

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE THE ERIK JONSSON SCHOOL

Grace Series Talk

Grace Series Talks are Women Empowerment Talks for all Grad and Undergrad Students in Computer Science and Software Engineering



Talks to: *Empower *Enrich *Inspire

"Auditing your Next Career Move: Getting that Job, Career Advancement, Advocacy and Giving Back"

By: Juliet G. Odima CSM, CSPO

Executive Director, STEAM Achievers

Associate Vice President and Director, School of Data Science and Analytics, Colaberry Inc. Awarded 2018 Women in Technology "Advocate Distinction" by Dallas Business Journal Honoree, 2018 Women in Technology by Dallas Business Journal featured by various news outlets including ABC WFAA News, Dallas Business Journal, Ozobot, Rambler Newspapers Awarded Golden Rule International Award and appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the Golden Rule by the Interfaith Peace-Building Initiative, a United Nations affiliate.

The global pandemic has touched each of us in ways we will likely never forget, and has taught young and old, rich and poor, educated and not, more than a few tough lessons in agility. Otherwise normal fears over our general preparedness, have been amplified for many, and can be paralyzing, given the interruptions in learning, rapidly changing news headlines, company closures, job security, ongoing concerns over justice and equality, the elections only weeks away, and of course, real fear for our own health and wellbeing, and that of our families. This environment has the potential to get us wound up in anxiety, wondering if we are "good enough" for the competitive labor market, for a transition into a new career, for our next career move, and more. In this roundtable, I will share the lessons I have learned in my journey transitioning into technology, fighting fight past the fear of the unknown, bias and more. We will discuss how we can transition from fear into an actionable audit to uncover our preparedness, some actionable steps we can take to get a competitive advantage over our peers or prepare for career advancement, and discover the hope and bright spots within the pandemic for rising engineers, data scientists and analysts.

Juliet serves as Executive Director of S.T.E.A.M. Achievers, an organization focused on bridging the S.T.E.A.M., education and achievement gap among children, youth, and adults from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds. Juliet serves as Associate Vice President at Colaberry Inc., a social enterprise providing top tier consulting services and delivering empowering business intelligence solutions in the Data Science, and Data Analytics space. As an avid supporter of Diversity and Inclusion, she has trained minorities, women, veterans and individuals from over 48 countries. She also served as Director of Digital Transformation, Learning and Development at a financial services company and led teams from Europe, Canada and the US in the development of nationwide Learning Management Systems serving over 120,000 agents from 113 locations in 49 states. Juliet has also served as Chair of Uplift Education Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee (CTE), Irving ISD's Business and Entrepreneurship Advisory Board, Coppell ISD Technology/Coding Advisory Board, at the Greater Irving Las Colinas Chamber Technology Leadership Council, the DFW Alliance of Women and Technology (DFW ATW), and as PTO President at Universal Academy, Coppell, Enrichment Committee ViP Chair at Uplift North Hills Preparatory. She was awarded the Golden Rule International Award and was appointed Goodwill Ambassador for the Golden Rule by the Interfaith Peace-Building Initiative, a United Nations affiliate, globally proclaiming every April 5th as the "Golden Rule Day" in her honor. Juliet was also honoree of the Dallas Business Journal's 2018 Women in Technology Awards and was subsequently awarded a special "Advocate Distinction" for her work and missional intent in promoting women in technology and technology careers.



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