

EYH North Florida 2021 Virtual Workshop

Career Q&A Panelists



Stephanie Gilbert - Manufacturing Manager at Johnson and Johnson Vision

More than 30 years of experience in Manufacturing and Engineering. Currently have 25 years of service at JJV. My career started as a Molding Operator many years ago. Seeking professional growth and development, I transitioned into several roles within Operations with increasing responsibilities in Manufacturing and Manufacturing Support. Currently as the 2nd Generation Technology Manufacturing Manager. Responsibilities include employee development, the production and delivery of Moist Brand Contact lenses to customers Worldwide and New Product Initiatives.

Education:

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida
Bachelor of Science, Electronics Engineering
Technology

Tampa Technical Institute NEC, Tampa, Florida
Associate of Science, Computer Engineering
Technology

Accomplishments: Women in Manufacturing Step Ahead Award, Johnson and Johnson Standards of Leadership Awards, Won Best Business Partner of the Year for leading and partnering with Duval County Schools and JJV Englewood Academy

Interests: Community Service, Fishing, Sports



Blanca Jordan – Plant Manager at Johnson and Johnson Vision



Darla Neal - College Admissions Coach, Founder and Owner of College Admissions Services, LLC

Darla Neal attended the University of Texas and is a graduate of the University of Florida with a B.S. in Business Administration and Marketing. She worked for Merck & Co. and Johnson & Johnson in sales, training, physician education and management. She was also a director with the American Heart Association fundraising and developing valuable programs for the city. Darla was instrumental in the mandate to have Automatic External Defibrillators throughout Jacksonville.

Darla has been actively involved in her community as a board member, chairperson and President of the Ponte Vedra Women's Civic Alliance, IB Booster Club, Nease high school College Fair, and the tennis division of the St. Johns Middle School Athletic Association. She founded a nonprofit organization assisting women as a breast cancer advocate for individuals and taught courses at the Women's Center of Jacksonville.

She has been coaching students for eleven years. Darla has successfully placed over 1000 undergraduate, graduate and transfer students. Her specialty is connecting with the student and their parents to ensure exceptional guidance throughout the process and optimizing their college admittance. She will inspire your student to be their personal best represented by their essay, resume and application.



Chelsea Partridge - Senior Test Engineer and Product Process Verification Lead for the Orion Spacecraft at Lockheed Martin

Chelsea graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of North Florida where she conceptualized CubeSat applications for bone density research. Chelsea's bioastronautics work garnered attention from NASA who sponsored her and her team for a Zero-G flight in 2014.

Chelsea's dedication to diversity and inclusion within engineering, as well as her outstanding contributions to the industry earned her the National Space Club's Rising Star Award in 2019. Within Lockheed Martin, she is an advocate for Diversity and Inclusion, leading D&I initiatives at her workplace.

Chelsea is a leader in her community. Chelsea is an advocate for space exploration and has done extensive outreach, public speaking, and advocacy for STEM and space exploration. In 2020, Chelsea was elected as the Supervisor for Brevard County's Soil & Water Conservation District, Group 3. Chelsea is also the President of the Missile, Space, and Range Pioneers—a community of engineers, astronauts, military personnel, and space enthusiasts that has been an institution at Cape Canaveral for over 50 years.



Cassie Roby - Spacecraft Thermal Engineer at Northrop Grumman

Cassie believes and strives to ensure our military has the most advanced and innovative equipment and resources at their disposal.

Cassie has earned the job of Miss Jacksonville and will compete for the job of Miss Florida this June. As Miss Jacksonville her social impact initiative is Women in STEM where her goal is to bring mentorship opportunities to young Women interested in STEM to help bridge the industry gender gap. Currently, the program reaches across 32 different states.

In addition to her day job and Women in STEM Mentorship program Cassie is also a Real Talk Brand Ambassador. This educational program teaches students about the dangers of alcohol and substance use.

Cassie holds a Masters of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Florida State University.



Ayshka Rodriguez - Software Engineer at Medtronic in Jacksonville, FL

She is also an Adjunct Professor at Jacksonville University and a UNF Alumni. At UNF she graduated with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in electrical engineering where she found her passion for medical devices working with the UNF Adaptive Toy Project.

She has been working at Medtronic for 3 years, where her first project was on a new product that launched in 2020 for ENT surgeries. As a double-minority, Ayshka is an avid supporter of diversity and inclusion in the workforce. Currently she is involved in several groups to analytically assess the current state of diversity and assist with plans to expand diversity and inclusion throughout Medtronic.

In her free time Ayshka enjoys cooking, playing with her dog and watching endless TV shows on a variety of streaming services!

And our moderator:



Shobha Varde - Director of Business Intelligence at Johnson and Johnson Vision

Shobha has a master's degree in molecular biology from the University of Maine. She has experience across pharmaceutical, medical device, and consumer medical device sectors. started with J&J leading a team of scientists to develop molecular diagnostics for various types of cancer. Following that, she moved into MD&D Sales for 5 years and led a team in the Southeast delivering the highest YoY growth consistently during her leadership. She joined Vision Care leading global new product development teams and progressed into supporting commercial leadership teams and managed the delivery of critical commercial initiatives for commercial leaders. She has a depth of experience across functions and markets and brings well-rounded leadership as the BI leader.

Her experience in R&D, Sales, Supply Chain, Program & Project Management across multiple J&J sectors makes her a well-rounded leader. She has experience in Asian markets too and completed a 2-year global assignment in Japan.