

Cultivating Connections: A Networking Evening in Support of Women November 2 | 4:00 – 6:30p.m. | Speaker Bios

Carole Simpson: After college at the University of Michigan and grad school at the University of Iowa, I began a career in radio and television news that spanned more than 40 years. I told, perhaps, thousands of stories about people from every walk of life. I loved it.

I started my career at local radio and TV stations in Chicago and had the great fortune to meet and cover Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., during his civil rights crusade in the North. The NBC network News Division noticed my work, offered me a job and moved my family to Washington, DC, to work for NBC News. Seven years later, I was courted by ABC News where I stayed for 24 years and enjoyed my highest achievements: I was the first black woman to anchor the news for a major network; I covered the release of Nelson Mandela from 27 years in jail in South Africa; and I was the first woman and first minority to moderate a presidential debate.



All of these highlights allowed me to tell stories about people to international audiences.

I retired from ABC news in 2006 and moved from Washington to Boston. Not only did I want to be near my daughter and her family (Dr. Mallika Marshall, a physician who is also the medical correspondent for the local CBS station) but I also began a second career as a college professor. For 13 years, I taught broadcast journalism students how to report and write their own stories about people. Those years were challenging and rewarding.

I am now retired but I realize I have stories of my own which are worth sharing. I want to both talk about the news of the day and the bedeviling issues of our times. Keeping silent is not my style.

Kate Zernike has been a reporter for The New York Times since 2000. She was a member of the team that won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting for stories about al-Qaeda before and after the 9/11 terror attacks. She was previously a reporter for The Boston Globe, where she broke the story of MIT's admission that it had discriminated against women on its faculty, on which The Exceptions is based. The daughter and granddaughter of scientists, she is a graduate of Trinity College at the University of Toronto and the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and sons.



Diane Darling: Diane Darling is a consultant, keynote speaker, instructor, and leadership coach with over 20 years of experience in researching, developing, and educating on the role of professional networking strategies in individual career development and business performance. She offers virtual and in-person speaking engagements, one-on-one leadership coaching, and strategic consulting tailored to meet the specific needs of each client in a variety of industries, including accounting, architecture, law firms, and higher education. McGraw Hill has published Diane's networking strategies in over nine languages, including her popular books, *The Networking Survival Guide* and *Networking for Career Success*.



Diane's passion for networking and public speaking started at an early age when she attended six new schools before her senior year of high school. Her experience of learning to make friends and connect with strangers has become a lifelong skill, and one that she now teaches to others. She overcame her fear of public speaking by taking acting and standup comedy classes, which has contributed to her success and is now incorporated into her teachings, especially for introverts. Diane has traveled to all seven continents and approximately 60 countries, enriching her understanding of human encounters and communication.

Dr. Lilit Garibyan is a board-certified, practicing dermatologist and Associate Professor of dermatology at Harvard Medical School and Physician-Scientist at Wellman Center for Photomedicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. She has expertise in cutting edge translational research in areas of device development, dermatology, cutaneous neurobiology, adipose tissue, and immunology. She has spent 20+ years at Harvard Medical School, where she has taught and trained students, residents and fellows in dermatology, laser and energy-based devices, and problem-based innovation. Dr. Garibyan is the co-founder and the Director of the Magic Wand Initiative® and the “Virtual Magic Wand” programs, which teach the process of innovation to clinicians. These internationally recognized programs empower, engage, and teach healthcare professionals on how to identify unmet needs and collaborate to identify and implement solutions to problems. Her passion is to get more women clinicians and scientists to engage and become leaders in biomedical innovation. Dr. Garibyan received her B.S. from University of California Los Angeles, her M.D. from Harvard Medical School, and her Ph.D. from Harvard University in Experimental Pathology/Immunology.



Thank you to the following members of the Cultivating Connections Event Planning Committee:

Lilit Garibyan MD, PhD, JCSW Community Engagement co-chair and Wellman Center for Photomedicine at Massachusetts General Hospital

Joanna (Asia) Korecka-Roet PhD, JCSW Community Engagement co-chair

Michaela Tally, JCSW Community Engagement co-chair

Melody Forbes, JCSW Past Staff co-President

Gail Williams, HMS Office for Faculty Affairs and JCSW

Diana Longden, HMS Office for Faculty Affairs and JCSW

Emilie Raymer PhD, Faculty Director for the Harvard Writing and Public Service Initiative

Amy Tsurumi PhD, JCSW and Assistant Professor of Surgery, Mass General Research Institute

Zoe Spearman, JCSW Staff Vice Co-Chair and The Office of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine

Angela Alberti, Co-Chair, Committee on the Concerns of Women Harvard

Anne Levy PhD, JCSW and The Center for Faculty Development at Massachusetts General Hospital

Carla Kim PhD, Boston Children's Hospital The Office of Faculty Development

Maxine Milstein, MBA, JCSW and Boston Children's Hospital The Office of Faculty Development

Carmen Alvarez, Department of Radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital

Tedy Victoria MD, Department of Radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital

Neha Udayakumar MD, Department of Radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital

Deirdre Hume SHRM-SCP, JCSW and The Wyss Institute

Ana Carolina MS, CMP, VEMN, JCSW and The Wyss Institute

Lindsay Brownell MS, JCSW and The Wyss Institute

Marcia Haigis PhD, JCSW and Gender Equity for Faculty in Science

Kelsey Moum, Office of Women's Careers at Brigham and Women's Hospital

Yelena Bisharyan PhD, Harvard Office of Technology Development

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