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# Revolutionary Women

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Global executive women leaders will chronicle their rise to the top; showcase the positive change they are promoting throughout the world in their respective industries; and share their vision. This seminar will educate participants about the waves of change the presenters are advocating, and the exciting paths they are blazing. Featured speakers will discuss their paths to success, stumbling blocks and solutions, and their positive influence on gender diversity and inclusion.

Throughout the history of the United States, dating back to the birth of our Nation, women have played an invaluable role. The Museum of the American Revolution is opening a special exhibition *When Women Lost the Vote: A Revolutionary Story, 1776-1807*, on August 22, 2020, four days before the 100th anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the US Constitution. It is an ideal time for a forum about leading women executives, spearheading international enterprise and business development.

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**Wednesday, January 29, 2020 | 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**The Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia, PA**



MODERATOR

# Debbie Epstein Henry

Founder,  
DEH Consulting, Speaking, Writing

Co-Founder,  
Bliss Lawyers

Debbie Epstein Henry is an expert, consultant, best-selling author and public speaker on careers, workplaces, women and law. Debbie runs DEH Consulting, Speaking, Writing and consults with and speaks at events for companies, law firms and other professional service firms as well as non-profits. She regularly speaks at private retreats and events as well as at conferences and other public venues. Debbie's international work includes multiple engagements in The Hague as well as in Paris at the French Senate and in London and Vienna and other cities abroad. For 20 years, hundreds of news outlets have featured her work including The New York Times, NBC Nightly News, The Wall Street Journal, National Public Radio, and The National Law Journal.

Debbie runs the *DEH* Speaker Series, offering programming with New York Times best-selling authors, *TED* speakers, and thought leaders in NYC and by webcast, drawing more than 1,000 participants per quarter. In 2007, she conceived of the Best Law Firms for Women initiative, a national survey she developed and ran for a decade with Working Mother to annually select the top 50 law firms for women and report on industry trends. Debbie is the author of *LAW & REORDER*, the #1 best-selling ABA Flagship book for 2011 and the co-author of another ABA best-selling Flagship

book in 2015, *FINDING BLISS*. By 2008, her public speaking, press exposure and advocacy enabled her to build a national network of over 10,000 lawyers. From there, in 2011, Debbie co-founded Bliss Lawyers, a company that employs high caliber attorneys to work on temporary engagements for in-house legal department and law firm clients.

Debbie volunteers her time with a number of non-profits. She is Vice President of The Forum of Executive Women, a nomination-only, membership organization of the top 450 women in business in Philadelphia. Debbie also sits on The Forum's Board and co-chairs its annual Leadership Symposium. Additionally, she chairs Brooklyn Law School Women's Leadership Circle which runs a national women's law student and alumnae initiative. Debbie has received numerous awards including being named among the Philadelphia Business Journal's "Women of Distinction." In 2017, Debbie received the Anne X. Alpern Award, presented annually to a female lawyer who demonstrates excellence in the legal profession and who makes a significant professional impact on women in the law. She received her B.A. from Yale and her J.D. cum laude from Brooklyn Law School. A native New Yorker, Debbie lives in the Philadelphia suburbs with her husband; they have three sons.



## PANELIST

# Vanessa Z. Chan, Ph.D.

**Brassington Professor of Practice,  
Penn Engineering**

**Board Member**

**Angel Investor**

Vanessa Z. Chan is an Entrepreneur, Board Member, Angel Investor, Keynote Speaker, Educator and Working Parent in a Dual Career Family. She is a leading thinker in innovation & entrepreneurship where she thrives at the interface of technology and business.

Vanessa is currently at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, where she is the inaugural Jonathan and Linda Brassington Professor of Practice, the Undergraduate Chair of Materials Science & Engineering and a member of the Executive Committee of Penn Health Tech. Prior to Penn she was a McKinsey & Company partner, where she co-led their innovation practice. After McKinsey, she invented consumer products, and competed on the Today Show's Next Big Thing which led to her launching Loopit, her tangle-free headphones on QVC.

A renowned speaker, she inspires others to innovate by adopting a growth mindset and embracing failure as a catalyst for change. She is part of a dual-career family where she and her husband both have intense, high-profile careers but have integrated their work-life to be present and engaged parents. Vanessa's journey has been covered in various news outlets including the WSJ, Forbes, The Washington Post, a best-selling book (I Know How She Does It), CBS and various podcasts including "Women Killing It!". You also can find her well received 2018 Penn Engineering Commencement speech at [www.failingislikefarting.com](http://www.failingislikefarting.com).

At Penn she is transforming engineering education by complementing deep technical scholarship with formal teaching of real-world skills. What she is doing to change engineering

education has been covered by Penn Today and Forbes where she teaches students 30+ real world skills, how to commercialize technologies effectively and helps students set-up collaborations with major companies like Comcast to solve real world problems. Her new curriculum has been embraced by students and she was recognized in 2019 as one of Penn Engineering's top instructors based on student teaching evaluations.

Vanessa continues to support publicly traded companies on innovation as a founding member of United Technology Corporation's Innovation Business Development Advisory Council and member of Vanguard's Venture Board where she helps guide the Innovation Studio on their next horizon of growth. She is also the co-President of the Philadelphia Chapter of Ellevest Network, a partner at Robin Hood Ventures (an angel investing group), a Board Member of Delaware Innovation Space (a Private Public Partnership between DuPont and the State of Delaware), a Member of AAAS' Committee on Science Technology and Public Policy and a Trustee for both the Kimmel Center and Springside Chestnut Hill (SCH) Academy.

Vanessa earned a Ph.D. from MIT, a B.S.E from the University of Pennsylvania, both in Materials Science and Engineering, holds three patents and 15 papers in refereed scientific journals including a first author paper in Science. She is married to Mark van der Helm, the VP of Energy, Waste and Facilities Maintenance at Walmart and despite their crazy careers are engaged parents to two school-aged daughters. She is an avid single-track mountain biker yoga practitioner and world traveler.



## PANELIST

# Julie Coker

President & CEO,  
Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau

Julie Coker is the president and CEO of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau (PHLCVB) where she oversees the organization's efforts to promote and sell Philadelphia as a top destination for meetings, conventions, overseas travelers and group tour visitors. As president and CEO, Julie oversaw the PHLCVB's role in the 2017 NFL Draft and the 2016 Democratic National Convention, which had a combined economic impact of \$325 million for Philadelphia.

Previously, Julie served as the PHLCVB's Executive Vice President, Convention Division and managed a staff of 25 sales and services professionals responsible for selling the expanded Pennsylvania Convention Center and Philadelphia's hotel package to customers across the country. Julie joined the PHLCVB after serving as General Manager for the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, where she oversaw all operational aspects of the 350-room hotel.

A 21-year Hyatt veteran, she began her career there in 1989 as a corporate management trainee at Hyatt Regency Columbus.

Throughout her more than two decades with Hyatt, she rose through the ranks in a variety of positions, including assistant front office manager, front office manager, hotel assistant manager, assistant executive housekeeper and general manager.

Julie serves on several boards, including the executive committees for U.S. Travel Association and Destinations International. From January

2018-2020, she served as co-chair for U.S. Travel's Meetings Mean Business Coalition and secretary-treasurer for International Association of Exhibitions and Events Executive Committee (IAEE). In Philadelphia, she is a board member of the Global Philadelphia Association and on the executive committee for the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce. She is also on the Philadelphia International Airport Advisory Committee and the Mayor's Cultural Advisory Committee. From 2016-2019, Julie co-chaired the Mayor's Shared Spaces Initiative to combat homelessness and in 2016, she served as the chair of Mayor Jim Kenney's transition team for the Democratic National Convention.

Additionally, Julie is a member of the Philadelphia Chapter of The Links, Incorporated. In both 2012 and 2019, the Philadelphia Business Journal named her among their Women of Distinction honorees. She was the 2017 United Negro College Fund Mayor's Ball Honoree for Civic Leadership and was named one of the Network Journal's 25 Most Influential Black Women in Business. She also received the Cradle of Liberty Good Scout Award by the Boy Scouts of America Cradle of Liberty Council and was the recipient of the 2011 John Wanamaker Award (Individual Award) given by the YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity.

Julie is a graduate of Johnson & Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island, where she received a Bachelor of Science in hospitality management and graduated magna cum laude.



## PANELIST

# Deborah Driscoll, MD

Senior Vice President, Clinical Practices,  
University of Pennsylvania

Vice Dean for Professional Services  
and Luigi Mastroianni, Jr. Professor  
of Obstetrics and Gynecology,  
Perelman School of Medicine

Deborah A. Driscoll, MD was appointed Senior Vice-President for the Clinical Practices of the University of Pennsylvania and Vice Dean for Professional Services at the Perelman School of Medicine in October 2019 after serving as Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Director of the Center for Research on Reproduction and Women's Health for 14 years. She maintains a clinical practice in the Divisions of Reproductive Genetics and Maternal Fetal Medicine at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

A graduate of Smith College and New York University School of Medicine, she completed a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and a fellowship in Clinical and Molecular Genetics at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Driscoll is internationally known for her research on the 22q11.2 deletion syndrome and for her expertise on genetic screening and the care of women with genetic conditions. Dr. Driscoll was the principle investigator of the NICHD Women's Reproductive Health Research

(WRHR) career development program and the March of Dimes Prematurity Research Center at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the recipient of several awards including a Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, AAMC Women in Medicine and Science Leadership award, FOCUS Award for the Advancement of Women in Medicine, and the Perelman School of Medicine Elizabeth Kirk Rose, MD Women in Medicine award and the Alumni Service award. Dr. Driscoll has served on numerous committees for the University of Pennsylvania Health System and as chair of CPUP Clinical Operations Committee and chair of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Medical Board. Nationally, she has served as Treasurer of the American College of Medical Genetics, President of the Council of University Chairs in Obstetrics and Gynecology and President of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.





## PANELIST

# Bethany Edwards

Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer,  
LIA Diagnostics

Bethany Edwards, CEO and co-founder of LIA Diagnostics, is revolutionizing over-the-counter women's health products for good. She has combined engineering, design, science, and business acumen to create Lia: the first FDA-cleared flushable, biodegradable pregnancy test.

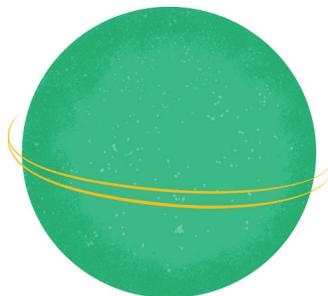
Since LIA's founding in 2015, Bethany has transformed Lia from a thumbnail sketch to a tangible, efficacious product with significant brand traction. In addition to raising capital and leading the company's vision and mission, Bethany, along with her co-founder has been responsible for Lia's product development and holds multiple patents surrounding the sustainable diagnostics technology behind Lia.

LIA Diagnostics has been featured in TIME Magazine's "50 Best Inventions of 2018", Oprah Magazine, and was named number 21 on Forbes' "50 Women-Led Startups That Are Crushing Tech". Bethany, with her co-founder, won TechCrunch's Startup Battlefield Disrupt

Berlin and was also awarded Fast Company's Best in Design award, Women's Health's FemTech award, and an international Art Directors Club Gold Cube for packaging design excellence.

Bethany serves on Springboard's Women's Health Executive Committee, has represented the U.S. at multiple Global Entrepreneurship Summits, is a DreamIt Ventures and Springboard Enterprise alumna, and is a member of the Philadelphia Alliance for Capital and Technologies, Life Sciences Pennsylvania, and the Association of the Nonwoven Fabrics Industry.

She has been featured in Fast Company, Forbes, Vox Markets, and BlogHer. Bethany was acknowledged as one of Philadelphia Business Journal's "15 women who are changing the face of tech in the region" and has been named an Ernst & Young Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year.





## PANELIST

# Jami Wintz McKeon

Partner and Chair of the Firm,  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Jami McKeon is the Chair of Morgan Lewis, the largest law firm in the world led by a woman. The first woman chair in the firm's 150-year history, she was elected unanimously to a second five-year term beginning in 2019. In implementing a strategic approach focused on client needs, Jami has spearheaded large combinations that have significantly expanded the services of the firm's 2,000-plus lawyers in 31 offices across 17 time zones. Morgan Lewis now ranks as one of the largest law firms in the United States and is among the top 25 in the world. Under her leadership, the firm has created a number of industry-leading initiatives, including ML Women, which generates opportunities for the firm's women lawyers to come together around a shared industry, practice, or jurisdiction. Jami also directed the creation of the Ramp Up Program, which allows for a substantial reduction in the billable hours' expectations for associates following an extended leave, and the Remote Working Program, which facilitates the ability of associates to work outside the office.

ML Well, launched by the firm in 2019, promotes the health and well-being of all of

the firm's legal and professional personnel. Jami's commitment to diversity and inclusion is reflected in the composition of Morgan Lewis. In 2018, more than half the associates promoted to partner were women, the highest percentage among The American Lawyer's largest 15 firms. In 2019, Morgan Lewis improved upon that record by increasing to 60% women in the partnership class. Women comprise more than one-quarter of Morgan Lewis's practice leaders, including The American Lawyer Attorney of the Year recipient Grace Speights, who leads the firm's 250-lawyer labor and employment practice, and more than one third of the firm's Advisory Board members are women.

Jami has received numerous honors for her leadership and accomplishments, including the 2019 Paradigm Award from the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia, and special achievement awards from both The Financial Times and The American Red Cross. In 2019, Jami was selected for the fifth consecutive year to participate in the Fortune-US Department of State Global Women's Mentoring Partnership.







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