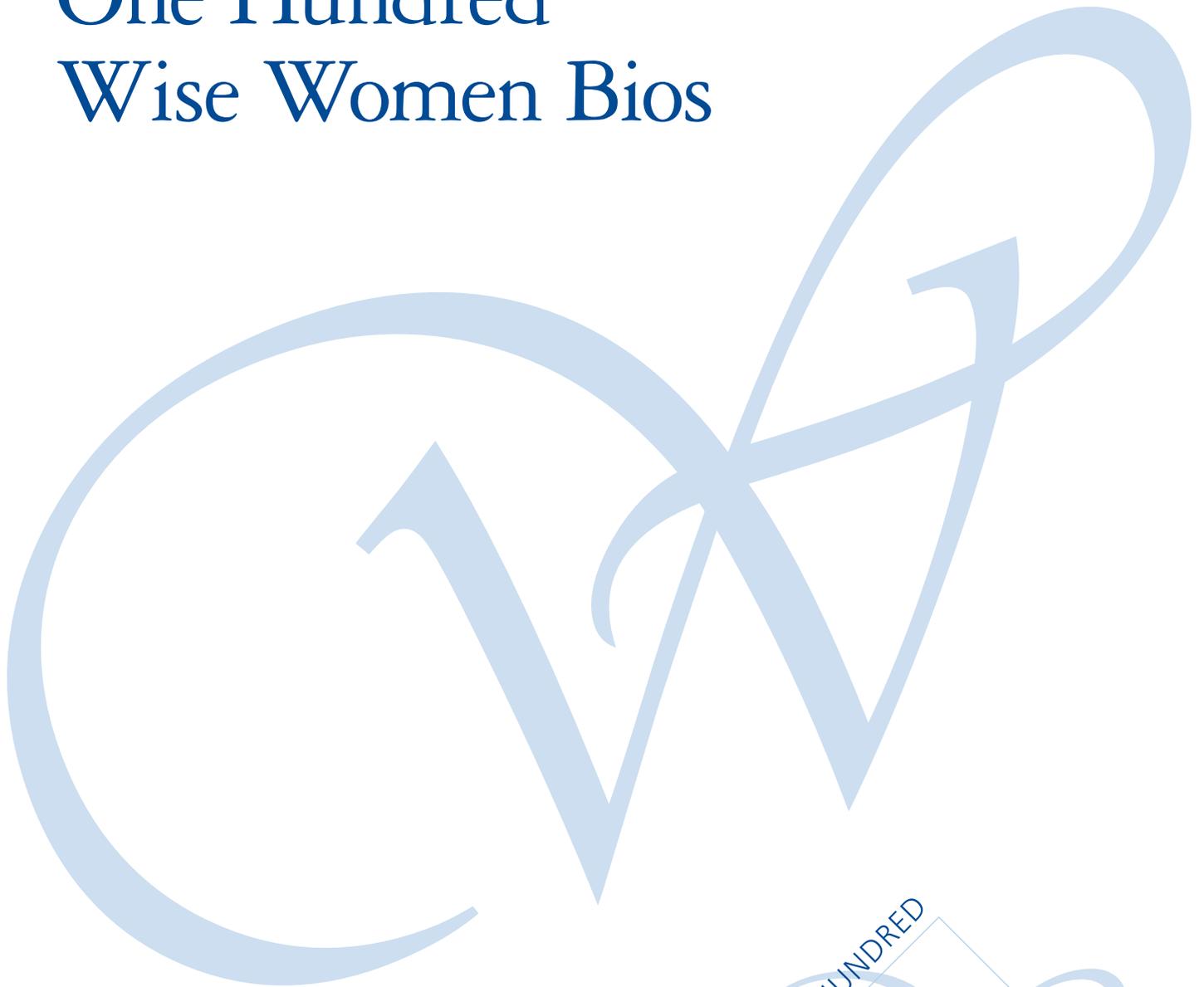


October 21, 2022

# One Hundred Wise Women Bios





## Shellie Baker

Program Managers  
KY Campus Compact

Shellie Baker is the Program Manager for the Kentucky College Coaches program at KY Campus Compact. She has previously served as the KY Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator through NKCES and supported high school college and career counselors with resources and services to help them best serve their students. Additionally, she served as the Director of Lincoln Grant Scholar House with the Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission. She leads campus operations in conjunction with the academic pathway and goal plan for all applicants in pre-presidential and those in residential and post-residential services at Lincoln Grant Scholar House.

She started her career with the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services as a caseworker and gradually worked her way to case manager. In this position, Shellie worked with the Kentucky Temporary Assistance Program (TANF), also known as KTAP. She then joined Gateway Community and Technical College in October of 2006 as the Ready to Work Coordinator and worked mostly with single parents receiving KTAP benefits. She then transitioned to the Coordinator for Student Success and Engagement where she coordinated Student Organizations, Early Alert, and Service Learning and led the BACC grant (Benefits Access for College Completion).

She received a Bachelor's degree in Mental Health and Human Services from Northern Kentucky University and a Master's degree in Adult and Higher Education at Morehead State University. Shellie is excited to connect, engage, and serve our region by developing meaningful health care pathways for our future leaders.



## Grace Bell, RN, BSN, SPRN-BC, MSN

Population Health Account Executive  
AbbVie Inc.

As a Population Health Account Executive (PHAE), Grace serves as an executive liaison between AbbVie and key health systems and group practices. She engages customers to implement population health programs that align with their business needs to improve patient care in various diseases.

Grace began her career as a staff nurse and nurse practitioner in the liver transplant program at University of Cincinnati. After working in transplant, in 2007 she accepted an NP position at Gastroenterology Consultants of Greater Cincinnati, which eventually was acquired by TriHealth. In 2014, she joined AbbVie's Hepatitis C division as a sales representative. She was promoted to a Medical Science Liaison position in 2016. Three years later, she transitioned to her current role in population health.

Grace is active in fund raising for the American Cancer Society and has been a volunteer at Sycamore Community Schools and the Cincinnati Health Department. She is a member of the Kentucky Rural Health Association. Last summer, she assembled over 100 backpacks for kids in need with her daughters. Some of her favorite organizations to support are City Gospel Mission, Freestore Foodbank, Childrens' Heart Foundation, West Alabama Foodbank, and Montgomery Foodshare.

She earned her Bachelor of Science in biology from Xavier University in 2001 and her Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of Cincinnati in 2004. She then went on to get her Masters of Science in nursing from the University of Cincinnati in 2006. Ms. Bell is currently enrolled at Northern Kentucky University and is working towards earning her Doctorate of Nursing.

Grace currently lives in Montgomery with her two daughters, ages 13 and 11.



## Carissa R Blea

Vice President, Small Business Banking Manager  
U.S. Bank

Carissa Blea has been in the banking industry for over 20 years. A large part of her career she has led teams across the Greater Cincinnati Market with U.S. Bank. She has held various roles within the bank, most recently leading a team of Small Business bankers who serve Greater Cincinnati/NKY/IN market. Carissa is passionate about helping Small Business growth in the community. She currently serves on the board of Miami Valley Non-profit Collaborative whose mission is to serve those her serve. In addition to her board involvement, she is very active with Greater Cincinnati SCORE.

Carissa currently lives in the Ross/Hamilton area with her spouse, Ryan, and 2 sons, Steven (21), Trevor (10). In her free time, you can find her cheering on her youngest son at a sporting event.



## Laena Burns

Lean Transformation Team Program Manager  
GE Aerospace

Laena Burns is an energetic people leader with over 13 years of non-consecutive experience in the aerospace and defense industry. She has held positions in manufacturing and supply chain and led global teams in size up to 150 people through a variety of challenging business environments. Some of her prior experiences include a Six Sigma Black Belt, engine assembly and test operations and site leader, materials fulfillment leader, P&L leader, program manager, and Military Spares Forecaster. She has inspired, motivated and affected change on diverse teams while driving significant process and delivery improvements. She has a passion for developing talent and a deep desire to learn.

She is currently launching the first Lean Transformation Team for GE Aerospace, a development program aimed to accelerate the business transformation, drive business results through impactful experiences, and provide a deep immersion in lean.

Laena currently lives in West Chester with her husband, Vail, and 3 kids – Kai (7 years old), Dane (5 years old) and l’olani (1 year old). Outside of work, it seems like she rarely has time to enjoy anything because 3 kids is hard work! But if she had a free day, she would workout with friends (hot yoga, spinning or bootcamp), read a great book (she loves a great thriller... but also Harry Potter!), and eat an amazing meal she didn’t cook. She loves trying new foods, but especially enjoys Italian, Thai and Indian cuisines.



## Meghan Erbaugh

Vice President, Senior Portfolio Manager  
U.S. Bank

As a Portfolio Manager, Meghan provides investment services to help clients work toward their goals. Meghan uses her experience to establish an integrated investment approach, offering asset allocation strategies and recommendations based on short- and long-term financial objectives, financial status and risk profiles.

Meghan began her career in the investment management industry in 2003. Prior to joining U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management, Meghan was a Managing Director and Portfolio Manager with The Private Client Group of U.S. Bank. There, she led a team of portfolio managers and also managed investment portfolios for affluent clients. Meghan has also worked as an Associate Portfolio Manager at Fifth Third Bank.

Within U.S. Bank Private Wealth Management-Cincinnati, Meghan serves as co-chair of the Next Generation team and is a core member on the Women and Wealth Strategy.

Meghan is active in the Cincinnati community. She is a member of the Gild Collective Women's Round table, former board member of the Friends of the Cincinnati Public Library, and is a member of Indian Hill PTO. Meghan is also an active member of Kindervelt, a volunteer organization dedicated to raising funds for Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Meghan and her husband have 3 children and when not working she enjoys attending her kids' sporting activities, taking barre class and traveling.



## Shaana Gordon

HR Director  
Procter & Gamble

Shaana Gordon is a Human Resources Director supporting Global R&D Hair Care at Procter & Gamble. In her current role, she is responsible for designing and developing HR strategy for R&D Hair Care Global sites in partnership with business leaders and influencing sector strategy to drive the achievement of strategic short-term and long-term objectives in the areas of organizational design and workforce planning/future readiness, leadership planning, career management, DE&I and performance management.

Shaana is a mission-driven labor, employee relations and human resources strategist with 20 years of business excellence including executing human resources (HR) policies/tools to resolve critical human capital issues and promote positive cultures at Fortune 500 leaders such as GM and BP prior to her tenure at P&G in 2021. She has extensive experience in devising and implementing strategic business solutions to build robust, compliant, and resilient employee relations infrastructure, with a focus on employee safety, consultative relationships, and business continuity.

She is a collaborative leader and effective communicator who spearheads negotiations within and outside of union environments to secure beneficial outcomes while partnering with leadership to balance employee needs with corporate objectives.

Shaana earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and minor in Economics degree from Fayetteville State University. She received her MBA with a concentration in Finance and International Strategy from Purdue University. She went on to pursue her Juris Doctor degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School and is licensed to practice law in the state of Michigan. Shaana also holds Project Management Professional (PMP) and Lean Six Sigma Certifications.

Shaana currently resides in Mason, Ohio with her two children, Kamilah and Kaliyah. In her free time, she enjoys 'beaching', playing tennis, traveling and is active in the work of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. in community services endeavors.



## Kathy Grant

Program Manager for Community Engagement and Professional Development  
Mount St. Joseph University

Kathy is a skilled career services professional, consultant, and client relations manager with experience in Higher Education, Association Management and the Legal and Retailing Industry Sectors. She is a strategic and innovative professional, effective in developing career and professional development opportunities. Kathy has a Bachelor of Science from Miami University in English, Education and Sociology with teaching certification and a Master's in Education with a focus on career development from the University of Cincinnati. Her signature Strengths are: Strategic, Positivity, Woo, Arranger and Belief. She taught courses in Strengths Based Leadership and for undecided majors at Mount St. Joseph University. She has recently held positions in leadership, career service and recruiting including Manager of Strategic Initiatives at Mount St. Joseph University, Coop Coordinator and Adjunct Instructor at Cincinnati State, Strengths Coach, and pro bono career coach.

Outside of her day-to-day job, Kathy is involved in a multitude of related projects, including serving as a Strengths Finder Coach at Mount St. Joseph University as well as serving in the Admissions Office and Senior Administrator's Office. She is a member of the Student Leaders and Alumni Board and the Cincinnati Urban League. She also serves as a Bizwomen Cabinet member for the Hamilton County Library and has aided in a variety of local programs including Career Connect Series, Dress for Success, and Hire Her Trainer. She has supported Make it Plain Consulting DEI initiatives that include the Summer Intern Academy and group training for companies and local school districts.

Kathy has two grown sons who have professional careers in IT and contract management. Her happy places are with family and having beach time.



## Sarah Gray

Business Banking Sales Manager  
U.S. Bank

Sarah has been a leader at US Bank for close to 20 years. She is currently serving as a Business Banking Sales Manager. In this role, she is leading a team of Relationship Managers that work with current business clients and business prospects to deliver customized solutions to meet the needs of the business. Sarah is the Vice-Chair for the Notre Dame Urban Education Center and serves on the Northern Kentucky Chamber's Women's Initiative Professional Series Committee.

She lives in Northern KY with her husband and two sons.



## Heidi Higgins

Interim Regional Sales Manager  
Bayer Pharmaceuticals

Heidi Higgins currently serves as the Interim Regional Sales Manager for the Great Lakes Region for Bayer Pharmaceuticals – US Pharma. She has over 20 years of experience in the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare arena and is a multiple award winner in specialty sales, buy/bill, device and rare disease. Additionally, she has over 12 years of leadership experience and 2 years of key account management experience.

She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Kentucky, where she majored in English and double-minored in journalism and communications. She also earned her certification in Women's leadership through Cornell University; she was the first one at Bayer Pharmaceuticals to earn this certification.

Heidi enjoys volunteering for numerous causes and events in the Cincinnati area and serves on several boards. She is a leadership member of the HBA Cincinnati Chapter as the Program Liaison for the Marketing Committee. She was selected as a member of the Ursuline Academy Mother's Board and is a member of the Bayer GROW BRG (*Growing Representation and Opportunities for Women resource group*). Additionally, Heidi is a co-lead for the GROW BRG in US Pharmaceuticals, with focus on the Oncology Business Unit, launching for the first time ever in the US Pharmaceutical division.

She is a mother to a 13-year-old daughter, 11-year-old son, and 8-year-old dog named Teddy. She has been married to her husband for 19 years; the couple met while attend UK and have been together since 1995! Her hobbies include anything with her family, fitness, nutrition, reading and listening to audio books and podcasts, anything creative and traveling. In her free time, she is a sports enthusiast and loves watching her daughter play club and high school volleyball!



## Annie Horn

Executive Director  
Girls on the Run

Annie Horn is the Executive Director of Girls on the Run Greater Cincinnati. Girls on the Run is dedicated to creating a world where every girl knows and activates her limitless potential and is free to boldly pursue her dreams. They inspire girls to be joyful, healthy and confident using a fun, experience-based curriculum which creatively integrates running. The program currently serves 12 counties in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, and they recently celebrated the milestone of serving 30,000 girls since its inception 18 years ago.

As Executive Director, Annie is responsible for representing the council to the public, leading organizational development and strategic planning, optimizing financial performance, overseeing program delivery in the designated territory, and building donor relationships and oversees personnel.

Annie earned a B.A. in Communications from Mount St. Joseph University. She is also on the Board of Directors for CORA – Cincinnati Off Road Alliance, a nonprofit with the purpose of building and advocating for more miles of off-road trails for mountain bikers, hikers, and trail runners.



## Nancy Gardner Kinman

Business Transformation/Data Analytics Manager  
U.S. Bank

Nancy Gardner Kinman currently holds the position of Business Transformation/Data Analytics Manager at U. S. Bank. She began her career in Accounting / Finance at The David J. Joseph Company, where she was promoted to positions of increased responsibilities within the Company, culminating her career in 2002 as a Corporate Officer and Senior Member of the Financial Team as Assistant Treasurer.

Leadership, employee development, and strengthening business relationships are constant missions in her professional life. Joining U. S. Bank in 2018 has allowed her to utilize her unique perspective as a Commercial Customer along with significant banking experience to drive improvements for the organization and their Clients. Previous experience at Fifth Third Bank built on her knowledge as Assistant Vice President and Product Support Manager. Her contributions continued as Vice President / Assistant Vice President and Commercial Implementations and Billing Manager, then promoted to Vice President and Commercial Support Center Manager, Cash Management Operations. She was the recipient of the Fifth Third "Horizon Award" for the successful deployment of the Commercial Support Center in 2008, a centralized Customer Care function for Clients using Treasury Management (TM) and Loan products and services.

As Treasury Solutions Consultant, she partnered with TM Sales as a "Solutions Architect", formulating needs assessments to improve working capital efficiencies and processes, tailoring each Plan to align with the Customer's goals and desired outcomes. Because of her credibility and relationships with the organization's TM Team, she was asked to launch the Bancorp TM Pricing Group which provided consultation and governance to the TM Sales organization.

Nancy's contributions expanded into the area of Vendor Compliance. She co-created a new approach known as the Vendor Compliance Review for Third Party Providers which resulted in a holistic review of Vendors including assessment of risk associated with the provider or their product / service. Her achievements included developing programs, procedures, and documentation for the review as well as several process improvements. In 2017, she was again awarded Fifth Third's "Horizon Award" for the Vendor Compliance Review.

Nancy belongs to the Association for Financial Professionals (AFP) and earned her Certified Treasury Professional (CTP) designation. In 2016, she completed requirements for the Certified Regulatory Vendor Program Manager II program (CRVPM II). She is a Trustee for The Victorian at Riverside, a non-profit organization providing services for Senior Women who are unable to live independently. She currently serves as Lay Leader and Executive Team Member of Immanuel United Methodist Church and is also a member of their Handbell Choir and Totes of Love Food Pantry ministries.

Nancy holds a Master of Business Administration from Xavier University and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Northern Kentucky University. She is also a graduate of the Leadership Cincinnati and Leadership Northern Kentucky programs.



## Amanda Meeker, MPA

Director of the Career and Experiential Education Center  
Mount St. Joseph University

Amanda Meeker is the Director of the Career and Experiential Education Center at Mount St. Joseph University. Prior to the Mount, Amanda served in Career Services at Northern Kentucky University for more than 15 years, starting as a Career Advisor/Co-op Coordinator and most recently as the Associate Director. Amanda also worked as an Educational and Leadership Consultant for the International Fraternity of Delta Sigma Pi, where she traveled to 100 colleges and universities to advise students, faculty, and alumni.

Amanda studied business administration, marketing, and French at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri, which is also her hometown. She also earned a Master of Public Administration degree from Northern Kentucky University. Though Amanda grew up in Missouri, she now considers Cincinnati (and northern Kentucky) home.



## Sasha Naiman

Executive Director  
Children's Law Center

Sasha Naiman leads a nonprofit law firm that provides legal representation and policy advocacy for youth in Ohio and Kentucky. She oversees the organization's strategies, operations, and programs. In addition to being a practicing attorney, her responsibilities range from fundraising to communications, growth-planning, and policy advocacy. She works to ensure that Children's Law Center is a healthy, effective organization, that continues to provide high-quality legal services for youth in the juvenile justice, child welfare, and education systems.

Before joining CLC, she was the Deputy Director of the Ohio Justice & Policy Center (OJPC), where she worked for a decade. OJPC is a nonprofit law firm working to create fair, intelligent, redemptive criminal justice systems. As Deputy Director, she oversaw organizational operations and represented people with criminal records, including targeted service for survivors of human trafficking. She received a J.D. from Washington University in St. Louis and B.A. from Boston University. During law school, she worked for the St. Louis Equal Housing Opportunities Council, Juvenile Rights and Reentry Clinic, and U.S. Department of Justice's Access to Justice Initiative.

She is a city council member for the City of Montgomery, where she volunteers for community events and is involved in community commissions/groups. She also currently serves on the Board of Cincinnati's Jewish Community Relations Council, Advisory Board for the Cincinnati Center for Employment Opportunities, and Advisory Board for Cincinnati State Technical and Community College Paralegal Program. Previously, she has served on advisory boards for multiple other nonprofit/community organizations.

She became a member of the Montgomery Citizen's Leadership Academy as the Class of 2018 is also a member of Leadership Cincinnati Class 44 since 2020 and the Roebing Society Class of 2021.

Sasha's husband, Donnie, is a former Air Force officer, who now works as an estate-planning and corporate-law attorney. Together, they have a daughter named Lydia, and they live in Montgomery, Ohio.



## Kerri Richardson

Shareholder, CPA, CCIFP  
VonLehman CPA & Advisory Firm

A career-long member of VonLehman CPA & Advisory Firm, Kerri Richardson is a Shareholder with 22 years of experience in public accounting, and she is the Assurance Department Leader and former Chairman of the firm's Construction & Real Estate Group. Kerri is also a member of VonLehman's Nonprofit/Governmental Service Group. As a Certified Construction Industry Financial Professional, Kerri specializes in a myriad of services for construction and real estate entities of varying size and structure. Having dedicated her career to the construction industry, Kerri's specialized expertise lends to high quality and highly efficient engagements for her clients. She also supports and gives back her time to the construction industry by serving as the Treasurer for Spirit of Construction and Past Chapter President for the Cincinnati Chapter of Construction Financial Management Association.

Beyond her accounting expertise, Kerri was instrumental in launching the firm's platform focused on building an inclusive pipeline of talented professionals who represent the leadership qualities that uphold VonLehman's reputation. Known as iLEAD, this platform is built on the following core concepts: Inclusion, Leadership, Equitable, Awareness and Diverse. Each of these concepts are essential to maximizing the potential of every VonLehman team member and building the talent the firm needs to accomplish its business strategies. This platform includes programs such as iLEAD Academy, which is focused on creating a pipeline of leaders for the future, iLEAD Career Progression, focused on career growth and culture, among other initiatives.

Kerri received her Bachelor of Business Administration in Accountancy from Eastern Kentucky University.



## Regina Carswell Russo

Founder/CEO

RRight Now Communications

Regina Carswell Russo is an award winning brand storyteller, communications strategist and published writer. As Founder/CEO of RRight Now Communications, a communications consultancy, Regina helps clients craft their message and coaches them on how to effectively deliver it.

With 30 years of communications, journalism and media relations experience, Regina's clients include, Fifth Third Bank, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, The Port, Procter & Gamble and Cincinnati Public Schools.

After retiring from 20 years in broadcast journalism Regina worked in arts management as Director of Communications and Marketing at the Cincinnati Art Museum and Chief of Communications at the Contemporary Arts Center where the Cincinnati Business Courier recognized her accomplishments with a C-Suite Award.

Regina brings innovation, nuanced experience to solving complex communications problems for her clients whether it be public speaking coaching, media interview training, media relations, crisis/strategic communications or community engagement.

RRight Now Communications' fastest growing client base is C-Suite women, helping them craft and elevate their authentic voice in their corporate leadership roles. [RRight-Now.com](http://RRight-Now.com)



## Candace L. Novak Sabers

Vice President & Chief, Government & Community Relations  
UC Health

Candace L. Novak Sabers serves as the Vice President and Chief of Government & Community Relations for UC Health, greater Cincinnati's only adult Academic Health System. UC Health includes the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, West Chester Hospital, Daniel Drake Center for Post-Acute Care, Lindner Center of HOPE, and University of Cincinnati Physicians, their 900-plus physician group.

As Vice President and Chief, Candace provides strategic vision and operational leadership for all aspects of UC Health's government and community relations. In collaboration with Executive and Senior Leaders, Candace develops and leads both internal and external strategic state, federal and local government, and community relations initiatives to support the mission and strategic goals of UC Health. She leads efforts regarding health policy and engages elected and government leaders on UC Health's legislative and regulatory priorities. She also provides leadership related to identifying and accessing sources of government funding that align with and support UC Health's strategic initiatives.

Candace has more than 12 years of experience in Ohio state government, in both the Legislative and Executive Branches. After serving as the Legislative Liaison to Senator Eric Fingerhut, Candace joined the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services where she served in a number of leadership positions under Governors Taft and Strickland focusing on child welfare, agency-wide performance accountability, and Medicaid reform. Candace assisted the Director with the Ohio Child Welfare Reform Shareholders Group Project, served as an Assistant Bureau Chief within the Office for Children and Families responsible for supervising their \$1.2 billion budget, program monitoring, contracts, and program support services. Candace also served as the Executive Director of the Ohio Children's Trust Fund where she was responsible for overseeing approximately \$6 million per year in annual revenues, 85% of which were reinvested in local child abuse and neglect prevention services for Ohio's children and families.

Between 2010 and 2013, Candace served as the Director of Government Relations for Mercy Health, formerly known as Catholic Health Partners. In 2013, she joined UC Health.

Candace holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN, and a Masters Degree in Management from the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University. Candace is a graduate of 2010 Leadership Columbus and a Cincinnati Business Courier 40 Under 40 recipient in 2013.



## Shari Steinhaus

Recruiting Business Partner  
Professional Staffing Solutions

With over twenty years combined experience in career counseling, human resources, management, recruiting, sales, and marketing dealing with fast-paced, rapidly expanding companies, Shari Steinhaus is recognized as a bit of a hybrid. She always wanted to pursue advertising as a career path. However, after an employer recognized her talents early on, she was placed as a Recruiter in a corporate human resources department and got hooked. Her passion for connecting people and cultivating relationships began.

Fast forward 23 years (has it really been 23 years?) and that passion has morphed into coaching, mentoring, educating and still connecting. All of those experiences led her to take a leap into third party recruiting, working independently with Professional Staffing Solutions. Shari has been fortunate to tie many passions together with recruiting for a variety of leadership positions with a primary focus in the areas of marketing, advertising, digital and creative. She is fortunate to share resources with a team of other independent recruiters to expand the possibilities for both clients and candidates. Shari has been a featured speaker on several professional panels, provided career coaching, resume consultation, interview skill prep and presentation in addition to being hired as a consultant with companies of all industries on their hiring needs and challenges.

When she is not in the trenches, she has a full house with her husband of 23 years, two teenagers and two dogs. Shari Graduated from Xavier University with a BA in Advertising and Communications.

Go Muskies!



## Melissa Stevens

Executive Vice President, Chief Digital Officer, Head of Digital and Marketing  
Fifth Third Bank, N.A.

Melissa serves as executive vice president and chief digital officer and head of digital and marketing. She is responsible for ensuring a client-centered, digital-first approach to all areas of the Bank, including Consumer Banking, Commercial Banking and Wealth & Asset Management.

Melissa joined Fifth Third in May 2016 and has been integral to the Bank's transformation to thrive in the digital world. She has designed an integrated and seamless customer experience across the organization. She's also focused on changing how the Bank meets challenges by bringing the "outside in" and taking advantage of adjacent and disruptive opportunities. Her efforts have earned her recognition among American Banker's Most Powerful Women in Banking for three years running, starting in 2019. Before joining Fifth Third, Melissa held several senior management positions at Citigroup, including chief operating officer for Citi FinTech, head of Citi's Consumer Innovation Labs, and Global Digital head for Citi's consumer banking business.

Melissa earned a bachelor's degree from Kalamazoo College in Michigan, a master's degree from Michigan State University's School of Labor & Industrial Relations and an MBA in finance and operations from New York University's Stern School of Business.

Melissa serves as a director of Cintrifuse, a Cincinnati-based technology-focused startup incubator, and chairs its FinTech Frontier partnership, which accelerates financial services innovation by bringing together Cincinnati-based, industry-leading corporations, government and entrepreneurs. She was named one of the YWCA's 2022 Career Women of Achievement, Information Age's 2020 Women in Tech Digital Leader of the Year and 2019 Transformation Leader of the Year.



## Rolanda J. Wilkerson, Ph.D.

Senior Director and Scientific Communications Fellow, Olay and Multicultural Hair Portfolio  
Procter & Gamble

Leading global scientific communications for P&G's iconic OLAY skin care brand, Rolanda Wilkerson works with dermatologists, clinicians and fellow scientists to elevate the science behind Olay while advancing its commitment to close the STEM gap for women and women of color around the world. She brings this same expertise to her role with P&G's North America skin care brands, and guiding consumer engagement for P&G's growing multicultural hair portfolio.

Rolanda's 18-year career with P&G spans the Company's hair, skin and personal care divisions, where her work as a scientist helps brands translate deep understanding of consumer's hair and skin needs into meaningful, science-led innovation. An expert at helping consumers understand how new beauty technologies and innovations work, she has appeared in product education segments with media outlets like Essence, Ebony, Good Housekeeping, and O magazines, as well as nationally-televised shows "The Talk" and "Dr. Oz".

As part of her previous work in the hair care category, Rolanda helped pioneer advanced research for consumers of African Ancestry hair, harnessing her consumer, influencer and technical insights to create hair care products designed specifically for natural and textured hair, including My Black is Beautiful, Pantene Gold Series and Head & Shoulders Royal Oils – brands that have now been launched in multiple markets around the world spanning the US & UK to Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition, Rolanda works with all brands across P&G Beauty portfolio to advance inclusive product design and deepen understanding of consumers' unique needs.

An accomplished inspirational speaker, Rolanda's personal passion is motivating young girls to pursue careers in STEM, a topic she has advocated for through her brand work as well as through personal appearances at events like TEDx. A member of several professional and service organizations, including Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and the Queen City Ohio Chapter of the Links Incorporated, Rolanda has also served on The Nutrition Council of Cincinnati's Board of Directors. Across her career, she's been selected as a YWCA Rising Star, YMCA Black and Latino Achiever, and recognized as one of LEAD and Venue Magazine's "Great Leaders Under 40."

Rolanda received her Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Louisiana State University and holds a Chemistry degree from Southern University. A resident of Cincinnati, Rolanda enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband, Jason, and their three children, Jason, II, Jordan and Ava.

