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Agenda

6:00 pm  Registration and Networking Session
  ** Light refreshments will be served.
6:50 pm  End of Networking Session
7:00 pm  Opening Remarks and Introduction of Moderator
7:10 pm  Panel Discussion
8:15 pm  Q&A Session
8:30 pm  Closing Remarks and Open Networking Session
9:00 pm  End of Event
Thank you for attending!

Climbing the corporate ladder: The Pan-Asian perspective

Panelist

Kathy McDermott

Tax IAS Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Kathy McDermott is a PwC partner who is known for making every touch point with internal and external customers matter. With her proven ability to picture the world differently and transform something strong into something superb, she is sought out as both a technical expert and a mentor for clients and team. Kathy has more than twenty years of experience managing cross-border engagements and is on the forefront of global tax legislation. Kathy spearheads initiatives that connect the best minds to quickly solve technical issues, leads training programs on cross-border technical issues, short-term international assignments and global equity programs. Kathy has held leadership roles within our process improvement arena, with a specific focus on Six Sigma processes and efficiencies. Clients and colleagues alike value Kathy’s personalized approach and resourcefulness. Passionate about developing women and minorities within PwC, she has been involved in a number of PwC Diversity programs and was selected to lead various global diversity conferences and initiatives. Kathy holds several leadership roles, including the National Tax Diversity leader and the Metro Regional International Assignee Services leader. Kathy joined PwC in 1988 after graduating from Manhattan College with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. She is a Certified Public Accountant in New York and Connecticut.

Afzal (“Al”) Tarar

Partner, Financial Services Advisory, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Afzal ("Al") Tarar is a partner in the Financial Services Advisory practice based in NYC. He has recently repositioned back to New York from Shanghai where he was a partner in the PwC China/HK firm and led the Insurance and Wealth/Asset Management consulting practices. He has more than 20 years of experience serving global financial services industry clients both in the U.S. and Asia Pacific.

Afs’s past and current clients include top U.S. and Asia Pacific based insurance firms, wealth and asset management firms, investment banks, securities firms and real estate firms. He received a BA from Qing Hua University in Beijing, China and an MS from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. He speaks fluent English, Mandarin Chinese and Hindi/Urdu.

Annie Cheung

Former IBM Vice President, Smarter Planet Initiatives for IBM ASEAN

Annie Cheung is former IBM Vice President, Smarter Planet Initiatives for IBM ASEAN in Singapore. She drove client requirements, enabling and execution of the global strategies to develop global Asian leaders. Annie is also VP, Channel Marketing, IBM Global General Business, responsible for the development, enables and execution of the channel strategy in support $16 billion of revenue. Annie also served the boards of OA and APLS.

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Panelist

Jeannie Dieffenbacher

Experienced Senior Telecommunication Executive

Jeannie Dieffenbacher has over 28 years of technical and operational experience with 10+ years in executive leadership positions at Verizon Communications, a Dow 30 company, including a 10,000-person global customer care organization for Verizon’s largest enterprise customers for the last two years. Jeannie achieved over a billion dollars in synergies for the firm during the three years she served as the Chief Procurement Officer when she managed a $10 billion+ purchasing program. In addition, as the senior vice president of Global Engineering & Planning, she implemented a network capital program of over $10 billion to expand Verizon’s global backbone network across six continents, as well as its nationally renowned Fios network. Jeannie is a member of the Accenture Network Advisory Council, serves as the Vice Chair of the board of the Ms. Foundation for Women, and is a Trustee of Tufts University. From 2001 to 2008, she was a member of the board of Independent Trustees at Citizens Funds, an SRI mutual fund complex, based in Portsmouth, NH. Internal to Verizon, she has served on the boards of several Employee Resource Groups, including the Minority Multicultural Association of NYNEX, Women’s Association of Verizon Employees, and the Asian Focus Group.

A native of Seoul, South Korea, Jeannie immigrated to the U.S. when she was 13 years old. She holds a BS in Chemical Engineering from Tufts University, and an MBA from Babson College. Jeannie and her husband, George, have two children, Mia and Derek.

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