

## Speaker Bios 2021

### **Tim West**

---

Tim has worked as an information security executive, a security practitioner, and as a successful security consultant. As deepwatch's Field CTO, Tim leads a team that advises customers on how to best improve one's security operations maturity while providing strategic direction for deepwatch's Operations, Product, and Growth teams. Tim has led diverse teams in Advisory Services, Operations, and Growth including over 150 security practitioners in security operations, vulnerability management, and engineering.

As a practitioner and leader, Tim has built and led multiple advisory services organizations for Accuvant, Optiv, and Atredis Partners. Prior to consulting, Tim led security teams at a Fortune 25 healthcare organization, Express Scripts, responsible for Threat & Vulnerability Management and Governance, Risk, & Compliance. Tim has spoken nationally on topics of compliance and technical security, medical devices, and other research topics including cyber security insurance practices.

### **Adrienne Ford**

---

Adrienne Ford is an IT Engineering Manager at the Federal Reserve Bank in St. Louis. For the last five years, she has worked as a Release Train Engineer and a Project Manager for the Bank. She has worked in IT her entire career and has experience with software engineering, software development life cycles, program management and database administration. Adrienne has a 17-year old son who knows everything and an 11-year old Beagle who rules the household.

### **Mark J. Surina**

---

Mark Surina is a senior consultant in LMI Consulting. Since 2008, he has served as technical advisor to the U.S. Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) Office of Research and Technology Applications (ORTA) at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, responsible for building and executing industry/government/academic technology partnerships to explore a wide variety of new concepts via federal Technology Transfer (T2). Prior to joining LMI, he supported both USTRANSCOM T2 and the command's Research, Development, Test and Evaluation program as a multidisciplinary systems engineer in The MITRE Corporation.

Mark was a career United States Air Force officer as an engineer, scientist, and project manager for programs including the F-22 Advanced Tactical Fighter, aircraft training simulators, improved high explosives and munitions, and Air Force test range capital investments and modernization. He commanded the Air Force Air Mobility Battlelab, an innovation center linking the military user with the technology developer in field trials and research. His career fields included major weapon systems acquisition, chemical research, scientific and program management.

Mark received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Penn State University and an M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California. He is a member of the Project Management Advisory Board for Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, and is certified as a Project Management Professional (PMP) and in the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL).

## **Ozzie Lomax**

---

Ozzie Lomax PMI-RMP, PMP, MBAPM, is the CEO of LCG, a firm focused on helping clients with Risk Management, Requirement Clarity and Project Management Competency Assessment. He is a Washington University School of Engineering Adjunct Professor, SIU Project Management Advisory Board member, and SIUC School of Engineering Advisory Board member. He has spent 37 years in Fossil and Renewable Energy engineering, construction & operation. He holds a BSEET and MBA in Project Management and maintains a life philosophy of Optimism, Persistence and Risk Management.

## **Debbi Stafford**

---

Debbi Stafford, MS, PMP, PMI-ACP, has worked as a Project/Program Manager in government sector, private sector, and public sector for most of her career, even before knowing that project management was an actual career. Debbi was instrumental in developing and implementing a statewide Substance Abuse Traffic Offenders' Program for the State of Missouri, Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and an electronic monitoring program for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Court in Boone and Calloway counties in Missouri.

Debbi is currently an IBM Certified Senior Project Manager with Kyndryl, a recent spin-off company of IBM. In addition to serving on the SIUE PM Advisory Board, Debbi has served on the Board of the PMI Metropolitan St. Louis Chapter (VP of Admin), and the Board of the PMI Mid-Missouri Chapter (former position of VP of Professional Development; current position as VP of Admin).

## **Brad Verdigets**

---

Brad Verdigets' teams are responsible for:

- Enterprise EDI - providing secure, electronic data interchange for our vast network of payers and providers. This critical service processes hundreds of millions of transactions per day / 365 days per year.
- Enterprise GRC – supporting our governance, risk, and compliance applications for our more than 66,000 team members.
- Talent Cultivation - developing the professional leadership skills IT needs to support our future growth.

As a 12-year veteran with Centene, Brad has served in the following areas:

- Business Intelligence, Enterprise Data Warehousing, Predictive Analytics, Administrative Systems, Medical Management Systems, Health Plan Acquisitions, and International Operations.

In addition, he has led the Business Intelligence (BI) systems team with responsibilities for:

- BI reporting, analytics & the enterprise data warehouse
- Extract, Transfer Load (ETL) data management processes
- MicroStrategy and Business Objects implementations
- Data Base Administration
- Member and Provider Predictive Analytics systems

His experience as a systems integrator has resulted in successful implementation of complex programs including:

- Monitor system KPIs, measure outcomes, identify care gaps, and support provider incentives and payment models.
- Enable use, exchange, processing, and storage of data required for optimal health plan performance.
- Achieve coordination of care, disease and lifestyle management and care gap closure.
- Empower people and patients to take greater control over their own health and wellness and educate them about the many alternative self-care resources available.

- Provide actionable intelligence that reinforces positive provider behaviors.
- Integrate health and care data from across multiple systems.
- Deliver comprehensive data analytics and informatics to trigger alerts when patients receive duplicate or conflicting services or medicines from different providers.

Prior to joining Centene he worked in Advertising at Rodgers Townsend, Anheuser Busch as a consultant, and Ernst & Young LLP as a consultant supporting many different industries.

## **Julie Bugala**

---

Julie is a Sr. Executive of Human Capital and Process Optimization. Her leadership experience spans medium and large-scale HR operations and programs involving global talent and leadership initiatives with specialization in the areas of Talent Management, Talent Acquisition, Employment Brand and Advertising, Contingent labor programs, Learning and Leadership Development. A key corporate business partner and change agent with a record of accomplishment in developing talent solution strategies and leadership executive development programs to drive business performance.

Julie is currently Human Resource leader for Edward Jones where she is responsible for leading Home Office workforce acquisition strategy and execution including all operational aspects, DEI talent acquisition strategy, executive recruitment and the contingent workforce acquisition and management program. Additionally, she is currently leading the firm's future-state hybrid workforce strategy and is proudly representing Edward Jones on the St. Louis Anchor Network, part of the workforce development facet of the city's 2030 initiative.

Previously, she held the role of SVP, Talent at Centene with oversight for enterprise-wide Recruitment and Talent Management. In this role she was responsible for delivering large scale, global-centric talent strategies and programs aligned with the business priorities to drive company growth through intentional talent identification and development approaches. She oversaw all aspects of talent key practices including annual talent reviews, succession management including c-suite, performance management, HR Research and assessments, and learning and leadership development.

Previously, she worked for AT&T for 19 years where she held various roles across HR including executive positions leading global Talent Management and Acquisition. Under her leadership, her team transformed the candidate experience yielding recognition from StartWire, an online application aggregator for job seekers, who ranked AT&T first out of the top 25 responsive employers in the country, a list that includes Pepsi, Sears, JPMorgan Chase and Capital One. Julie received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Mundelein College Chicago. She currently serves as an Advisory member to Inclusively, an emerging start-up connecting employers with individuals with disabilities. Her previous community service positions include Vice-Chair and Board Member for Dallas Workforce Solutions and board member for St. Louis Contemporary Art Museum. Julie was born and raised in the Chicago metropolitan area and now resides in Clayton, MO with her life partner, Brian.

## **Renea Daesch**

---

Renea Daesch joined the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis in April 2021 where she currently serves as the Assistant Vice President of Treasury Engineering. She leads all aspects of software engineering to ensure the delivery of high-quality technology services for the US Department of Treasury.

Prior to joining the St. Louis Fed, Renea was the Vice President of Global Information Technology for BWPapersystems, a leading manufacturer of products used by corrugating, sheeting, and paper-converting industries. Renea retired as a US Army senior civilian supporting Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC) logistics and transportation mission. She designed SDDC's enterprise IT transformation from monolithic

architecture into a service-oriented architecture. Renea began her career as a Software Engineer, where she led and implemented numerous digital initiatives and a large-scale IT initiative focusing on increasing value delivery. Her prior experience spans custom-developed enterprise-scale applications, integration and implementation of commercial off-the-shelf products and helping businesses take advantage of enterprise-class cloud solutions.

Renea received her Enterprise Architect Master's from National Defense University and her bachelor's degree from St. Louis University in Computer Science.

## **Matt House**

---

Matt is a recovering developer that still gets excited when he hears the "Ribbit" of someone starting up Toad. For reasons still unknown, he eventually went over to the dark side and became a project manager. After spending some time in the world of project management, Matt was convinced there had to be a better way to run a software development program. After attending his first agile bootcamp he discovered that flowers smelled sweeter, food tasted better, and he was never going back to the oppression of Microsoft Project. Now as a full time Agile coach with Sketch, Matt helps organizations implement lean program management best practices and build environments that people actually want to work in.

When he's not raging against the schedule industrial complex, Matt enjoys traveling with his wife and two sons, falling off skateboards, and writing in the third person.

## **Lavetta T. Stevenson**

---

With over 25 years of IT Portfolio, Program and Project Management experience in multiple industries, **Lavetta T. Stevenson**, is also a Certified John Maxwell Coach, Speaker, and Facilitator with over 2,500 hours conducting high-impact master mind groups, speaking and coaching at The Boeing Company. Lavetta is also a '86 SIUE Alumnae. She received her Master's from Washington University – St. Louis and is a future candidate for the Capella University Doctoral of Business Administration – Project Management.

Giving back to the community, Lavetta is a past Board Member of Mentor St. Louis, past volunteer for OSTEM, and United Way of Greater St. Louis. In her leisure time you will find Lavetta walking and hiking the trails of Creve Coeur Lake Park and Castlewood Park in the greater St. Louis area.