inventory for IBM's Supply Chain organization. He is responsible for managing the Sales & Operations Planning process for IBM's Systems Business unit. Since being appointed to this role in 2021, he has been instrumental in navigating supply chain disruptions to meet service needs, enabling revenue growth in a post pandemic environment.

In his prior role, Mr. Ijames led Brand Operations and Customer Order Scheduling where he was focused on leading the hardware and software Supply Chain business across multiple product lines. As part of this role, he was responsible for deploying Cognitive 360 (AI) and intelligent workflows to improve risk decisions around manufacturing builds and driving inventory optimization. This had direct impact on the growth of the Watson Supply Chain services initiative.

Other previous assignments held by Mr. Ijames include executive roles in Customer Fulfillment, leading quote to cash operations for Cloud and Software business units, in addition Chief of Staff for the General Manager, Personal Computer Division, Upon joining IBM, Mr. Ijames spent the early part of his career in manufacturing and engineering roles focused on quality and new product introductions.

Mr. Ijames holds a master's degree in business administration from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business and a bachelor's of science degree in electrical engineering from North Carolina State University.



Speaker Profile

Nasir Iqbal

SAP SCM Optimizer Expert, Global Supply Chain
McCormick & Company



Dr. Nasir Iqbal is an expert in Supply Chain Analysis and Optimization with over 25 years of experience in SAP. He has served as the lead design architect for many companies to optimize their supply chains using SAP SCM tool. He has successfully implemented SAP optimization tools in several industries such as hi-tech, consumer goods, pharmaceutical, food processing, steel, and automotive industries. Most of his work is in the US, but he has also successfully implemented SAP global optimal supply chain solutions in several European and Asian countries. His focus on these projects has been the use of planning and optimization tools to minimize inventory across supply chain, improve customer service levels and improve productivity.

Dr. Iqbal received his PhD in Manufacturing Engineering from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. He finished his MS degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, and Bachelor's degree from NED Engineering University in Mechanical Engineering, Pakistan.

He has expert-level knowledge and experience in SAP Supply Chain Solutions, especially in mathematical optimization and SAP enhancements.

Dr. Iqbal has over 25 years of experience in SAP. Having worked directly for SAP, its implementation partners, together with industry experience and strong educational background, he brings a broad and mature functional understanding of SAP advance planning tools and its application to solve complex manufacturing problems.



Speaker Profile

Tarbinlam Lafon

Global Procurement Executive



As a member of the Global Procurement & Supplier Management Leadership Team, Tar has global leadership responsibility for all Indirect Procurement and Operations, Indirect Procurement consists of the global procurement teams that partner with our Commercial Organization and Corporate Functions to drive business value across all markets, regions, and corporate business functions, The Operations Team is responsible for the global strategy, governance, policy, processes, and operations of Travel, Meetings, Corporate Card, Fleet, Expense Management, and External Workforce Management

Prior to Organon, Tar served as Associate Vice President, Head of Global Indirect Procurement (Regions and Categories) and Operations for Travel, Meetings, Corporate Card, and Fleet in Merck, a well as Business Partner to Commerical Teams to drive business outcomes and add value. Prior to Merck, Tar served as Associate Director, Medical Devices and Packaging Procurement and Global Procurement for Bristol Myers Squibb, where he was responsible for the strategic procurement of medical devices globally, as well as packaging components for Puerto Rico and Mexico



Speaker Profile

Heidi Landry

Chief Procurement Officer, Supply Chain
Johnson & Johnson



Heidi Landry joined Johnson & Johnson in January 2019 as the Vice President, Chief Procurement Officer Enterprise Supply Chain responsible for all Procurement Enterprise Supply Chain Teams, working in close partnership with the Supply Chain Leadership Team and the Procurement Leadership Team.

Heidi joined Johnson & Johnson from DowDuPont, where she was responsible for leading the company's Strategic Sourcing organization for Raw Materials, Packaging, and Contract Manufacturing, and led Source to Pay activities across \$10B in purchases for The Dow Chemical Company, with joint oversight over a DowDuPont portfolio of \$20B.

Prior to joining The Dow Chemical Company, Heidi worked for Dow Corning Corporation for seven years as the Chief Procurement Officer, leading Procurement & Global Logistics. Leading up to her tenure with Dow Corning, she worked for twenty years in the procurement and supply chain field in a variety of roles for Kmart Corporation, IKEA and Novartis. During this time, Heidi was based in Asia (China and India) for over ten years, leading both procurement operations and joint venture manufacturing facilities.

Heidi relocated to Switzerland following her years in Asia and joined Novartis, where she held Contract Manufacturing and Vice President Manufacturing Procurement roles, prior to relocating to the United States and joining the Dow Corning Corporation.

Heidi lives in New Jersey with her two children Audrey and Theo.



Speaker Profile

Dr. Kevin Lyons

Associate Professor, Supply Chain Management
Rutgers Business School



Dr. Kevin Lyons' research includes the integration of sustainability, diversity, and inclusion criteria into Supply Chain, procurement, and contracting processes and operations to promote economic development and positive social determinants of health outcomes. He developed the Supply Chain Environmental Archeology research program/lab, which involves the archeological study of climate change and environmental impacts via the supply chain, big data analytics, risk assessment, decision analysis, as well as product end-of-life and new product innovation research. He is the Director of the Local Supply Chain Resiliency Center, Co-Director University Office of Climate Action, principal investigator for the New Jersey Economic Development Off-Shore Wind Port Purchasing Disparity Study, the NJEDA Equity Investment Disparity Study, the Jersey City Purchasing Disparity Study, and the U.S. State Department's Mandela Washington Fellowship Program. Previously, Dr. Lyons was the Chief Procurement Officer at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and he is a U.S. Air Force Veteran.

Books:

Buying for the Future; Contract Management and the Environmental Challenge (2000)

A Roadmap to Green Supply Chains: Using Supply Chain Archaeology and Big Data Analytics (2015)



Speaker Profile

Stuart Persky

Director, EEO & HR Compliance
Sanofi



Stuart H. Persky is the Director, EEO and HR Compliance at Sanofi, a global pharmaceutical company with US headquarters in Bridgewater, New Jersey. As a member of the Sanofi North America Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) team, Stuart has responsibilities for affirmative action compliance, equal employment opportunity (EEO) requirements, as well as DEI for the US and Canada.

Throughout Stuart's career, he has held positions in employee relations, data analytics, reporting, training, compliance, and HR information systems. Stuart currently serves on the Board of the National Industry Liaison Group (NILG), a national organization working toward achieving equal employment opportunities for all. Most recently, Stuart co-chaired the NILG 2022 National Conference which brought together speakers and participants from corporations, universities, government, and regulatory agencies to discuss the regulatory landscape and share best practices. Stuart is a former chair of the New Jersey Industry Liaison Group as well as Northeast Region Corporate Industry Liaison Group.

Stuart holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Delaware, a Master's Degree in Psychology from Hunter College, CUNY, and a Master's in HR Management from Rutgers University. Stuart lives in New Jersey with his wife and twin boys



Speaker Profile

Alicia Petross

VP, Talent Acquisition + Diversity and Inclusion
The Hershey Company



Alicia, a member of the Human Resources Leadership Team since 2015, leads the development and execution of Hershey's Pathways Framework, delivering diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies. She partners with key internal and external leaders to develop more innovation and robustness in Hershey's global climate and inclusion programming. Externally, Alicia expands Hershey's partnership framework and represents the company in key industry commitments, including Paradigm for Parity, CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion, the National Organization on Disability Look Closer Campaign, and Financial Literacy For All.

Alicia has more than 15 years of progressive human resources experience. She joined Hershey from the Target Corporation, where she played a key role in advancing and executing inclusion and engagement strategy and led the company's ascension to the Top 20 in Diversity Inc.'s Top 50 Companies for Diversity rankings. Prior to joining Target, Alicia held various jobs, including Store Team Leader at the Dayton Hudson Corporation – where she was the first African American woman to hold this position. In 2022, The Hershey Company was named #6 on Diversity Inc.'s *Top 50 Companies for Diversity* list. Hershey recently earned the #1 ranking on Forbes World's *Most Female Friendly Companies*. In addition, Alicia was named on Diversity Woman Media's inaugural Elite 100 Black Women leaders list in 2021.



Speaker Profile

Jason Reiman

SVP, Chief Supply Chain Officer
The Hershey Company



Jason Reiman, Senior Vice President, Chief Supply Chain Officer, is responsible for all global supply chain-related strategies and activities, including procurement, manufacturing, quality and regulatory, engineering, logistics, supply chain planning, as well as network strategy and optimization.

In his previous role as Vice President, Supply Chain Operations, Jason worked directly with commercial business partners to drive superior quality, customer service, margin expansion, and growth for the business. As Vice President, U.S. Supply Chain Operations and Vice President, AEMEA Supply Chain Operations, he was responsible for all supply chain activities for the regional businesses. He has also held roles including Vice President, Global Logistics, where he led the Insights Driven-Supply Chain as well as eCommerce Supply Chain, Vice President, Global Customer Service, Planning & Logistics, Senior Director, Sales & Operations Planning, as well as a variety of positions in the areas of customer service, demand planning, production planning, and inventory management. Before joining Hershey in 1996, Reiman worked as a Supply Chain Consultant with Manugistics, Inc.

Reiman holds a bachelor's degree in Business Logistics from The Pennsylvania State University. He currently serves on the board of directors of the World Cocoa Foundation. He has also served on the board of directors for the Elizabethtown Public Library and co-chaired Hershey's United Way Campaign. Jason has been recognized with the 2015 Dr. Robert Pashek Award in Supply Chain, 2014 Consumer Goods Technology (CGT) Visionary Award, as well as the Smeal College of Business 2013 Undergraduate Distinguished Achievement Award. He resides in Elizabethtown, Pa., with his wife and three children.



Speaker Profile

Anita C. Ricketts

Head of Strategic Partnerships
DiversityInc.



Anita Ricketts serves as the Head of Strategic Partnerships for DiversityInc, joining the company in 2013 as Vice President, Major Accounts. She is a consultant, advisor, and coach to DiversityInc's corporate partners in her current role. She also oversees DiversityInc's philanthropic partnerships.

Prior to joining DiversityInc, Ms. Ricketts was with IEEE, a global nonprofit that advances technological innovation for the benefit of humankind. She served as IEEE's first international regulatory compliance officer, directing the compliance programs and policies that sustain the organization's operations in over 100 countries.

Ms. Ricketts holds a bachelor's degree in International Relations from Stanford University and a master's degree in Business Administration from Rutgers University.



Speaker Profile

Michael del Rosario

Senior Director, Transportation
Walmart



Mike was born in Manila, Philippines, and immigrated to the United States with his family at the age of eight. He attended the Pennsylvania State University under an Army ROTC scholarship and earned a B.A. from the College of Communications and a minor in Military Studies. He was selected to and completed the U.S. Army Airborne School, received his Commission as a Second Lieutenant in 2000, and completed his training with Distinguished Military Graduate honors.

In November 2004, Mike joined the Logistics Division of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. as an Operations Manager for the Wal-Mart Private Fleet. He began his corporate career in Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania, and in 2006 he was promoted to the General Manager position (Transportation) to conduct a start-up of a new transportation office in a Grocery Distribution Center in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, and expanded on the strategy in 2010 in Bedford, PA. In 2013 Mike relocated to Woodland, Pennsylvania, to lead a large-scale transportation office that was awarded Safety Office of the Year in 2016, the Helen R. Walton Excellence in Community Leadership Award in 2017, and Safety Office of the Year again in 2020. During his career, Mike has been selected to participate in several projects in the WM Private Fleet and has attended the Logistics Division's Senior Leadership School and E3 Program (Exposure, Enrichment, and Education). Mike currently serves as an Advisory Board member for Operation Homefront, the Walmart Supply Chain People of Color Steering Committee, and the PSU Center for Supply Chain Research. He previously served on the WM Foundation's State Giving Advisory Council in Pennsylvania.

Mike resides in Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania, with his wife of seventeen years, Jodi, daughter Zara and son Zac.



Speaker Profile

Matt Schlosser

VP, Supply Chain Strategy & Program Management
The Hershey Company



Matt is Vice President, Supply Chain Strategy & Program Management for The Hershey Company. In this role, Matt develops and leads large-scale supply chain initiatives that support the Company's future financial and commercial needs.

Prior to joining Hershey in 1999, Matt spent eight years in the automotive industry, supporting assembly plant operations and dealership parts supply.

Matt frequently presents supply chain, thought leadership, and change management topics. He is a Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals (CSCMP) Plowman Award recipient and has served on the boards of The Central Pennsylvania Foodbank, Catholic Charities, and the Penn State Center for Supply Chain Research.

His writings and research have appeared in *The Transportation Journal*, *Logistics Quarterly*, *Practix*, and *Food Logistics*.

Matt earned a bachelor's degree from Penn State and a master's degree from Michigan State University.

Matt & wife, Hether, are proud parents of their three adult daughters.



Speaker Profile

Neha Desai Shah

President & Co-Founder
GEP



As president & co-founder, Neha has been instrumental in evolving GEP from its inception into a recognized worldwide leader in digital supply chain and procurement transformation. A purpose-driven entrepreneur and executive, Neha guides the company's growth initiatives by building and managing strategic, C-level relationships with clients and leading complex transformation engagements. She is also the key driver of GEP's sustainability, DEI, and social initiatives strategies.

Continually striving for nothing less than excellence, Neha has become a force of innovation and inspiration. Building upon a strong foundation of visionary strategies and dedicated leadership, Neha and her team put talent at the forefront of GEP, focusing on engagement and connecting employees with a higher purpose. She is passionate about utilizing the company's platform and triumphs as a vehicle for social justice and philanthropic initiatives, including advocating for girls and women of all ages and endeavoring to end child labor worldwide.

Among her recent recognitions, Neha received the ISM Women & Leadership Diamond Award and TiE Entrepreneur of the Year award. She was recently named a member of the 2022 Class of Henry Crown Fellows within the Aspen Global Leadership Network at the Aspen Institute. Neha is also a board member of Pratham USA, a leading global education nonprofit, and an advisory board member of Sakhi for South Asian Women — an organization supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

Neha earned a Bachelor of Arts in international relations from the University of Pennsylvania College of Arts & Sciences, as well as a Bachelor of Science in economics and an MBA in entrepreneurial management from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, all with the highest honors and distinctions.

Neha lives in Princeton, New Jersey, with her husband, Dr. Shalin Shah, and their three children.



Speaker Profile

Bala Sreenivasan

SVP, Supply and Value Chain Management
Merck



Bala leads a global team across five continents and 40+ markets, responsible for all aspects of Supply Chain Operations at Merck across Small Molecules, Biologics, and Vaccines. Her team leads the launch of new products, End-to-End Planning and IBP process, long-term capacity planning, supply chain design for products in the pipeline, and distribution & logistics operations. She is a member of the R&D - Commercialization as well as Manufacturing leadership teams. Bala is passionate about technology and collaboration with partners to create intelligent supply chains to serve patients better.

Bala has been with Merck for 17+ years and has increased responsibilities across the value chain in Manufacturing, Technical Operations, Engineering, LEAN/Six Sigma, and Supply Chain Management. She has led large and complex transformation efforts, strategy development, and execution. She has also championed Problem Solving and Risk Mitigation activities in manufacturing. Bala has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Madras, India, a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, and training from Harvard Business School on Enterprise Leadership. Bala lives in Doylestown, Pennsylvania, with her husband and three kids (two humans and a pug).



Speaker Profile

Brittany Walker

**Director, Corporate Administration and Communications
Walker SCM**



Brittany Walker joined Walker SCM LLC in October 2019 to learn the family business through a rotational leadership program where she would gain insight into aspects of the business and industry. Her current role as Director of Corporate Administration and Communication entails responsibilities including developing Walker SCM's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion program, strengthening sustainability efforts, creating and implementing key performance indicators, and streamlining processes for efficiency and continuous improvement. In addition, her previous experience in public accounting has produced valuable techniques, tools, and insight into process modifications. During the first rotation at Walker SCM, she was assigned to international transportation.

Brittany Graduated from Boston University in 2011 with a bachelor's degree of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in accounting and finance. She began her career in public accounting in 2011 when she joined BDO USA LLP's audit department out of college and was quickly promoted to Senior Associate. After four years with BDO, Brittany spent two years at Marcum LLP as an audit supervisor before starting with Walker SCM LLC.



Speaker Profile

Alex Zhong

Director, Product Marketing
GEP



Alex has more than 20 years of practical experience in supply chain operations and has advised many Fortune 500 companies on their digital transformation. At GEP, he leads product marketing for the company's AI-enabled supply chain solutions. He is passionate about the role technologies play in driving supply chain excellence and business growth.



Speaker Profile

Qing Zhao

Partner
BCG



Qing Zhao is a Partner at the Boston Consulting Group (BCG). She has extensive experience in large-scale supply chain transformations and in supporting acquisition & divestitures, especially in healthcare and pharmaceuticals sectors. Prior to BCG, Qing was part of JPMorgan Chase's Strategy & Process Improvement team, where she led and participated in highly strategic internal initiatives.

Qing serves on the board of DISCOVER. She is also a passionate DE&I advocate with a strong track record of leadership and engagement across employee resources groups such as women's network, inclusion accelerator, Asian diversity network, PRIDE allies, etc.

Qing holds an MBA from Harvard Business School and a Bachelor in Mathematics and Economics from Cornell University. In her spare time, Qing enjoys scuba diving and occasionally participates in storytelling open mics.



Speaker Profile

Maddie DeVries

Fitness Center Manager
The Hershey Company



Maddie is the Fitness Center Manager at the Hershey Health Club. She has experience working in university recreation, teaching PE classes to college students, working in a public gym setting, and her personal favorite: working in corporate fitness and wellness. She has been personal training for 7 years and teaching a variety of group fitness classes for 6 years. Her greatest passion is wellness, and she promotes a balance in overall wellbeing through fitness, nutrition, sleep, and mental health.

Maddie moved to the area three years ago from Atlanta, Georgia after graduating with her master's degree in Kinesiology with Exercise Science Emphasis from Georgia Southern University. She and her husband are excited to welcome their first baby (girl!) in early December 2022. Maddie has a cat named Jada and enjoys photography and hiking in her spare time.



Speaker Profile

Karen Kloss

Fitness Center Assistant Manager
The Hershey Company



Karen Kloss has been at the Hershey Health Club for four years. She has been in the fitness industry for over 20 years working in corporate fitness, public gyms, and the YMCA. Karen's passion is teaching a variety of Group Fitness classes, such as Step Aerobics, Kickboxing, and Strength Training.

Karen lives in Hershey, PA, but was born and raised in New Jersey. She has three boys – ages 18, 17, and 10 – who all play ice hockey and golf. In her free time, she visits her family in Long Beach Island, New Jersey.



YOU ARE INVITED

Sweet Celebrations

DISCOVER Dinner and Award Ceremony

The day is finally here when we celebrate the hard work of our partners and volunteers! Join us for a night of food and laughter and make this occasion as sweet as can be!

17TH OCTOBER 2022 | 06:00 PM
GRAND TERRACE BALLROOM

*COCKTAIL ATTIRE REQUESTED

SEE YOU THERE!



DISCOVER CARES 2022



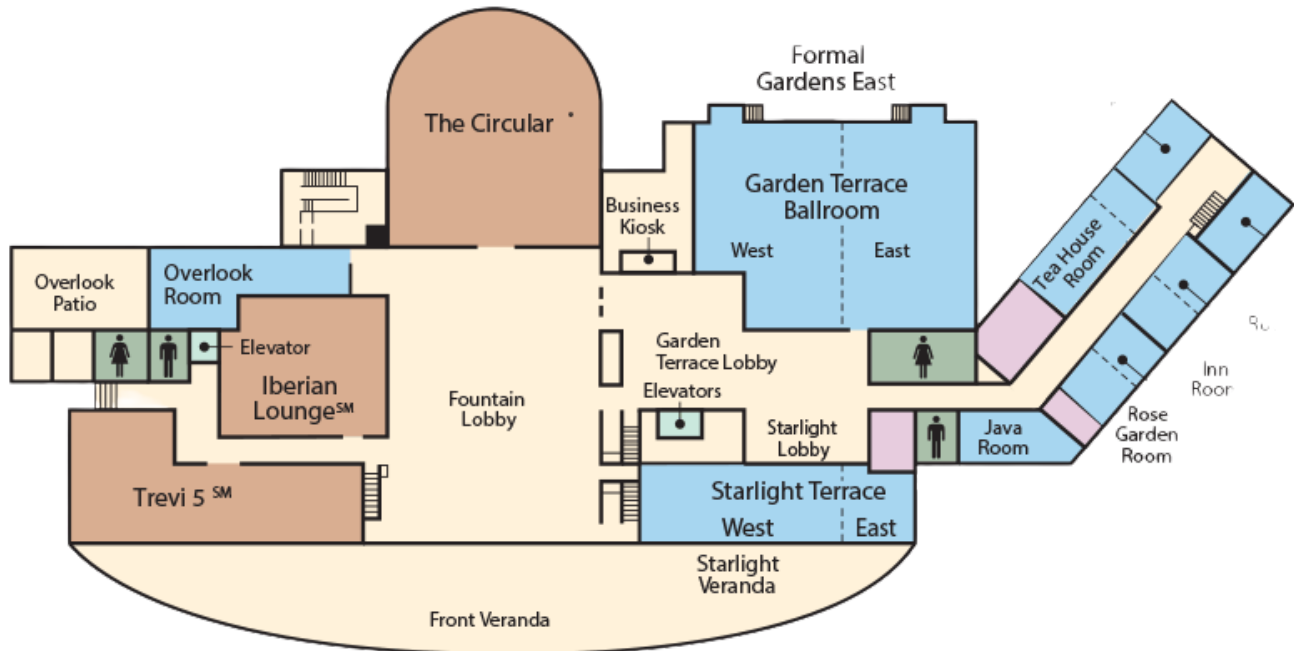
Through an evolving workplace, industry-altering pandemic, and dramatic climate events, DISCOVER continued to seek new opportunities to connect the supply chain community and support local efforts. In the wake of Hurricane Ian's impact on southwest Florida, DISCOVER partnered with Sewa International to donate cleaning and sanitation supplies to a veterans community in Fort Myers. DISCOVER Treasurer, Amole Jagdale (GEP), was on site to help deliver the supplies and meet with the impacted communities.



DISCOVER

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

DISCOVER Summit Floorplan



FAQ and Resources



I won't be able to attend. Can I cancel my registration?

Yes, you will be able to cancel your registration by Monday, October 5. As DISCOVER is a nonprofit association, cancellations after that date will be reviewed on an individual basis. Offering refunds at that time would negatively impact our ability to deliver a high-quality event for our members and supply chain professionals. Please write to info@discover-org.us and we will be in touch!

What's the dress code?

The overall dress code for the Summit is business casual. On our first evening, we're throwing a "Sweet Celebrations" reception and award dinner, and we ask attendees to come dressed for cocktails! Don't forget your workout clothes if you are interested in any of the onsite activities! Autumn in Hershey is a beautiful time to take in the changing vistas and enjoy the cool air—it never hurts to bring layers so you can make sure you're comfortable while taking in all of the amazing content in store!

I'm interested in staying at the hotel!

Awesome! The Hotel Hershey offers 276 rooms complete with full-service amenities. Outside, panoramic views of the gardens and the Hershey valley punctuate this world-class resort experience. A Historic Hotel and recipient of Forbes Four Star award, The Hotel Hershey is the perfect backdrop to re-energize and make new connections in supply chain.

When should I arrive?

Our advance registration table opens at 7:30 am. Just let us know your name and email. That's it!

I have dietary needs

Got it. Our registration included an option to cite food allergies/concerns, but please feel free to write to info@discover-org.us and let us know if there is anything else to keep in mind!

Hotel Hershey Resources

- [Dining options \(onsite\)](#)
- [Best Dinner in Hershey \(offsite\)](#)
- [Drone video of hotel & area](#)
- [Hershey Hotel homepage](#)
- [Hotel Amenities](#)
- [Hotel Accommodations](#)
- [Book a Spa Appointment](#)
- [Hotel Shops](#)
- [Harrisburg Intl. Airport](#)

More to See in Hershey

- The Hershey Gardens – within walking distance of hotel; Oct. Hours: 9AM – 5PM daily
- The Butterfly Atrium – located in the Hershey Gardens; Oct. Hours: 9AM – 5PM daily
- Hershey Tanger Outlets - Hours: Sunday: 11AM – 7PM, Mon – Friday: 10AM – 9PM; includes drive through Dunkin Donuts and Starbucks;
- Hershey Chocolate World October store hours: Sun 9AM – 9PM, Mon – Friday 9AM – 5PM
- Hershey Park Sunday: 2PM – 9PM, Mon-Friday: Closed



Thank You 2022 Summit Planning Team!



Rakhi Agarwal
Sanofi



Lisa Fishel-Slater
The Hershey Company



Maria Hill
Walker SCM



Odi Ikpe
Pfizer



Kartik Sharma
GEP



Anik Warner
Johnson & Johnson



Yahne Henry
Johnson & Johnson



Dayo Olateju
EY



Daniel Dominguez
PMA

*See You
There!*

