

Session Overview
PNCWA Summit Series 6: Women of Water
Wednesday, February 10, 2021

“Welcome!”

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

8:30am – 8:40am

Presenting Author: Lara Kammereck, PE, PMP

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Lara is a civil engineer with more than 28 years of experience focused on water and wastewater master planning for public utility systems. She specializes in master planning and demographic analysis and she has been involved in more than 50 comprehensive plans, master plans, and modeling projects. She has also worked on various water resources projects including source of supply analysis, emergency supply study, hazard mitigation plans, and vulnerability assessments. Her technical expertise also includes conceptual and preliminary design of pipelines and pump stations for both water and wastewater systems.

Lara has served a trustee on the AWWA Water Resource Sustainability Division, chair of the national AWWA Water Resources Planning and Management Committee 2012-2015, and was project manager for the M50 Water Resources Planning Supply Practices Manual. In 2017, she served as Conference Chair for the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association (PNCWA) annual conference, has been a Board Member since 2018 and is currently Vice President. Since 2014, she has been the Committee Chair for the PNCWA Women of Water and the PNWS AWWA Women In Leadership (WIL) Symposium in Seattle.

Session: “WEF’s Leadership and Initiative for Diversity

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

8:40am – 8:55am

Presenting Author: Lynn Broadus, PhD, MBA

Abstract

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) is committed to enhancing diversity and awareness of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, disability and sexual orientation among its staff, consultants, contractors and members. As a matter of principle and practice, WEF values and seeks a diverse and inclusive membership. It is the Federation’s goal to encourage full participation in the activities of the Federation, its Member Associations and affiliated entities by all individuals.

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Lynn, president of Broadview Collaborative, Inc., a platform for advancing sustainable, resilient practices in the water sector. She serves as a strategic advisor and facilitator for private sector, non-profit, and philanthropic clients throughout North America, and is known for bringing new ways of thinking to the crucial environmental challenges of our day. She is recognized as a thought leader advancing concepts of distributed water infrastructure, and for her 2019 report [“Opportunities in Distributed Water Infrastructure”](#).

Prior work includes leading The Johnson Foundation's environment program from 2008-2014, convening hundreds of leaders to address U.S. water sustainability and resiliency under the umbrella of "Charting New Waters". Earlier she held leadership roles with Milwaukee Riverkeeper®, The Nature Conservancy and NatureServe, and has experience in energy conservation and teaching. She earned her Ph.D. from Duke University, her M.B.A. from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and her bachelor's degree in environmental sciences from the University of Virginia. Lynn also serves as president for the Water Environment Federation, is past chair of River Network's board, and member emerita (past chair) of the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Nelson Institute Board of Visitors. She recently completed three years as a non-resident senior fellow with the Brookings Institution. Lynn is based in Minneapolis, MN.

Session: "Taking Action on Your Own Behalf"

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

8:55am – 9:35am

Presenters: Stephanie Smith, MA

Abstract

Whether you're thinking about your next promotion or trying to ensure that you're doing the work you love most, the ability to take action on your own behalf is essential in business today. Stephanie will walk you through the best ways to advocate for yourself while maintaining relationships that matter.

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Stephanie is unmatched in her ability to help individuals confidently step into their leadership and aid companies in creating deep employee engagement. She is the co-founder and COO of Carpenter Smith Consulting, LLC, and provides trusted advice and consultation to executives and individuals who are seeking greater personal and professional success.

For 20 years, Stephanie has worked with individuals to enhance their performance, help them achieve greater results, and create more engaged teams.

Stephanie is a powerful and inspiring coach who is able to simplify and operationalize complex and challenging issues. Her clients describe her as a fierce ally and motivational facilitator.

Before founding and leading Carpenter Smith Consulting, LLC, Stephanie held leadership roles in non-profits, university research settings, and mental health environments. She has been recognized as someone who can get things done and enthusiastically encourage others to do the same.

Stephanie has an M.A. in Applied Behavioral Sciences with an emphasis in Coaching and Consulting, and B.A. in Psychology.

Session: “Stepping in and Stepping up: Equity in Action”

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

9:35am – 10:15am

Presenter: Nicki Pozos, PHD, PE, Jesse Maran

Abstract

Equity seems to be everywhere these days, but what does it mean? What is our role—both as utilities and as individuals—in addressing inequities based on race, gender, disability, others?

This session will explore opportunities from the angles of influence and power, economic opportunity, and project benefits and impacts. The intent is for attendees to leave both with a fresh perspective and ideas for concrete steps forward.

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Nicki brings a diverse background, encompassing a PhD in Civil Engineering and former work as a life coach. Her experience includes serving as marketing manager for a water business group of 50 professionals, managing preliminary design of a billion-dollar water program, and delivering strategic communications for some of the largest water/wastewater projects in Oregon. Nicki is multiracial and considers herself both white and a person of color. She is a recognized leader in equity within the water industry – serving as a minority evaluator for the City of Portland, leading small business programs on major capital projects, and serving as current president of the non-profit Women Leading Water.

Jessie transforms vision into reality and has successfully leveraged her background in urban design, graphic communications, operations and project management skills into a respected business operations and development practice. With over 20 years of experience, Jessie is a systematic and compassionate leader with a talent for working at multiple scales simultaneously. Jessie is a passionate climate and sustainable transportation advocate in her SE Portland community and has facilitated and organized events to enact change through outreach and engagement.

Panel Discussion: “Women in the Water/Wastewater Industry”

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

10:30am – 11:15am

Moderators: Kimberly Kelsey, Kelsey Hu **Presenter:** Lorraine Patterson, Pamela Randolph, Jilma Jimenez, Sherrill Doran

Abstract

Despite an underrepresentation of women in the water/wastewater industry, women around the world occupy key leadership positions when it comes to managing this precious resource. Hear from women leaders in our industry speak to their passion for water and interests in protecting our environment, which led them to pursue fulfilling careers in the water industry.

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Lorraine Patterson (she/her), Chief Administrative Officer. As Chief Administrative Officer for King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Lorraine Patterson is never bored and often engaged in very different topics throughout the day. A day might include a briefing on human resources issues, conversations with finance managers on budget or funding issues, strategy development around equity or other long-term goals, and fun topics like space planning. Lorraine is a licensed attorney with experience in employment and labor relations. She utilizes managerial courage and continuous improvement to ensure results while developing staff to achieve their personal goals. As a life-long resident of the Pacific Northwest, she has had many opportunities to enjoy the jewels that are abundant in our region. She strongly believes in the efforts required to maintain and/or restore our natural areas for future generations.

Pamela Randolph (she/her), Edmonds WWTP Manager; Pamela manages the City of Edmonds, WA WWTP. A visionary in her field, Pamela is focused on efficient operations, ratepayer value and positioning the City for the future, all the while providing career growth opportunities for her staff. She has served on the PNCWA Leadership committee and as both a formal and informal Mentor. Pamela is a licensed operator with 36 (although I'd prefer to just say several) years of experience in wastewater treatment operations and maintenance.

Jilma Jimenez (she/her), Jacobs VP and Northwest Operations Manager; Jilma manages business operations for the Northwest geography including Washington, Hawaii, Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, North and South Dakota, and Montana. She is also a valued global leader in the TogetherBeyond Journey; Jacobs' approach to living inclusion every day and enabling diversity and equality globally. Jilma brings more than 25 years of experience managing complex teams and engineering projects and is a Civil and Mechanical Licensed Professional Engineer.

Sherrill Doran (she/her), Jacobs VP and Water Market Growth Leader; Sherrill provides executive operations and project management focusing on multi-disciplinary and innovative teams – addressing opportunities and challenges in water resources and planning, flood management, and stormwater, water quality, and climate resiliency in our communities. Sherrill focuses on inspirational leadership to elevate teams to their highest collaborative potential. She brings a passion for mentoring and coaching up and coming leaders, with an emphasis on skills like emotional IQ, inclusion and diversity, public speaking, and community involvement. She is a Project Manager and market lead who brings 29 years of experience managing infrastructure planning and engineering projects across the country.

Kimberly Kelsey (she/her), Jacobs Client Account Manager; Kimberly manages a portfolio of utilities and municipalities in the Puget Sound area focusing on building strong relationships between the private and public sectors. A life-long advocate for women in the workforce, Kimberly is highly engaged in the Jacobs Women's Network to spur meaningful dialogue, provide mentorship, and foster an inclusive culture. She is a registered professional engineer with 25 years of experience in project management and mechanical engineering.

Kelsey Hu (she/her), Water Resources Engineer and Executive Intern; Kelsey provides engineering and project management support to a variety of projects including green stormwater infrastructure, drainage design, CSO reduction, and wet weather treatment. She also serves as an executive intern working directly with senior leaders to drive strategy and

cultural initiatives throughout the West region. Currently an EIT, Kelsey is a hopeful professional engineer-to-be upon successful completion of the PE exam.

Session: “Close: PNCWA 2020 Woman of the Year ”

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

11:15am – 11:30am

Presenter: Nora Curtis

Abstract

The PNCWA Woman of the Year award recognizes women who have excelled in their career, have forwarded water issues and/or have made a significant achievement to the water industry. The essence of this award is to discover and reward exceptional women for their leadership, mentoring skills and/or ideas that stand out from their colleagues.

Brief Biography and/or Qualifications

Nora has worked for 31 years for Clean Water Services. She is an exceptional leader and mentor to the women in the industry. She is an advocate for positive change displaying creativity and excellent communication.