Program Book

7th Annual

DISCOVER SUMMIT

NETWORKING & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

2023



DISCOVER

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

DISCOVER
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

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DISCOVER
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

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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

Annual Summit

The 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 insights and best practices for DEI in an intimate atmosphere that fosters conversation and collaboration. Companies who have participated include:

Walmart, Johnson&Johnson, MERCK, McCORMICK, AWESOME, EY, novavax (Creating tomorrow's vaccines today.), HERSHEY, GEP, BCG BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP, IBM, Gartner, DiversityInc, EQUITY AT WORK, Bristol Myers Squibb, sanofi, WALKER SCM, PennState Smeal College of Business, RUTGERS Business School SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT, USC Marshall School of Business

Home | discover-org.us
Email | info@discover-us.org

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, October 17, 2023

8:00am–9:00am	**Networking Breakfast**	Garden Room
9:00am–9:15am	**President's Welcome** **Rakhi Agarwal –** *President, DISCOVER*	Renaissance Room
9:15am–9:30pm	**Day One Keynote Address** **Denise Malloy –** *SVP, Chief Belonging Officer, Walmart*	Renaissance Room
9:30pm–10:00am	**Fireside Chat with DISCOVER** **Denise Malloy –** *SVP, Chief Belonging Officer, Walmart*	Renaissance Room
10:00am–10:15am	**Diverse Talents in Success** **Charles Johnson –** *President, SodexoMagic*	Renaissance Room
10:15am–10:30am	**DISCOVER Cares** **DISCOVER**	Renaissance Room
10:30am–11:15am	**Coffee Break**	Renaissance Room
11:15am–12:00pm	**Senior Leadership Panel: Exploring what it means to be "United for IMPACT"** **Jason Reiman –** *SVP, Chief Supply Chain Officer, Hershey* **Roopa Gandhi –** *President & Founder, GEP* **Bala Sreenivasan –** *SVP, Supply and Value Chain Management, Merck* **Mona Babury –** *Head of DEI, MedTech J&J*	Renaissance Room
12:00pm–1:15pm	**Lunch**	Garden Room
1:15–2:00pm	**Automated Business Application generation using Microsoft Power App CoPilot and Ability to interact with the App using Generative AI** **Swarup Dutta –** *Associate Vice President, Center of Competencies, Nous Infosystems*	Renaissance Room
2:00pm–2:30pm	**United in Wellness Yoga Session** **YOGAMAZIA**	Renaissance Room
2:30pm–3:15pm	**The Port of Philadelphia: Velocity, Proximity, Flexibility** **Dominic V. O'Brien -** Senior Marketing Manager, Philaport	Renaissance Room
3:15pm–3:30pm	**Day One Closing Thoughts** **Will Bonifant** – *VO Supply Chain CMG & Salty Snacks, Hershey*	Renaissance Room
5:00pm–6:00pm	**Network Cocktail Hour**	Versailles Room
6:00pm–7:30pm	**"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* **Cocktail Attire Requested*	Reinsassance Room

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

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

8:00am–9:00am	**Networking Breakfast**	Garden Room
9:00am–10:30am	**Supply Chain Tour at Port of Philadelphia** *By reservation only*	Front Lobby
10:30am–11:15am	**Day Two Keynote Address: "Leadership Traits to Win: The Big 3"** **Kristen von Seggern –** *VP, Strategic Programs, Johnson & Johnson*	Renaissance Room
11:15am–12:00pm	**How do We Use Technology and Automation to Reshape Supply Chains to Better Accommodate Diversity and Meet Evolving Consumer Demands?** **(Moderator) Minu Patel** – *BMS* **Claudell Germain –** *President, Walker SCM* **Fank Muvdi** – *Sam's Club* **Tejal Shah –** *Organon*	Renaissance Room
12:00pm–1:15pm	**Lunch Break**	Garden Room
1:15pm–2:00pm	**Neurodiversity Acceptance** **Natalia "Nat" Lyckowski –** *Global Neurodiversity Advancement Leader, IBM*	Renaissance Room
2:00pm–3:00pm	**Mentorship and Coaching Session**	Salon Venezia Borghese Gardens
3:00pm–3:45pm	**Leader Panel – "Beyond the Buzzword: Authentic Allyship and Its Impact on Diversity & Inclusion"** (Moderator) **Steve Tracey | PSU** **Ronald Volans** – *Head of NA Janssen, Deliver | J&J* **Karl Casserly** – *Senior Technical Leader, Mainframe | IBM* **Derek Heim** – *Director of Planning and Operations | Merck*	Renaissance Room
3:45pm–4:15pm	**"Why Diversity Matters: Overcoming Obstacles and Doubts"** **Dr. Rohini Anand –** *Author, Founder, CEO | Rohini Anand LLC*	Renaissance Room
4:15pm–4:30pm	**Day Two Closing Thoughts** **Anu Hans** – *Vice President, Strategic Initiatives | Janssen Supply Chain*	Renaissance Room

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

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

Denise Malloy

Senior Vice Presidentand Chief Belonging Officer
Walmart Inc.



Denise Malloy joined Walmart Inc. in 2023 as the first-ever chief belonging officer, an evolution of the chief diversity officer role. As chief belonging officer, Denise leads Walmart's global diversity, equity and inclusion strategy to create a workplace of belonging, where associates feel valued and supported to reach their full potential every day.

Prior to joining Walmart, Denise served as vice president of diversity & inclusion at Johnson Controls, where she spearheaded the company's diversity, equity and inclusion strategy across 150 countries. Denise particularly focused on incorporating DEI practices into ways of working across every level of the company, in both business and philanthropy. This work led to Johnson Controls' addition to the Forbes 2021 Best Companies for Diversity & Inclusion list.

Denise served in several senior leadership roles at Johnson Controls, including vice president of commercial real estate services, where she excelled in sales, customer experience and growth strategies. She also held senior management and business development positions at Enron Energy Services, J.P. Morgan, and Xerox.

Denise has always been passionate about creating a culture where people feel and know they belong. This has led her to serve on numerous non-profit and corporate boards, all of which are dedicated to the causes of women and children. Her corporate board experience focused on breakthrough medical advances and aiding women and minority start-ups success.

Throughout her career Denise has embraced reaching back and pulling forward, reflecting her legacy of advocacy and support of others. She continues to divide her time between family, business interests, community service and philanthropy.

Speaker Profile

Kristen Von Seggern, Ph.D

Vice President, Strategic Programs for Enterprise Supply Chain & Operations
Johnson & Johnson



Kristen Von Seggern currently serves as the Vice President, Strategic Programs for the Johnson & Johnson Enterprise Supply Chain & Operations. She has expertise in strategy development, execution as well as global business model transformation – with more than 15 years of experience in vice president level positions with Johnson & Johnson across R&D, Commercial and Supply Chain. In her current role, Kristen is responsible for the large-scale business model transformation on behalf of Supply Chain & Operations for the separation of the Consumer Health business (Kenvue) from Johnson & Johnson's pharmaceutical and MedTech businesses and is leading the program management for the Enterprise Risk Management Framework, a Johnson & Johnson Executive Committee imperative this year.

Kristen is a dedicated leader of diversity, equity and inclusion – she co-leads the Johnson & Johnson Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Manufacturing and Design (WiSTEM2D) Professional Pillar with the goal of achieving equal representation of females at all levels within the company. Kristen also serves as the Sponsor of the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association (HBA) on behalf of Johnson & Johnson with the goal of achieving gender parity in leadership positions. In addition to volunteering her time and leadership to WiSTEM2D and HBA, Kristen is a board member for the Habitat for Humanity of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Kristen thrives on continuous learning, earning a doctorate in Population Health (concentration in Health Policy), a Master of Public Health, and Master of Business Administration all earned while working full-time.

Speaker Profile

Dr. Rohini Anand

Author, Founder, CEO
Rohini Anand LLC



Dr. Rohini Anand is the Founder and CEO of Rohini Anand LLC, providing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion advisory services. A strategic business leader and trusted board member, she has successfully transformed organizational cultures, built a strong brand reputation, and accelerated new business ventures. With expertise in executive leadership, human capital, and global corporate responsibility, Dr. Anand offers a unique perspective on aligning business culture with the triple bottom line to drive exceptional performance. She is a recognized pioneer in the DEI field, lauded globally for her judgment, integrity, and accountability.

As a published author and thought leader, Dr. Anand's book, "Leading Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: A Guide for Systemic Change in Multinational Organizations," has received endorsements from industry luminaries such as Indra Nooyi, former Chairman and CEO of PepsiCo; Hamdi Ulukaya, Founder and CEO of Chobani and Tent; and Michel Landel, Danone S.A Board member and former CEO of Sodexo, among others.

Most recently, Dr. Anand served as the SVP of Corporate Responsibility and Global Chief Diversity Officer for Sodexo. She reported directly to the Global CEO and was a key member of Sodexo's North America Executive Committee. Her leadership positioned Sodexo as a global thought leader in DEI and Corporate Responsibility. This transformation has been the subject of a Harvard Business School case study titled "Shifting the Diversity Climate: the Sodexo Solution."

Rohini has been featured in various high-profile media outlets including CNBC, The Boston Globe, The New York Times, and the Washington Post. She has appeared on CNN, Bloomberg, and CNN Money, as well as National Public Radio. In addition to her media presence, she has received numerous accolades such as the Mosaic Woman Leadership Award, Women's Foodservice Forum Trailblazer Award, and Webster University's Women of Influence Award, among others.

Dr. Anand earned her PhD from the University of Michigan. She serves on the advisory boards of organizations such as WomenLift Health, a Gates Foundation initiative, Pulsely, and NACD's Center for Inclusive Governance. She advises Sanofi and Charter Communications on diversity and formerly chaired the Catalyst Board of Advisors. Currently, she is a Board Director for the Galt Foundation and Tent Partnership for Refugees and holds the position of Senior Fellow with the Conference Board.

Speaker Profile

Charles E Johnson

President
SodexoMagic



From his early career in international business at Inland in Chicago, to his current role leading SodexoMagic, a joint venture between Sodexo and Magic Johnson Enterprises (MJE) that he personally helped to create, Charles has consistently built businesses. His vision for success coupled with his ability to develop relationships with a strong foundational understanding of his partners' business models has allowed him to deliver win-win partnerships.

Since launching SodexoMagic in 2006, Charles played a vital role in making SodexoMagic the fastest growing majority minority-owned food and facility service company in the U.S. During Charles' leadership at SodexoMagic, he developed strategic partnerships with some of the world's largest corporations, healthcare systems, and educational school districts.

Prior to re-joining SodexoMagic, Charles ran Ideal Concepts Group, a consulting firm that helps clients in the areas of strategy, government relations and supplier diversity. Simultaneously, Charles also served as Vice President and Partner of F.H. Paschen in Chicago, a General Contractor and Construction Management firm with annual revenue of $800 million.

As a native of Chicago, IL who graduated from Tuskegee University, Charles believes that the foundation of a healthy community is economic empowerment. Today, he works with organizations to understand their business and its relation to the community. His challenge is always to develop a community benefits agreement that integrates public outreach with tested and proven business practices.
He supports his community by serving as a mentor to at risk youth through various organizations, both for- and non-profit.

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

Mona Babury

Head of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, MedTech
Johnson & Johnson



In August of this year, Mona Babury joined Johnson & Johnson as the new Head of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for MedTech.

In this role, Mona provides DEI subject matter expertise across the MedTech business, bringing insights on leading DEI trends and the external environment and collaborating with all levels of MedTech leadership to advance talent strategies, foster and build on their culture of belonging and drive innovation and growth globally. She leads global DEI strategies, programs, and partnerships that help MedTech better understand and serve the needs of patients, communities, and employees to drive equitable access and opportunity for all. Mona is also part of the DEI and MedTech HR Leadership Teams.

Mona joins J&J from Pfizer, where she spent the past 15 years of her career in roles spanning Supply Chain, Technology, Data Analytics, Project Management, Capital Portfolio Management, and DEI. In her most recent role as the Global DEI Lead, Mona was responsible for delivering 'fit for purpose' DEI strategies that aligned with the strategic business goals of each organization. She developed approaches to advance strategy around talent acquisition, talent management, retention, growth, and engagements so that every colleague had an opportunity to develop, grow and succeed. Mona implemented Pfizer's first enterprise HBCU strategy, Refugee Leadership Initiative and Women Back to Work Program, as well as local initiatives like Business Technology 4 Girls and Intern enrichment. Mona is also passionate about leveraging refugee hiring and mentoring programs to connect talent to opportunities in business. Her passion is to ensure every person is seen, heard, cared for, and valued.

Mona has a BSBA in HR Management and a Master of Science in Management from Stevens Institute of Technology. She is a Certified Diversity Professional (CDP) with a PMP certification. In her spare time, she loves traveling, reading, culinary adventures, and spending time with her husband, son, and two Goldendoodles.

Speaker Profile

Claudell Germain

President, COO
Walker SCM



Mr. Germain has been in the supply chain industry for over 30 years. He joined Walker SCM in January of 2023 to lead the company into the next phase of the future. Prior Mr. Germain was the SVP who oversaw the US Contract Logistics business unit for Kuehne + Nagel in the North American region. A $1 billion dollar business unit for the $32 Billion Swiss base supply chain Integrator. With expertise in startups, turnarounds and rapid growth, Mr. Germain is a proven leader, driven by ensuring that national and international companies overcome the specific challenges presented by local markets.

With his international perspective and experience, the entrepreneurial minded Germain is a recognized leader in the Supply Chain community. Prior to joining Walker SCM's leadership team, Mr. Germain held various executive leadership roles for aforementioned Kuehne & Nagel Inc., Fed-Ex, Emery and Menlo (XPO). His executive career has focused on the strategic vision, strategy, design, and execution necessary for startups and turn-arounds to experience rapid growth while maintaining robust business processes and standards in their supply chains. Mr. Germain strong background and experience in operations and sales management brings a pragmatic approach to his role as President and COO of Walker SCM.

As a leader, Mr. Germain sees himself as an integrator; bringing together people with diverse backgrounds, personalities, departments, and functions and enabling them to work as a focused team. Mr. Germain prides himself on delivering solutions that are built on creativity, innovation and are focused on delivering long term value through a rigorous continuous improvement methodology.
Mr. Germain received a bachelor's degree from State University New York at Buffalo State University. He is married with two daughters and resides in Long Island, NY.

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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.

DISCOVER
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN SUPPLY CHAIN

Speaker Profile

Roopa Gandhi

President, Co-Founder
GEP



Roopa Gandhi is the president and founder of GEP. She founded GEP to build a beautiful company that positively and sustainably impacts employees, clients and communities.

Roopa is passionate about supporting women, from ensuring access to education and healthcare to creating an organization that attracts, supports and advances women in the workplace. She actively supports multiple not-for-profit organizations working to promote women's education, upliftment and guidance.

She advocates a sustainable employee culture and is actively involved in daily employee management of GEP. She spearheads many initiatives within the company that foster holistic employee growth and advancement.

As an extension of GEP's CSR efforts, Roopa serves on the board of directors for the Akshaya Patra USA, a nonprofit organization with a vision that no child in India is deprived of education because of hunger.

Roopa's journey has taken her to global platforms such as the World Economic Forum where she has participated in panel discussion on "Reinventing Globalization." She has been an invited speaker at numerous events including Booth Women Connect Conference, Deshpande Development Dialogue and the Dale Carnegie for Executives panel. Roopa's achievements include being recognized as one of the 50 Fastest Growing Women-Owned/Led Companies by the Women Presidents Organization, being a finalist for E&Y Entrepreneur of the Year, and winning both the NJBiz Best 50 Women in Business and SDCE Women in Supply Chain Award. Furthermore, Roopa is a council member of the Polsky Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Roopa holds an MBA from the University of Chicago, an MS with highest honors in industrial pharmacy from Long Island University and a BS in pharmacy from Mumbai University.

Speaker Profile

Will Bonifant

VP Supply Chain CMG & Salty Snaks
The Hershey Company



Will Bonifant, currently serving as Vice President, Supply Chain, Confection & Salty Snacks for The Hershey Company, oversees crucial sectors like supply chain planning, distribution, commercialization, and more for various business units. His journey with Hershey has been expansive, including leadership stints across international supply chain management, global engineering, and plant management. Notably, he spent three years in Shanghai, China, steering the AEMEA Region Supply Chain groups, and managed the Reese's Plant, prioritizing safety and quality for over 700 employees.

Before Hershey, Will enriched his strategic expertise as a Project Leader with The Boston Consulting Group, leading multifaceted projects across industries like confectionery, retail, and fast-moving consumer goods. His professional foundation was built during his eight years as a US Navy officer, displaying leadership on the USS GEORGIA submarine and honing his skills in electrical engineering as a nuclear power regulator.

Academically, Will's credentials are extensive. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the US Naval Academy, followed by an engineering Master of Science from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Complementing his technical knowledge, he attained a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, underscoring his versatile expertise in both engineering and business realms.

DISCOVER
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Speaker Profile

Natalia “Nat” Lyckowski

Global Neurodiversity Advancement Leader
IBM



Proudly neurodivergent and parent of an autistic IT professional, Nat has been a Business Transformation Leader with IBM for over 25 years. She specializes in enabling businesses to value the neurodivergent talent pool, which brings 32% new skills and 66% higher job loyalty, consequently improving corporate citizenship and revenue. Nat has pioneered culture change by enhancing trust and allyship through initiatives like Global Acceptance Training across more than 30 countries and speaking engagements reaching over 10,000 attendees.

Her impact extends to youth self-advocacy, with initiatives that have touched more than 2,500 young individuals. She has also established safe-space think tanks with over 300 members, ensuring broad representation across various communities. Experienced in intersectionality, Nat's work spans across people with disabilities (PWD/PWDA), LGBT+, race, ethnicity, gender, and other identity groups.

Nat has garnered national recognition, being featured in Forbes Magazine for her work in neurodiversity. Her expertise is often sought after at industry forums like the IBM/MIT Workshop on AI fairness for people with disabilities, Carnegie Mellon's Neurodiversity Employer Education Conference, and the United Nations’ Zero Project Conference on the rights of persons with disabilities.

Hailing from Tafton, Pennsylvania, Nat holds a Master's degree from 1994 and a Bachelor's degree from 1993. When she's not working, she enjoys scouting, camping, and gardening. Armed with skills in servant leadership, mentoring, and coaching, Nat is committed to the awareness, acceptance, and advancement of the neurodivergent community.

Speaker Profile



Steve Tracey

Professor of Practice, SC&IS
Penn State University

Steve Tracey stands as the Executive Director for the Center for Supply Chain Research® (CSCR®) and a Professor of Practice in the Supply Chain and Information Systems Department at the Smeal College of Business. His influence extends to Penn State Executive Programs, where he led from 2017-2021, and the Supply Chain Academy, reflecting his commitment to cutting-edge supply chain education. Within Smeal, he imparts his extensive operations and finance expertise to undergraduate and graduate students, further engaging with wider industry audiences through executive teaching and representation at conferences.

In addition to his academic roles, Tracey is a pivotal member of several management and leadership committees at Smeal and the university level, recently co-chairing the Health Resources Task Force for Covid-19 response. His board memberships are diverse, including StorytellerFx, Chainparency, the Penn State Center for Medical Innovation (CMI), and the Marcellus Center for Outreach and Research (MCOR), showcasing his enthusiasm for innovation and community outreach. He's also an advisory council member for DISCOVER, promoting the advancement of people of color in the supply chain.

Before his tenure at Penn State, Tracey's global experience was vast, overseeing operations in over 14 countries as a recognized commodity market expert in the Textile industry. He served as the senior vice-president of Global Supply Chain at Standard Textile Company, where he was known for pioneering high-performance teams and processes, achieving a company CAGR exceeding 12%. His prior role was as the director of Materials and Distribution for American Tool Companies, Inc.

Outside academia, Tracey contributes to various boards like Chainparency and StorytellerFX and maintains active memberships in professional bodies like AAASCM and CSCMP. His career is accentuated by his service as a U.S. Army officer from 1986 to 2002. His leadership at CSCR has been transformative, attracting significant sponsor partnerships and fostering groundbreaking supply chain research, underscoring his role as a visionary in both educational and industry spheres.

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Speaker Profile

Ronald Volans

Head of NA Janssen Deliver
Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine



With 30 years of Supply Chain experience and Leadership, Ron Volans is currently the Head of North America distribution and customer service for Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicines. He is responsible for distributing products reaching over 7 million patients, generating $30 billion in revenue, overseeing 3 distribution sites, managing clinical distribution, and leading a team of over 150 amazing employees who support sales in more than 90 countries. He has a wealth of supply chain experience across planning, sourcing, manufacturing, and delivery within the medical devices, consumer products, and pharmaceuticals sectors. Ron has provided manufacturing oversight for over 15 external manufacturing sites, led customer relations with over 300 customers in Consumer and Pharmaceuticals, managed acquisition integration processes in more than 80 countries, overseen supplier management, and executed transformation and change management initiatives. He is a passionate, credo-based people leader and serves as a board member of Penn State's Center for Supply Chain Research® (CSCR®). Ron lives in Pennsylvania, loves Philadelphia sports, enjoys running, playing basketball, and spending time with his family.

Speaker Profile

Derek Heim

Director, Planning and Label Operations
Merck



Derek leads teams responsible for executing global clinical supply operations of human clinical trials, phases I-IV, including small and large molecules, biologics, and vaccines. His teams operationally plan for, coordinate, label, and ensure safe and timely clinical supplies to patients participating in Merck's global clinical trials. He is also the previous global leader for the Veterans Leadership Network, Merck's Employee Business Resource Group for Veterans (from 2019 to 2023), where he oversaw many projects that positioned military and military family patients as priorities of focus for enterprise partners – unlocking the potential of diversity and inclusion as a driving business success factor.

Derek has been with Merck for five years. In addition to his recent clinical supply responsibilities, he has held roles in manufacturing and global vaccine launch. Derek's other experiences include roles in acute care, late and early-stage human pharmaceutical trial research, clinical trial coordination, and military operations, having deployed to multiple combat zones and peacekeeping missions worldwide. Derek has two Masters in psychology and business administration, focusing on Clinical Psychology and Healthcare Management. His education aimed to blend the two fields of Behavioral Medicine and Healthcare Business, focusing on how patient behaviors impact health decisions and clinical health outcomes.

Speaker Profile

Tejal Shah

Director, Supply Chain Management
Organon



A dynamic, impact orientated leader, Tejal is passionate to create connections and collaborate across the enterprise to maximize the Value Chain and effectively serve patients and customers. Tejal has 17+ year's of experience in the pharmaceutical industry spanning across research and development, manufacturing technical operations, and supply chain management (SCM). Tejal joined Organon as part of the spin-off from Merck & Co in 2021. She is currently leading Business Operations & Integrated Business Planning (IBP), reporting to the Head of Organon SCM organization and collaborating with Commercial, Finance, and Manufacturing. In parallel to the Business Operations role the past two years, Tejal took on additional responsibility as the Global Planning Lead for the Women's Health (WH) Franchise and prior to that Product Leader role for Oral Contraceptives within WH portfolio in the Value Chain Management Organization.

Tejal joined Organon from Merck & Co, where she held roles in SCM with increase in scope and responsibility from Product Management, Change Management, End to End Global Planning, and Business Process Stewardship. Tejal joined SCM from Merck Manufacturing Vaccine Technical Operations, where she was part of the "SWAT" team, leading complex investigations utilizing Lea Six Sigma methodology and Portfolio Manager for Vaccine Technical programs and projects. Prior to joining manufacturing, Tejal worked in research and development as a Biochemical Engineer on late-stage vaccine development.

Tejal holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree of Biomedical Engineering and minor in Psychology from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA, USA. Additionally, she is certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, Change Management Agent, and APICS Certified Supply Chain Professional (CSCP).

Tejal lives in Churchville, PA, wither her husband and 2 kids.

Speaker Profile

Frank Muvdi

Sr. Director II, Strategy, Transformation and Analytics
Sam's Club



In his current role, Frank has responsibility for leading the strategy of Supply Chain at Sam's Club including setting up the future state capabilities and strategic outcomes, in addition leads the transformation office responsible for executing the strategic initiatives to deliver the future state roadmap and leads the business analytics teams that enable network design of the future.

Prior to Sam's Club, Frank worked as a Senior Director of Continuous Improvement working in Central Operations. He had responsibility for Strategy and Implementation of the Walmart Performance System in Regional and Grocery networks.

Prior to this role, Frank was a Sr. Practitioner in Performance Solutions by Milliken. In his Practitioner role he participated in the optimization and transformation of several manufacturing companies as they designed and implemented Operational Excellence Systems.

Frank earned his Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, GA. and has completed an executive leadership certificate in Cornell.

Speaker Profile

Swarup Dutta

Associate Vice President, Center of Competencies

Nous Infosystems



Swarup heads the Nous Centre of Competencies (CoC) for Emerging Technologies. In a career of over 25 years in the IT Industry, Swarup has played various leadership roles in the analytics and artificial intelligence space. After his post-graduation from IIT, Kharagpur, he immersed himself in the product development space, before moving on to spearheading delivery roles in IT services organizations. He has led multiple business transformation programs, large-scale cloud migration initiatives, and modern-data platform development on the cloud. In his present role in Nous, Swarup leads our AI Labs which has a talented pool of Doctorates, Architects, Leads, and data scientists to deliver innovative solutions around Digital, Cloud, Data, and AI domains. Swarup lives in Bangalore, India, with his wife and a college-going daughter, and is very passionate about AI automation-related topics and has a hobby of doing POCs in his leisure time exploring these advanced topics.

Speaker Profile

Karl O. Casserly

Senior Technical Staff Member, Mainframe
IBM



Mr. Karl O. Casserly is a father of five. He is a 35-year veteran of Supply Chain Engineering at IBM Corporation. He was appointed to his present technical leadership position in August 2022, responsible for the worldwide manufacture and fulfillment of the IBMz mainframe. His current focus is on the integration of i4.0 technologies; implementing industrial IoT networks, AI, robotics, and automation. He holds a BSc in Mechanical Engineering, is a certified Master Black Belt in Design for Six Sigma and Lean Six Sigma methodologies, and holds nine patents. He is also a member of the IBM Academy of Technology MHV affiliate mentorship committee, and a founding director of the Avis May Mullings Foundation Inc.; a not-for profit engaged in removing impediments to childhood education within the Caribbean.

Speaker Profile

Dominic V. O'Brien

Senior Marketing Manager
PhilaPort



Dominic O'Brien is the Senior Marketing Manager for PhilaPort – The Port of Philadelphia. He has over 23 years of experience in promoting the Port's services to shippers, ocean lines, and other supply chain professionals.

He is a frequent lecturer on port and transportation issues, speaking to trade groups, university classes, and civic associations in the United States and internationally.

He is a Board Member of the District Export Council – Mid-Atlantic, a member of the Temple University Supply Chain Program Advisory Board, and former President of the World Trade Association of Philadelphia.

A graduate of LaSalle University, Mr. O'Brien lives in Abington, PA with his wife and daughter, where he enjoys reading, biking, and yelling at the television during Eagles games.

Speaker Profile

Michelle H. El Khoury, PhD

Founder, Instructor
YOGAMAZIA



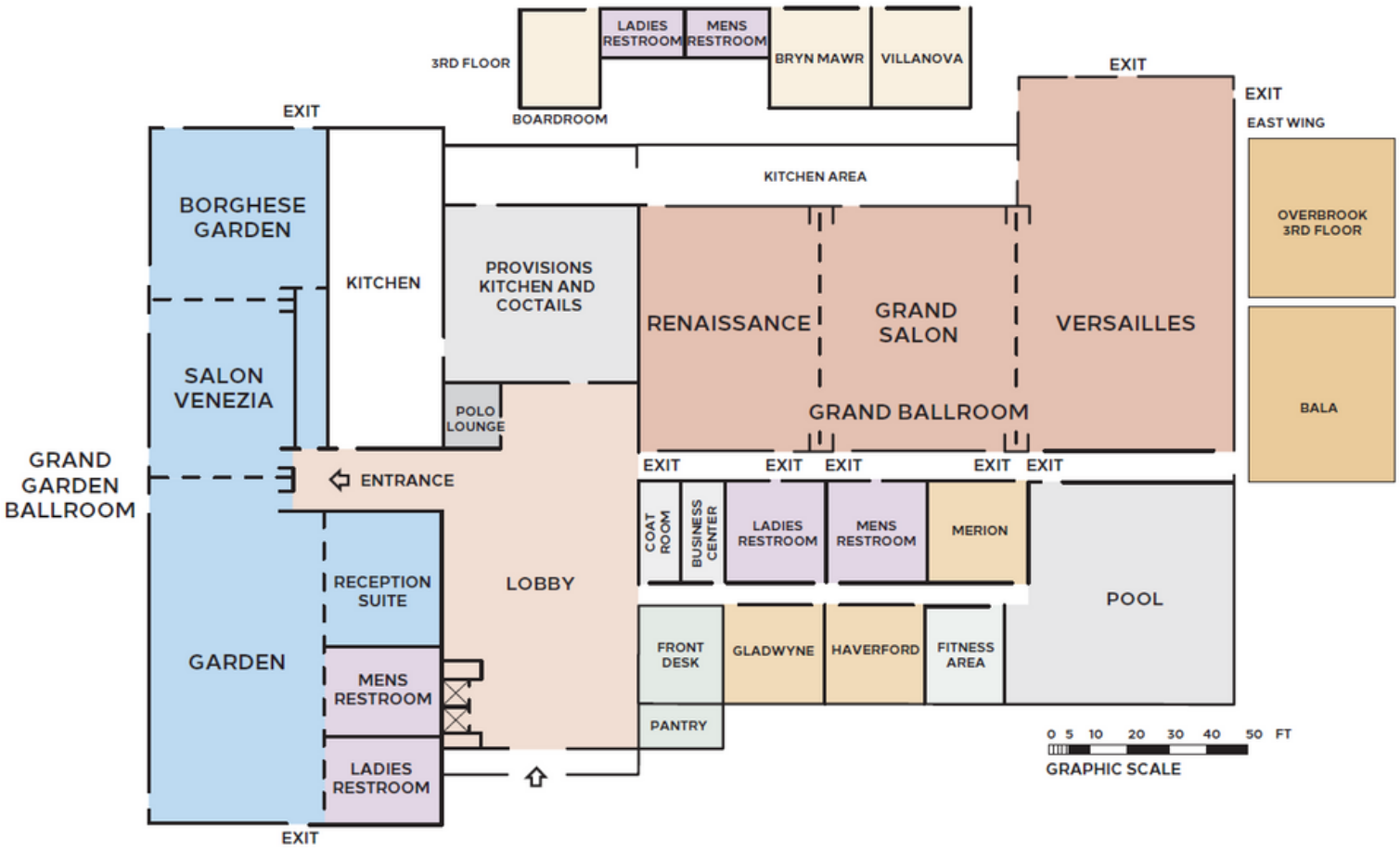
Michelle H. El Khoury, PhD, is a wellness entrepreneur and former pharmaceutical executive with over 20 years of healthcare experience. She has held several global and regional roles in cancer drug launches. Her journey, coupled with her background and passion for yoga, led her to open YOGAMAZIA—a sanctuary of health and well-being dedicated to providing a nurturing space where caregivers and their children can realize their inherent peace through its values of G.R.A.C.E: gratitude, respect, authenticity, community, and equity.

Michelle uses yoga as a doorway for discussions on race, gender, and other social inequities to help empower the future generation of leaders. She believes that yoga is a powerful vehicle for creating a fairer and more equal world and aspires for students to understand the practice holistically—not just through the postures that many believe are its basis, but also through its moral and social teachings. With women and children as vital ambassadors for change, Michelle is grateful to serve as a global ambassador for Yoga Gives Back, having been named Ambassador of the Year in 2022.

In addition to being a certified yoga instructor (with specializations in prenatal/postnatal and children's yoga), a certified HypnoBirthing Childbirth Educator, and a Birth & Postpartum Doula, she is also a health and wellness educator with Integrative Health at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She holds a BSc in Pharmacy, an MS in Health Sciences in Clinical Research Administration, and a PhD in Public Health Epidemiology. She has authored several peer-reviewed research articles, published in medical journals, and presented at conferences. Her collaborative book, "We Rise in Power: Amplifying Women of Color and Our Voices for Change," is available wherever books are sold.

Michelle is a wife and a mom to three daughters and resides just outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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!

When should I arrive?

Our advance registration table opens at 7:00 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!

I have other questions

No problem! Write to us at info@discover-org.us and let us know how we can help.

Thank You 2023 Summit Planning Team!



Rakhi Agarwal
Sanofi



Lisa Fishel-Slater
The Hershey Company



Rachita Mishra
Sanofi



Odi Ikpe
Pfizer



Kartik Sharma
GEP



Jena Litrocapes
Johnson & Johnson



Yahne Henry
Johnson & Johnson



William Mack III
Walmart



Michael del Rosario
PMA

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