



Instructor Biographies for the PIPE Program

Dr. Regine Nazaire

Dr. Regine Nazaire is a Senior Manager, Infrastructure Portfolio Management Office (IPMO) at United Airlines, where she is responsible for managing IT infrastructure implementation for a variety of Revenue application, ecommerce and marketing development initiatives. Previously worked in the public sector for 15 years for the City of Chicago and Cook County Government in Chicago. Dr. Nazaire has 20+ years professionally in the areas of IT Portfolio, Program/Project Management, Strategic Management and Performance Management. She earned her Doctorate degree in Business Administration from Argosy University in Chicago, a Masters in Project Management from Keller Graduate School of Management and a Bachelor's degree in Management & Information Systems at Lewis University. She also is a faculty member for the University of Phoenix Chicago Campus and Concordia University College of Business in River Forest.

Lester Bovia

Lester has taught at the University of Phoenix since 2010. Lester currently is an Administrative Law Judge for the Illinois Human Rights Commission. He presides over cases involving alleged discrimination in employment, higher education, real estate transactions, access to financial credit, and access to public accommodations. In addition, he is one of the owners of his family's successful small business, I-57 Rib House Inc. Lester helps manage the business's day-to-day activities and serve as the in-house legal counsel.

Previously, he was an Associate with the international law firm Winston & Strawn LLP, where he practiced in the areas of commercial litigation, product liability, white-collar criminal defense/corporate internal investigations, and *pro bono* criminal defense. Lester earned a B.S., with High Honors, in 1995, and a J.D. in 1998, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Geraldine Smrcina

Geraldine Smrcina, is the CFO of Mistica Foods, LLC, a woman owned food service organization. Previous roles include Director of Finance for the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) and its Foundation, as International Controller of OSI, LLC, CFO at Briskin Manufacturing, a division of General Motors Corp, and Controller at Maytag International Corporation.

Keynote Speaker for several organizations including the National Association of Urban Bankers, Project Management Association and CFO Midwest Summit. She also is a member of the Board of Directors for several non-profit organizations. She also is a faculty member at the University of Phoenix, where she was awarded the Educator of the Year Award in 2008.

Geraldine has Co-authored articles in The Journal of Accountancy and Association Forum Magazine. Earned her PhD from University of Illinois in Accounting and an MBA University of Phoenix in Global Management. She holds her CPA and CMA certificates.

Pitch Balasubramanian

Pitch Balasubramanian is a senior Executive and innovative business technology leader with 27 years of progressive leadership experience in Financial Services (Banking, Capital Markets & Insurance), Textile Manufacturing, Sports, Entertainment, and Consultancy. A versatile executive leader with broad skills in leading, managing and supporting diverse assignments in several areas. The areas include strategic planning & implementation, product/program roadmap, IT/business transformation, business process re-engineering, system migration/transition, infrastructure & dual data centers setup, EPMO, M&A, regulatory/compliance/risk management, operations management, data governance, vendor management, global outsourcing, service delivery model, help desk and call center management. He has been teaching at the University of Phoenix since 2006 and has taught several management and IT courses for graduate and under-graduate. He earned a bachelor degree in Computer Science and a masters in Global Business Administration and Software Systems. He also has earned the Project Management Professional (PMP) and Program Management Professional (PgMP) certification from the Project Management Institute.