



Featured Speakers (Partial list)



Craig Ferreira
Program Manager, UNLV Leaderverse Initiative

Craig Ferreira leads efforts to develop and deliver impactful educational content that advances diversity, economic development, and the global gaming industry. A Summa Cum Laude graduate in Mass Communications from California State University, Hayward, Craig also holds an MBA from Aspen University in Colorado. With 18 years of experience in hospitality management, marketing and training, he transitioned into the gaming industry in 2018, bringing with him a wealth of expertise in strategic leadership and stakeholder engagement.

From 2018 to 2024, Craig played a pivotal role in shaping the programming and operations of the UNLV International Center for Gaming Regulation, where he directed strategies to enhance executive education initiatives for gaming operators, regulators, suppliers, and policymakers. His efforts included delivering high-impact seminars and content designed to support the growth and regulatory evolution of the global gaming sector.

At the Leaderverse Initiative, he works with a dedicated team to create sustainable, educational programs aimed at improving and fostering global collaborations to strengthen economic development.



Tyler Burtis
CEO, Burtis Investigations

Tyler Burtis served with the California Department of Justice for more than 20 years, honorably retiring as a Special Agent in Charge, with management responsibilities for the Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Diego Offices. Tyler spent most of his years working with and leading multi-agency task forces that specialized in major investigations, intelligence, money laundering, casino crimes, drug trafficking, homicides, and kidnappings.

Tyler earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts degree in Leadership from Saint Mary's College of California. He is a graduate of the POST Supervisory Leadership Institute (SLI) and the PERF Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP), held at Boston University. He is also an ASIS Board Certified Protection Professional (CPP) and Certified Financial Crimes Specialist (CFCS).

In addition to his law enforcement career, Tyler taught a variety of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels as an adjunct professor for almost two decades, including classes on Leadership Theory and Systems Thinking. After retiring from law enforcement and academia, Tyler started his own business, Burtis Investigations LLC, where he specializes in due diligence, complex investigations, and consulting for



state/tribal governments, prestigious law firms, and a prominent investment company. He is a sought-after POST Team Building Workshop Facilitator for Police Executives, presenter at professional conferences, training course designer, and Tribal Government consultant.



Amy Pourciau
Owner, Lab Mindset

Amy is a Fortune 500 human resources executive with expertise in organizational development, talent management, and performance management. Amy's broad human resources experience includes establishing international offices, developing and leading enterprise-wide initiatives, rapid property expansions, centralizations and leading operational transformations, and talent development.

Amy holds a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Learning from The George Washington University and a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Amy is a lover of chips and spicy salsa and spending as much time as possible running, hiking and being outside.



Christine Cassiano
EVP, Chief Corporate Affairs & Brand Strategy Officer
Allogene Therapeutics, Inc.

Christine Cassiano is the Executive Vice President, Chief Corporate Affairs and Brand Strategy Officer, and a founding member of Allogene. She also serves as an executive/board advisor and performance coach through her consulting firm, SCILDI Strategies. Christine is a communications executive with wide experience in investor relations, corporate communications, media relations, brand strategy and public affairs. Christine's career is distinguished by the development of integrated communications strategies for companies with novel therapies such as YESCARTA® and BOTOX®/BOTOX® Cosmetic.

Prior to Allogene, Christine served as Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations for Kite until its acquisition by Gilead Sciences in 2017. Prior to that, she was the Head of Healthcare for W2O Group (now Real Chemistry). In 2012, Christine co-founded ARC2 Communications & Media, a boutique agency that developed groundbreaking platforms for some of the largest companies in healthcare. Before, she served as Senior Vice President and Co-Director, Healthcare, at Hill + Knowlton Strategies. Christine also held senior global communications roles in biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies, including Amgen, which also included an expatriate assignment in Switzerland overseeing all European communications, Allergan and Abraxis BioScience. Some of Christine's career achievements include a SABRE Silver Anvil Award for the launch of BOTOX® Cosmetic (Allergan), an In2 SABRE Award for the Most Innovative Brand/Agency Collaboration (Pfizer/ARC2), and PR Week's 40 Under 40. Christine serves as a Senior Strategic Advisor to Urogen Pharma and Vida Ventures. She holds an M.A. in Psychology from Pepperdine University, a B.A. in Communications from California State



University, Fullerton, and an Investor Relations Certification (IRC) from the University of California, Irvine.



Noah Ahmed
Stand Up Comedian, Improv Expert, Neuroscientist

Graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience from the University of Nevada, Reno, shaped a strong foundation for analytical and problem-solving skills. Noah collaborates with leadership to deliver regulatory education programs, leveraging core competencies in consultation, community partnerships, and effective positioning.

Noah's role as a Strategy Consultant at Las Vegas Wildcard Improv League reflects a commitment to cultivating professional growth and community relationships. By designing impactful curricula and leading training sessions, he enables teams to foster creativity and strengthen collaboration. Noah aims to support organizations in building inclusive environments that drive innovation and shared success.



Adam Torres
Chief Gaming Regulator, San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

Adam Torres is the Chief Gaming Regulator for the San Manuel Tribal Gaming Commission (SMTGC). In this role, he leads the agency's strategies, goals, policies, and day-to-day operations. SMTGC is an independent agency of the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians and includes the following departments: Administration, Anti-Fraud and Investigations, Audit, Compliance, Gaming License, and Surveillance.

Before joining the SMTGC, Adam served in various roles, including Managing Director with an international risk management consulting firm with a focus on business intelligence, compliance, and anti-money laundering; he was appointed by the President of the United States as the United States Marshal for the Central District of California, presiding as the chief federal law enforcement officer for the federal courts; served on the California State Bar Discipline Standards Task Force to review and revise Standards for Professional Conduct and Discipline; appointed by Governors of California to the Commission on Judicial Performance, where he provided oversight of investigations related to judicial misconduct; and Internal Revenue Service Revenue Agent and Special Agent, working in both the civil and criminal divisions.

Adam has been recognized by various government and professional associations for outstanding contributions in fraud prevention, compliance and gambling regulation.