

Johnson Cornell SC Johnson College of Business

Johnson Alumni Advisor Consultants

The Cornell Alumni Career Development Office has curated the below network of seasoned career advisors who are available to provide expert advice and guidance on a spectrum of career issues. You can explore the team in full or select a name below to view their bio directly.

[Claire Steichen](#)

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[Frank Faeth](#)

[Chip Conlin](#)

[Margaret Chan](#)

[Michelle Awuku-Tatum](#)

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CLAIRE STEICHEN

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Claire Steichen is the founder and President of *Clear Strategy Coaching*, an executive coaching firm in New York City. She has coached hundreds of mid-level and senior professionals in leadership development focused on executive presence, team motivation, and influence. Claire works with individuals and with leading organizations across industries, with a focus on consumer goods and multi-nationals.

Claire received her training and certification through Coach Training Institute and is a Certified Professional Coach with the International Coach Federation. She is certified in Tracom's Social Style and the Myers-Briggs Type Inventory. Claire received her MBA from Columbia Business School.

In addition to her private practice, Claire has coached and trained hundreds of executive education students in the award winning Communicating in Organizations course at Columbia's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). She has coached and trained in several Columbia Business School executive education programs including the FDNY Officers Management Institute (FOMI) Program at the GE Learning Center.

Prior to founding Clear Strategy Coaching, Claire spent two decades in the beauty industry, where she worked in sales and marketing. She was an account manager in sales at Givaudan Fragrances where she managed on-going client relationships with Avon, Estee Lauder, La Prairie, and Victoria's Secret. Before that she worked as a marketing manager for Lancôme (L'Oréal) and Parfums Christian Dior, where she oversaw the US launches of major skincare and fragrance brands.

VINCE PONZO	
<u>Contact:</u> vponzo@gmail.com <i>(only for those alums considering startups, or startup employment)</i>	
<p>Vincent Ponzo is a member of the Amazon Web Services Startups team, where he works closely with startups of all kinds to guide them through the roller-coaster ride of starting and launching a business.</p> <p>Prior to AWS, Vince spent four plus years as the Managing Director of the Eugene Lang Entrepreneurship Center at Columbia Business School where he coached hundreds of students and alumni annually. Vince previously held executive level positions at a variety of startups including SelectMinds (exit to Oracle), Kargo and General Assembly (exit to Adecco), where he served as the General Manager of the education business.</p> <p>Vince is an active advisor to multiple startups through formal roles and volunteer programs such as Techstars, NEW INC and the New York City Venture Fellows Program. He serves on the board of Project Pericles and the Eugene Lang Entrepreneurship Center at Columbia Business School and is an invited member of the Tribeca Disruptor Foundation Fellows.</p> <p>Vince has an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BS in finance from Boston College.</p>	

KATHY WELBORN McLEAN

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Kathy Welborn McLean is an executive coach with over two decades of experience specializing in personal and professional development and work/life integration. She has worked with a variety of clients from C-level executives to high potential early career individuals.

She is highly sought after for her ability to quickly hone in on the strengths and gaps in clients' core competencies. Kathy helps to identify and address behaviors needed to increase ROI on professional and personal decisions. Through her action-oriented and goal-driven approach, she has worked with clients on a variety of engagements such as developing strong communication skills, strengthening the ability to influence others, increasing learning agility and using reflection and feedback to build self-awareness.

Kathy has led clients through career transitions by developing strategies to sharpen personal/professional objectives, interview preparation and to align their strengths to the opportunity. She has also worked with special interest groups such as Management Leaders for Tomorrow (MLT) where she developed, launched and coached the MBA Prep Accelerated Program with 100% of the fellows gaining acceptance into top tier business schools.

She previously worked in back office operations and retail management for M & T Bank and First Union National Bank (Wells Fargo) before honing her skills in management consulting with the Mitchell Madison Group and as Associate Director of the Wharton Small Business Development Center. In 2005, Kathy launched the Welborn McLean Group, LLC to provide life-changing coaching, training and consulting services.

Kathy holds an MBA from the Wharton School of Business and earned a BS with honors in Industrial Engineering from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. She has been certified by the International Coach Federation and is also a Certified Facilitator for the Center for Creative Leadership 360 Suite and a Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® Practitioner. Kathy lives in Arlington, Texas with her husband and three children.

DEBORAH S. MATSON

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*Certified Executive Coach, Advanced Coaching Intensive Certification Program – Columbia University
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BS Industrial and Labor Relations – Cornell University

Certified Administrator, Neethling Brain Instrument (NBI)™ Assessment


Debbie is an experienced recruiter, executive coach, and manager with a broad range of experience having lived and worked in the US, Hong Kong, Israel and Malaysia. She is a Founder of CareerAmplify, a US headquartered career management firm.

Debbie's passion is career transition. She brings a unique understanding of recruitment and job search, blended with executive coaching training from Columbia University, to empower jobseekers at all stages of their careers. Debbie is skilled in the strategic and the practical aspects of job search. She will work with you to envision and articulate career objectives and next steps.

Living and working in Hong Kong for 11 years, Debbie was CEO/Managing Director of Links International, responsible for recruitment and business services. Working with employers and recruiters across industries and countries, Debbie developed a deep understanding of the hiring process.

Debbie began her career in Commercial Lending and Venture Capital, training in Corporate Lending at The Bank of Boston.

To arrange an appointment, please send an email to dmatson@careeramplify.com.

<p>LINDSEY HONARI</p>	
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<p>Lindsey Honari, MBA, ACC brings twenty years of corporate, recruiting and coaching experience to help her clients move forward in their careers. She delivers practical, thoughtful and empathetic coaching rooted in the realities of today's job market. Her mission is to help executives and professionals excel.</p> <p>Lindsey began her career in finance, first on Wall Street, then as an investment consultant with Cambridge Associates. She helps her clients become better leaders, move up the corporate ladder, and successfully make professional transitions. Her clients are mid-to upper-level executives and serves clients in a range of industries including supermajor oil and gas, energy, private equity, investment management and healthcare.</p> <p>She is a sought-after speaker who shares her knowledge with universities and organizations. She is a frequent guest and panelist at the University of Houston, a coach for startup executives in the Texas Medical Center, and an Executive Coach for Columbia Business School alumni.</p> <p>Ms. Honari is certified by the International Coach Federation and is a Board member for the Houston chapter. She holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BA from Tufts University. She lives in Houston with her family and is a passionate volunteer providing job search training to students and refugees</p>	

ROB HELLMANN

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Robert Hellmann, President of www.hellmannconsulting.com, has helped thousands of individuals to define and achieve their career and job-search goals since 2003 via his private coaching practice. He is a certified GetFive Senior Career Coach and a LinkedIn-Certified Professional Recruiter.

Rob's background includes 20 years of experience in Organizational Development, Finance and Marketing roles at American Express, JP Morgan Chase, and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. This hands-on business experience greatly enhances his ability to add value for clients, as Rob has successfully navigated the challenges his clients often face; these include getting interviews, turning interviews into offers, negotiations, hiring and leading staff, managing work relationships, and career changes.

Rob has authored the books [*Advanced LinkedIn: For Your Job Search, Business and Career*](#) and [*PEAK Presentations*](#). Jobseekers and career-advancers have also found value in his dozens of blog posts at www.hellmannconsulting.com/blog, on his LinkedIn profile: www.linkedin.com/in/roberthellmann, and in his articles for Forbes where he's a contributor: www.forbes.com/sites/roberthellmann/. His career-related insights have also appeared in The New York Times, The Washington Post, the Wall Street Journal, Money Magazine, the Chicago Tribune, NBC News, ABC News and more.

Rob's has successfully coached c-level executives, mid-level managers and recent graduates in industries and professions too numerous to list. He adds value for clients wherever they are in their career or job search.

Rob is active in Association for Talent Development's New York chapter. He has a BS in Economics/Math from Binghamton University and an MBA from Fordham University.

FRANK FAETH

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As a former Fortune 500 senior executive, Frank understands exactly what it takes for leaders and managers to overcome challenges and seize opportunities. He applies his business background to coaching high-potential leaders and managers on how to perform at their personal best. Frank partners with clients to turn powerful personal and interpersonal insights into positive action that advances their careers and the missions of their organizations.

Frank has held senior positions for several of the most prestigious companies in the world, including JPMorgan Chase, MasterCard Worldwide and Marsh, Inc., and has undergone extensive training in executive coaching and assessment accreditation. Combining his business background with his coaching experience, he facilitates professional breakthroughs for executives in the following areas:

- Developing resilient, relationship-driven leaders
- Helping abrasive executives recognize and improve their behavior
- Empowering transitioning executives with action plans
- Building productive relationships between technologists and their business partners

CHIP CONLIN

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Chip has an active private coaching practice in which he helps clients from a variety of professions, including financial services, information technology, marketing, publishing and the not-for-profit sector achieve their career goals.

With more than 30 years' experience in Human Resources to complement his coaching practice he specializes in helping clients quickly establish the right strategy to promote their career ranging from initial assessment to developing a full marketing campaign.

He has helped clients overcome some of the most challenging problems faced by those thrust into a career transition through a corporate downsizing, performance issue, or simply a desire to switch careers. He has helped clients negotiate better severance packages when faced with the loss of their job as well as helped clients negotiate the best possible compensation package when landing their new job.

Chip has spoken on a variety of career related topics to such prestigious groups as the Project Management Institute, National Sales Network, Information Systems Security Association, The Treasury Management Association of New York, Employee Assistance Professionals Association, and New York Society of Security Analysts. He has also facilitated career development and job search strategy sessions for Columbia University and the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

Chip is a member of the Society for Human Resource Management. He holds a Master's degree in Sociology from New York University. As past president of the New York Technical Recruiters Association, he also developed IT industry expertise that he frequently incorporates into his speeches and private coaching.

With his unique blend of corporate Human Resources and career coaching experience, Chip's focus is solving clients' most pressing needs. In creating and executing a strong career strategy he has helped clients from a variety of backgrounds and professions advance their careers to new levels.

MARGARET CHAN

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Margaret Chan is a Certified Executive Coach experienced in career transitions and leadership development. In her 25-year career in executive search, including 18 years at Spencer Stuart and Korn Ferry, the global search firms, she assessed over 3,500 executives as they pursued new career opportunities. Working with Chairmen, Boards of Directors, CEOs and their direct reports, she understands their expectations and leverages this knowledge in her coaching practice.

She works with professionals seeking career advice and new opportunities, and who are changing or relaunching careers. She helps identify their skills to target careers that leverage their strengths. Her experience includes assessments, career strategies, target careers, resumes/LinkedIn profiles, career narratives/positioning, interview preparation, returnships, offer negotiations, and support and confidence building throughout the process. She also has a particular expertise working with women relaunching their careers.

Margaret also partners with clients in executive coaching to help them identify their strengths and gaps as they pursue their next leadership level. She works with clients to increase their self-awareness, gain insight through self-reflection, and make behavior changes so they can become more effective leaders. Her clients appreciate her strategic and practical approach, and her humor combined with a warm personal style.

She has experience with financial services, private equity, insurance, consumer goods, retail, consulting, technology, and nonprofit. She has in-depth knowledge of multiple business functions, including general management, finance, investments, strategy, marketing, communications, sales, operations, consulting, technology, and nonprofit development.

Margaret is an Executive Coach for The Leadership Lab at Columbia Business School and a recommended coach for alumni of The Wharton School, Columbia Business School, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, and Cornell/S.C. Johnson Graduate School of Management. She had an earlier marketing career at General Foods, Citigroup, and Oppenheimer Management.

She earned her Executive Coaching Certification at the highest level from Columbia University, an MBA from The Kellogg School at Northwestern University where she was in an accelerated one-year program, and a BS with honors from New York University. She serves on the board of the West Side YMCA New York and lives in New York City with her husband and two children.

MICHELLE AWUKU-TATUM

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Michelle Awuku-Tatum specializes in executive coaching, leadership development and career transition. Michelle introduces high potential leaders to leadership insights to encourage the adoption of new behaviors and skills to improve their on-the-job effectiveness. She is highly skilled in helping leaders to implement effective job search strategies to define their ideal next move, learn about opportunities through informational meetings, excel in interviews, secure a fulfilling role aligned with their career objectives and interest; and negotiate a competitive package. Once they have landed, Michelle enjoys sharing strategies to help leaders deliver value during their first 90 days. Michelle also enjoys guiding leaders who are not clear on their next chapter, to identify a new career path or vision.

Michelle's corporate career involved creating new processes, customer experiences, business strategies and models for global companies in Biotechnology (Lonza), Energy (ARCO/BP) and Financial Services (Citigroup). As an action-oriented coach, Michelle draws on her global experience to help leaders implement career advancement strategies and thrive during career or entrepreneurial transitions.

A certified coach, Michelle holds an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management and a Bachelors degree in Process Technology & Management Studies from London South Bank University, England. Michelle lives in New York with her husband and two daughters.

To set up an appointment with Michelle, please send an email to michelle@myfactorcoach.com, including a copy of your resume and a brief summary of what you would like to accomplish.

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Nancy Ancowitz is a presentation and career coach and author of *Self-Promotion for Introverts®*. Nancy helps clients—introverts and extroverts alike—with vital career-building and leadership skills. She teaches public speaking, business writing, and career advancement at New York University. Nancy spent 12 years on Wall Street, where she was recognized for running marketing programs for a multibillion-dollar business as a vice president at JP Morgan Chase & Co; before that, at Citibank, she received an outstanding achievement award for her marketing proposal innovations for international client organizations. Earlier in her career, Nancy applied her business savvy and creativity as a jewelry designer, with clients including Nordstrom, Saks Fifth Avenue, and Henri Bendel. A blogger for *Psychology Today* and *Salary.com*, Nancy has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Financial Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Washington Post*, *Inc.com*, *Monster.com*, *CNN.com*, WABC-TV, 1010 WINS radio, and *CIO*, *Entrepreneur*, and *O, the Oprah Magazine*. Nancy holds a BS in Communication from Boston University and she did graduate work at the NYU Stern School of Business. She is an International Coach Federation Professional Certified Coach.