

Gulf Coast Talent Development Conference

Friday, September 16, 2016



[Register Today](#) for Early Bird Rate (available through August 12)

This full day conference offers multiple concurrent sessions in **three** tracks and **two** keynote speakers.

Speaker Bios



Laura Wall Klieves
Vice President, Duarte Academy
Sunnyvale, CA

The daughter of a retired elementary school teacher, Laura's unrequited love is teaching. And with three decades of experience as a marketing executive for big and small advertising agencies and clients, Laura brings a vast knowledge of visual story to Duarte.

Laura serves as VP of Duarte's Academy and is responsible for the business operations including IP development, facilitation, logistics, marketing and sales. She has been instrumental in expanding Nancy Duarte's award-winning books into four additional instructor-led workshops, and an award-winning eCourse.

When Laura has the opportunity to facilitate a workshop, she brings a wealth of experience in great visual design and storytelling from the trenches and weaves these stories into the learning throughout the workshop. Her energetic and easy-going style creates a great learning environment.

laura@duarte.com
www.duarte.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/laura-wall-klieves-548255a>

Keynote Session: Powerful Presentations
Breakout Session: Improve Presentations with VisualStory™ (L&D Track)



Devin Lemoine
Owner/President, Success Labs
Baton Rouge, LA

For more than 15 years, Devin has partnered with companies to successfully develop their teams and talent during times of growth, change and transition. Her experience includes executive coaching and creating custom processes for leadership development and succession planning.

She also does work facilitating and managing strategic initiatives for companies in a variety of industries, such as health care, manufacturing, petrochemical, communications, insurance and nonprofit organizations.

Devin conducts workshops and [speaks about leadership](#) at professional association and organizations events nationwide. She has a bachelor's degree in mass communications with a minor in marketing and economics from [Louisiana State University](#) and is certified in Korn Ferry-Lominger competency products.

dlemoine@mysuccesslab.com
www.mysuccesslab.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/devin-lemoine-2340751>
https://twitter.com/@Success_Labs

Keynote Session: Manage Your Career
Breakout Session: Why Building the "Best" Training Might Be the Worst Idea (L&D Track)



Debbie Richards
Creative Interactive Ideas
Houston, TX

Debbie Richards, president of Creative Interactive Ideas, has over 25 years of experience developing eLearning solutions, applications and web platforms. She has honed her skills as an instructional designer/developer while serving as a consultant and advisor, designing and developing a wide variety of training deliverables. She has been an early adopter of new technology, quick to enrich her learning design with multimedia, then interactive multimedia, and now interactive web-based training and social learning technologies.

Debbie was named one of the most influential people in corporate eLearning for 2016. She is honored to be one of 38 global eLearning professionals awarded based on willingness to share knowledge (peer-to-peer learning).

Passionate about working with and mentoring other professionals, Debbie is a past president of the ATD Houston chapter and a National Advisor for Chapters, ATD Great Lakes and Ohio Valley.

debbie@cre8iveii.com
www.cre8iveii.com
<https://twitter.com/cre8iveii>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/cre8iveii>

Breakout Sessions:

- From Review to Preview – Working with SMEs (L&D Track)
- The Future of Learning Technologies (Technology Track)



Eddie Turner
Eddie Turner, LLC
Houston, TX

Eddie Turner is a change agent who works with leaders to accelerate performance and drive business impact.

He is an International Certified Executive Coach, an international professional speaker and a member of the National Speakers Association.

Eddie is an exceptional virtual and face-to-face facilitator. He is a member of the International Association of Facilitators and certified as a Competent Facilitator by the International Institute for Facilitation.

Eddie is a graduate of Northwestern University, where he studied leadership and organization behavior. He is also an alumnus of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, where he completed the Art and Practice of Leadership Development executive education program.

eddie@eddieturnerllc.com
www.eddieturnerllc.com
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/eddieturner>
<https://www.facebook.com/eddieturnerllc>
<https://twitter.com/eddieturnerjr>

Breakout Session:

Designing & Delivering Effective Virtual Classes and Meetings
(L&D and HR/Leadership Track)



Dan Richards
Interactive Advantage, Inc.
Suwanee, GA

Dan Richards is Chief Learning Strategy Officer with Interactive Advantage Corporation, a provider of training, consulting and course development services centered on eLearning.

Since 1999, Mr. Richards has brought his creative experience as an instructor, programmer and multimedia developer to professionals in the eLearning community.

He currently teaches classes on several development tools and delivers consultative services that include instructional design, content integration and process architecture.

With a philosophy of “bringing the real world into the classroom,” Mr. Richards promotes best practices and practical techniques that help insure successful eLearning courseware development experiences for his students and customers.

dan.richards@interactiveadvantage.com

www.interactiveadvantage.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dan-richards-59180811>

Breakout Sessions:

- Big Content Peg, Small Training Hole (L&D and Technology Track)
- How to Kill an eLearning Project (Technology Track)



Megan Torrance
TorranceLearning
Ann Arbor, MI

Megan Torrance is the CEO (that is, Chief Energy Officer) of TorranceLearning, an eLearning design and development firm with an intentionally random client base.

Megan brings over a decade of business consulting and project management experience to her instructional design and development work.

The TorranceLearning team combines creativity with pragmatism, and fun with focus.

eLearning guru by day, and ice hockey goaltender by night, Megan is devoted to not only delivering outstanding work to clients, but also creating a top-notch work environment based on trust, flexibility, compassion, and fun.

mtorrance@torrancelearning.com

www.torrancelearning.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/megantorrance>

<https://twitter.com/MMTorrance>

Breakout Sessions:

- Agile Project Management for eLearning (Technology Track)
- What Instructional Designers Need to Know about xAPI (Technology Track)



Robin Schooling
Hollywood Casino
Baton Rouge, LA

Robin Schooling, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, is VP of Human Resources with Hollywood Casino, and has extensive experience in a variety of industries including gaming, banking and healthcare. She's a regular speaker at HR, Recruiting, and business conferences, has a popular blog at robinschooling.com and is on a mission to make organizations better by making HR better.

The Huffington Post named her one of The Top 100 Most Social Human Resources Experts on Twitter, and Glassdoor called her one of the 2015 HR and Recruiting Thought Leaders to Follow.

She serves on the Advisory Boards for HRonboard and BlackbookHR, is the current Ringmaster at the Carnival of HR, is active with the ATD Baton Rouge chapter and Baton Rouge Social Media Association, has been an involved SHRM volunteer leader, and once upon a time received an award as "HR Professional of the Year."

She has been known to seek out the perfect French 75 and is a fervent and unapologetic fan of the New Orleans Saints.

robin.schooling@gmail.com

www.robinschooling.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/robinschooling>

<https://twitter.com/RobinSchooling>

Breakout Session: Party of Three: Sharing the Responsibility for Onboarding Success (HR/Leadership Track)



Carita Ducre
Insights Strategies, Inc.
New Orleans, LA

Carita Ducre is a senior consultant at Insight Strategies, Inc. For 15 years, she has worked with employees and leaders alike on simplifying workplace communication.

Carita's dynamic presentations and customized training sessions are energetic and interactive, providing tools that can immediately improve communication at work – and even at home!

An accomplished writer, Carita has written over 250 business-related communications, including writing for the C-Suite.

She holds a BA in English from the University of Notre Dame and an eLearning Instructional Design certificate from the Association for Talent Development.

Carita also provides one-on-one coaching to achieve effective business results.

cducre@insightstrategies.com

www.insightstrategies.com

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/carita-ducre-7b892951>

<https://twitter.com/CaritaDucre>

Breakout Session:
Communicating Up, Down & Across
(HR/Leadership Track)



Randall Olson
MTI Business Solutions
Mobile, AL

Randall Olson is a founding partner of MTI Business Solutions, where he serves as VP/Talent Development Consultant.

Randall has an extensive background in all aspects of talent development, including design, development and delivery of various types of training programs – including management, leadership, communication, sales and more.

He has an in-depth knowledge of personality profiling and assessments in regards to employee, management and leadership interactions. He is a certified Everything DiSC and ServSafe trainer.

He has more than 25 years of experience in adult, corporate and continuing education and is often a featured speaker at conferences and association meetings.

He is a veteran of the United States Air Force and volunteers training services to the Baldwin Veterans Court System. He is also a member of the Alabama Restaurant Association and the Association for Talent Development.

- rolson@mtibusiness.com
- www.mtibusiness.com
- <https://www.linkedin.com/in/randallolson>
- <https://twitter.com/rolsonmti>
- https://twitter.com/MTI_Training

Breakout Session:

Strategic Leadership Solutions: Building Vision, Alignment & Execution
(HR/Leadership Track)

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