Biographies for 2016 Women in IT Speakers

Kristen Dearing
Senior Vice President, Brierley+Partners
Sales, Marketing & Alliances

Kristen brings over 19 years of creating and delivering innovative and successful sales and marketing campaigns. Prior to joining Brierley in 2012, Kristen was a global sales leader at Oracle, responsible for multimedia marketing and technology engagements within the Communications Business Unit. In addition, Kristen spent over 12 years at Sun Microsystems managing key strategic alliances and leading organizations that sold to Fortune 100 companies. She also has a consulting background, as she spent several years at Accenture. At Brierley+Partners, she leads the Marketing, Public Relations and Partnership Alliances. Kristen is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma where she received her BA degree in Finance.

Neera Talbert ’87
Vice President of Professional Services, Revolution Analytics

Neera Talbert is a seasoned Consulting executive with over 25 years of experience. Before joining Revolution Analytics, Neera was Director of Consulting Services at SAS. Prior to that Neera was with SAIC and CSC supporting NASA’s manned flight information technology programs. She brings over fifteen years of proven success in the business analytics software industry, as well as ten plus years in management consulting and IT professional services. Neera is skilled at developing and driving services strategy to achieve high performance and organizational change management. She is an innovative and team-oriented leader with proven leadership skills driving consulting service business in global markets. During her career she has launched a program management office, co-authored delivery methodologies, implemented knowledge sharing best practices, developed a partner enablement practice, managed larger consulting service practices, launched an offshore practice, and established college recruiting programs. Neera is a graduate of Texas A&M. She has one daughter and resides in Austin with her husband Tony.
John Krajicek

John Krajicek is an Executive Professor at Mays Business School, where he teaches Business Communication in the MBA, PMBA, and EMBA Programs. He is the recipient of many teaching awards, including two Texas A&M University Association of Former Students teaching awards and most recently, the 2014 Mays Business School MBA Outstanding Faculty award and the 2015 Mays Executive MBA Faculty Excellence award.

John coaches his students and executives in exciting, cutting edge ideas and methods for improving professional presence, leadership, listening, and general communication skills. He draws extensively on his training in Emotional and Social Intelligence and Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction.

Through his role at Mays Business School, as well as independently, John has worked extensively with thousands of executives of many leading companies, including Halliburton, Honeywell, PepsiCo, Baker Hughes, MD Anderson, Las Vegas Sands, Rockwell Automation, BDO International, and GE Oil and Gas.

Alyssa Michalke ‘16

Alyssa Michalke ‘16 is an Ocean Engineering Major who was born right here in College Station, but grew up in Schulenburg. Alyssa attended Schulenburg High School, where she played multiple sports such as softball, golf, basketball, and cross country, and was a member of the band and National Honor Society. She came to Texas A&M in August of 2012 and joined Company B-1 during Freshman Orientation Week. Alyssa spent her black-belt years in Company B-1, serving as the guidon bearer and team leader throughout her sophomore year. She served as the Sergeant Major of the Corps during her junior year, and is currently serving as the Corps Commander for the 2015-2016 school year.

Outside of the Corps, Alyssa has served as a committee member within Sports for Kids, an organization that provides sports activities for children in the local area. Alyssa is also a member of the Marine Technical Society, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Omega Epsilon (the honor society for Ocean Engineering Majors), the O.R. Simpson Honor Society, and the Ross Volunteer Company.

Alyssa plans to graduate in December of 2016 with a B.S. in Ocean Engineering and a certificate in Project Management. She aspires to work in the offshore oil and gas industry as a project manager. Her peers, faculty members, and members of the Commandant’s staff have described Alyssa as “an exceptional young woman,” “having a dedicated selfless work ethic,” and someone “who has clearly demonstrated leadership abilities.”