

# LINK CONFERENCE

“ LEADING, INNOVATING, NETWORKING AND KNOWING ”

March 13, 2025 | WVU Erickson Alumni Center, Morgantown, WV  
AGENDA

8:30-9:00 AM	Breakfast <i>(full hot breakfast buffet)</i>
	Registration Table Open
9:00-9:40 AM	<b>Welcome and Ice Breaker</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Melanie Page, Ph.D.</a>, Associate VP for Creative and Scholarly Activities, West Virginia University and Director, NASA WV Space Grant Consortium</li></ul>
9:40 – 10:40 AM	<b>Session 1   Keynote Workshop</b> The Confident Leader’s Playbook: Strategies for Mindset and Success  In this dynamic and interactive workshop, you'll discover the keys to unlocking your full potential as a leader. Designed specifically for people ready to step into their power, this session will guide you through the transformative journey of building unshakeable confidence and adopting a growth mindset. Through engaging activities and real-world strategies, you'll learn how to silence your inner critic, embrace challenges as opportunities, and lead with authenticity and purpose. Walk away with a personalized action plan to elevate your career and life and connect with like-minded people who are on the same empowering path. Join us to unleash the leader within and transform the way you think, act, and lead.  <i>Pamela Meadows is a dynamic career and mindset coach, speaker, and corporate executive with over 20 years of experience guiding women towards achieving clarity, confidence, and purpose. Leveraging her extensive corporate background and a suite of coaching certifications, Pamela combines positive psychology, reframing techniques, and storytelling to create impactful outcomes for her clients.</i>  <a href="#">HOME   Pamela Meadows</a>
10:40- 11:00 AM	<b>Networking Break</b>

<p>11:00-12:00</p>	<p><b>Session 2   Women Owned Businesses</b>  Women own approximately 40% of all US businesses, yet only secure 2% of the start-up capital. Come hear from a panel of seasoned business owners as well as learn about resources in the innovation ecosystem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Erienne Olesh, Ph.D.</a>, Executive Director, Office of Innovation and Commercialization (Moderator)</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Lori Hazelhurst</a>, Professor Pharmaceutical Sciences and co-Leader Osborn Hematology Program at West Virginia University</li> <li>• <a href="#">Eva Torr</a>, Chambers Fellow at West Virginia University and CEO of Toor Equestrian LLC</li> </ul>
<p>12:00 -1:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Networking Lunch</b></p>
<p>1:00-2:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Session 3   Explore Your Strengths</b>  Learn more about CliftonStrengths®, a science-based tool for you to utilize on your journey of purpose. Learning your top strengths will give you insight into your unique talents. By leaning into your strengths, you'll be able to grow and develop your skills to help you continue to pursue the things you're passionate about as you build community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cate Schlobohm</a> , Outreach &amp; Programming Manager, WVU Purpose Center, West Virginia University</li> </ul>
<p>2:00-3:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Session 4   Strengthening Community Ties</b>  Engagement and belonging everyone can relate to! Who does not want to be part of a community? Who does not want to belong? Community, engagement, and belonging are everywhere, from our personal to our work and social life. However, communities often struggle to stay connected and resilient in this increasingly fast-paced world. Through this panel, we aim to explore initiatives and strategies that can help strengthen our West Virginian community. We will discuss how collaboration and shared resources build stronger and more resilient communities. We will explore such perspectives with our panelists, namely community leaders, health professionals, local business owners, and student leaders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Cerasela Zoica Dinu, Ph. D.</a>, Professor and Associate Dean for Student, Faculty and Staff Engagement (Moderator)</li> <li>• <a href="#">Julie Lockman, Ph.D.</a>, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Education, HSC Office of Research and Graduate Education, West Virginia University Health Sciences Center, West Virginia University (Moderator)</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kristi Wood-Turner, Ed.D., Assistant Dean, Community Engagement, Director, Center for Community Engagement, West Virginia University</li> <li>○ Cara Sedney, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Neurosurgery, Neurosurgery Residency Director, Chief Wellness Officer, School of Medicine, West Virginia University</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Stacy Downey, Community Engagement &amp; Events Coordinator at Trilogy Innovations, Inc.</li> <li>o Abbie Lieving, Senior, Undergraduate Student, Chemical Engineering Department, President- Society of Women Engineers Student Chapter, Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, West Virginia University</li> </ul>
3:00-3:15 PM	<b>Networking Break</b>
3:15-4:00 PM	<p><b>Session 5   Using LinkedIn and other Social Media</b></p> <p>Learn more about why most experts agree that using LinkedIn and a few other social media platforms can effectively build your networking contacts and enhance a professional career. Connecting with colleagues, alumni, professors, hiring recruiters, and professional associations within your career field can significantly increase chances for being noticed during the job search process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Kelly Stewart</a>, Career Development Specialist - Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources</li> </ul>
4:00-5:00 PM	<p><b>Session 6   Critical Followership: An Elixir for Bad Leadership</b></p> <p>In this session learn about the role of followers in moving organizations forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Amena Anderson Assistant Professor of Practice Assistant Director of the WVU ADVANCE Center Master Facilitator <a href="#">Amena Anderson   WVU Advance   West Virginia University</a></li> </ul>

**Co-Sponsors:**

**Pamela Meadows Coaching:** <https://www.pamelameadows.com/>  
**NSF I-Corps Hub Interior Northeast**

**Exhibitors:**

Chrissy Zeltner Photography  
Girls in Aviation - Mountain State Chapter of Women in Aviation International  
NSF I-Corps Hub Interior Northeast  
Tea Shoppe at Seneca  
The WOW Factory  
West Virginia Local Science Engagement Network