

Education ★ Innovation ★ Opportunity



California **WORKFORCE** Connection

Nor Cal Education Conference

*Advancing Technology and
Workforce Impacts*

02/07/2020 • 8 am • Vacaville, CA
www.californiaworkforceconnection.org

Welcome

The California Workforce Connection empowers individuals with the skills to be successful through mentoring, coaching, visionary leadership, and educational training.

The California Workforce Connection is pleased to welcome you to the first annual Nor Cal Education Conference, “**Advancing Technology and Workforce Impacts.**” This conference is intended to educate you in how to use technology to advance your career goals, advocate technological changes in the workplace, and protect yourself against technological and cyber threats.

Opening Ceremony

We would like to recognize our Veterans here today. Special thanks to **Ray Cabrera**, US Army Purple Heart Recipient Veteran, leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Also, very special thanks to **Mattie Woodie** for singing our National Anthem, which reminds us that we enjoy our freedom because of those who came before us had the heart and determination to protect those freedoms.

Conference Schedule

8:00 a.m. ••• Registration/Breakfast Mingle

9:00 a.m. ••• Opening Ceremony

**9:30 a.m. ••• Keynote Speaker:
Ken Durazzo, Dell Inc**

**10:35 a.m. ••• Breakout Sessions A/B
Dennis Petrie, Thesha Sims**

**11:30 a.m. ••• Breakout Sessions A/B/C
Dennis Petrie, Thesha Sims, Grace-Sonia
Melanio**

12:10-1:30 p.m. LUNCH

**1:35 p.m. ••• EDD Technology Innovations
Panel: EDD Directorate, Special Guest:
Sharon Hilliard, Acting EDD Director**

3:30 p.m. ••• NETWORKING SESSION

4:00 p.m. ••• Closing Ceremony

Guest Speakers



Ken Durazzo: Vice President – Technology Research and Innovation at Dell EMC, I have over 20 years of experience in IT and product development. Skilled in R&D, leading Global Teams, IT Operations, change management, strategic planning, business analysis, and leading strategic initiatives. Recognized as an expert in several technology domains,

Innovation, and leaving business evolution in the development and implementation of high-performance technology products and solutions. Proven ability to bring the benefits of technology to solve business challenges in new and innovative ways. Well versed with the latest emerging technologies, services, and industry developments. Key skills include Innovation, Cloud Native Architecture, Service Orchestration and Virtualization, Enterprise Data Center Design and Architecture, Security, IP Networking, Machine Learning, R&D, and bringing concepts from ideation to productization.



Grace-Sonia Melanio serves as a Program Specialist for AARP California. Based in San Jose, Grace-Sonia leads the events and education initiatives for AARP's work in the San Francisco Bay Area/Silicon Valley. She partners with AARP volunteers, who provide awareness to their respective communities on issues such as caregiving, aging at home

safely, as well as frauds and scams targeted at older adults. Prior to joining AARP, Grace-Sonia was the Director of Communications & Health Policy at Community Health Partnership, where she led grassroots advocacy toward the passage of a county-wide health coverage program. In her spare time, she enjoys supporting multicultural arts organizations. She serves on KQED's Community Advisory Panel and is a volunteer film programmer for the Cinequest Film & Creativity Festival.



Dennis Petrie was appointed Assistant Secretary Future of Work Realignment at the Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA) by California Governor Newsom's Administration in September 2019. Prior to his appointment at LWDA, Mr. Petrie served as the Deputy Director of the EDD's Workforce Services Branch, California. He effectively managed the largest employment services program in the nation for over 16 years supporting the economic vitality of the 5th largest economy in the world. Mr. Petrie has led the transformation of California's workforce development system in an effort to refine and replace California's workforce training, case management, data collection and reporting system, re-engineered the Unemployment Insurance Branch's re-employment services and eligibility assessment program, initiated the Unemployment Navigator service in local America's Job Centers of California (AJCC) and successfully implemented the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act across the State. Mr. Petrie is also a long-standing active member of the California Workforce Connection organization.



Thesha Sims, Sr. Strategic Enterprise Customer Success Manager, has been with Adobe for over 13 years leading projects, managing teams, and designing solutions. For the past two years, she has advised senior leaders at higher education institutions (public and for-profit) on designing effective strategies for their online learning platforms. Focusing on sustainable practices to deliver value, she's passionate about developing leaders and leveraging good data to drive decisions. Thesha is a CWC member.



California Workforce Connection

SAVE THE DATE
April 17th, 2020

State Annual Education Conference
Diversity & Inclusion




AYRES HOTEL

COSTA MESA / NEWPORT BEACH

325 Bristol Street

Room reservations are \$120 plus taxes or prevailing government rate for single/double occupancy. Call 1-800-322-9992 before 3-26-2020 and ask for California Workforce Connection. Free shuttle from Orange County Airport and free self-parking.



Register Early and Save! – Postmark your Registration by April 3, 2020. For further information, contact Nan Bowman 714-269-0612 nanettebowman@cox.net

State Award Ceremony Luncheon included.



Special Thanks

Conference Committee

Tanya Davidson: District I Director

Fred Ruibal: District II Director

BJ Sims: Program Chair

Tom Sims: Conference Registrar

Arlene Bautista: Contract Negotiator

James Thomas: Leadership Mentor

Melissa Lauritzen: CWC Executive Office Advisor

Meafou Pomale-Maga: Fresno Chapter President

Sharon Lawrence: Program Chair Support

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Volunteers

Farhad Saiyed, Technical Management

Elizabeth Boam, Sacramento Chapter

Waunetah Goins, Sacramento Chapter

Dadisi Elliott, CWC Membership Chair

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The EDD Directorate
State Compensation Insurance Fund