

LUNCH KEYNOTE BIO



Clare Bresnahan English

Executive Director
She Should Run

Clare Bresnahan English works and lives in Washington, DC, where she has dedicated her career to increasing women and girls' representation through advocacy, political engagement, and social change efforts.

Clare joined She Should Run in 2012 as the Programs Director responsible for directing organization's research and programs expanding the pipeline of America's future women elected leaders. Her passion for sparking women's political careers drives her commitment to She Should Run's mission.

Clare started her career at the Girl Scouts of the USA Public Policy and Advocacy Office in 2008. Clare led GSUSA's legislative and public affairs strategies for advancing the girl perspective in youth policy issues. Under her leadership, the Girl Scouts launched one of its largest advocacy efforts to promote healthier, balanced images of women and girls within the media and entertainment industry - The Healthy Media Commission for Positive Images of Women and Girls.

She recently graduated magna cum laude with a Masters in Public Management at Johns Hopkins University and graduated in 2008 from American University with a B.A. in Communications, Law, Economics, and Government. She also teaches political entrepreneurship for the nonpartisan organization, New Leaders Council, and has served as the New Leaders Council DC Chapter Co-Director. While Clare loves the national work she leads in DC, she is a proud Midwest native, who hails from the Queen City - Cincinnati, Ohio.

CLOSING KEYNOTE BIO



Charlotte A. Burrows

Commissioner
Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission

In 2014, Charlotte A. Burrows was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the Senate to serve as a Commissioner of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for a term expiring July 1, 2019.

At the Commission, she has advocated for strong enforcement of federal employment laws. She has focused in particular on retaliation, pay equity, issues affecting immigrant and migrant workers, and diversity in employment – including diversity in the technology sector, policing, construction, and other areas in which women and workers of color have traditionally been underrepresented.

Before joining EEOC, Burrows served as Associate Deputy Attorney General at the U.S. Department of Justice, where she worked on a broad range of civil and criminal matters. Earlier in her career, she had served as a trial attorney and Deputy Chief in the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, where she litigated sexual harassment and other Title VII cases.

Burrows is also a veteran of Capitol Hill, having previously served as General Counsel for Civil and Constitutional Rights to Senator Edward M. Kennedy. As a Senate staffer, she worked on a variety of high-profile legislative matters, including the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008, and the Supreme Court nominations of Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito.

Burrows is a former judicial clerk on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and a graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School.

SESSION I BIOS



Mark Maxin
Faculty Member
Key Executive
Leadership Programs

Mark Maxin has over 30 years of experience in federal sector employment law and has extensive experience investigating, advising and handling harassment cases. He has drafted two agency anti-harassment policies and procedures designed to address allegations of harassing conduct promptly and effectively. Maxin's work involves supervising lawyers litigating before U.S. Federal Courts; the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC); the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) the Office of the Special Counsel (OSC) and the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA). Maxin previously served as Counsel for Labor Relations (GS 15) at the U.S. Department of Labor.

He is a member of the Senior Executive Service and currently serves as Assistant General Counsel for Administration. He is an Adjunct Professor in the Key Executive Program and also teaches students seeking a Master's degree at the American University Department of Public Policy and Public Administration. He is the Employer Co-Chair of the American Bar Association, Federal Sector Federal Employment Law Section.

Maxin previously served as Chairman of the Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities. He is the recipient of both the Meritorious Service Award and Distinguished Career Service Award.



Carol R. Miaskoff
Associate Legal Counsel
Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission

Carol R. Miaskoff is the Associate Legal Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Commission or EEOC). She is responsible for developing Commission rules and guidance under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Equal Pay Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA). In addition, she provides legal advice on a wide range of substantive and administrative matters, and participates in defense of the Commission and the Chair in litigation challenging EEOC rules and actions.

During her career at the EEOC, Ms. Miaskoff has supervised the development of proposed Commission policy on workplace harassment and final Commission policy on unlawful retaliation, national origin discrimination, equal pay, the Title VII implications of criminal record exclusions, and the ADA and psychiatric disabilities.

Prior to 2010, Ms. Miaskoff led the Coordination Division of the Office of Legal Counsel, working directly with other federal agencies (such as the Department of Labor) to maximize the consistency of their workplace rules with the EEO laws. She graduated from Harvard University and the George Washington University Law School, with high honors.

Ms. Miaskoff is a member of the EEOC's equal pay task force and speaks frequently to labor and employment groups.



Gwen Sykes
Chief Financial Officer
U.S. Secret Service

Gwen Sykes is the United States Secret Service Chief Financial Officer. In this role, she is responsible for the execution, development and stewardship of the Secret Service's resources and currently manages a financial team that includes budget, financial management, relocation and financial systems experts. Ms. Sykes began working with the Secret Service in May 2012, bringing with her a wealth of financial management skills and talent for organizational transformation and enhancement. Among her many accomplishments, Ms. Sykes is the first African American female to serve as the Chief Financial Officer at NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Nominated by the President of the United States and confirmed by the United States Senate, she was responsible for the financial management and health of this \$16 billion agency.

Ms. Sykes led more than 500 finance professionals, located across ten geographically dispersed locations throughout the United States, in the development and execution of financial policies, processes and procedures. She has also served as Yale University's Chief Financial Officer, the first in that university's 306-year history, and Chief Financial Officer for Morehouse College. Previous government experience includes working within the Department of Defense and in the office of U.S. Senator Ted Stevens. She has been recognized for her achievements by *Black Enterprise*, *Newsweek*, the *Today Show* and the National Black Caucus of State Legislators.



Allison Ford
Senior Manager
International Government
Relations, United
Technology Corporation

Allison Ford is a senior manager of international government relations for United Technologies, a high-tech aerospace and building systems manufacturer with more than 200,000 employees around the world. In her role, Allison monitors and analyzes developments in global policies that impact UTC's business and international operations and is responsible for engaging with embassies, NGOs, and foreign and US government officials to advocate on behalf of the company.

Prior to working for UTC, Allison was a policy practice coordinator for Van Ness Feldman, an environmental and energy law firm with offices in Georgetown and Seattle. With a passion for women's rights issues, she is active in several women's organizations and serves on the executive committee of the Board of Directors for the Women's Foreign Policy Group. A native of Washington state, she holds a BA in History from Gonzaga University and an MPA from George Mason University.

FEDTalks The 2018 Key Executive Leadership Programs Speaker Series

UPCOMING DATES

- Wednesday, April 4, 2018 | *Bias*
- Wednesday, August 8, 2018 | *LGBTQIA+*
- Wednesday, October 10, 2018 | *Creating An Inclusive Culture*
- Wednesday, December 5, 2018 | *2018 Diversity & Inclusion: a year in review*

SESSION II BIOS



Towanda A. Brooks
Chief Human Capital Officer
Department of Housing and Urban Development

Towanda A. Brooks is a 2017 Presidential Rank Award winner and serves as the Chief Human Capital Officer (CHCO) and top human resources manager and advisor for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. She has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since May 2009. Ms. Brooks creates the human capital vision and direction for the Department's human capital management strategies, policies and initiatives in support of HUD's mission. She served as the Deputy Chief Human Capital Officer (DCHCO)/ Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary, for the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer (OCHCO from March 2013- February 2015). From May 2009 to 2013, Ms. Brooks served as the Director for the Human Resources Operations Center (DOCHROC), Office of Human Resources Management, Office of the Secretary, with the Department of Commerce. She was recognized with a Performance Excellence Award in October 2011 for recognition for outstanding performance in performance management.

Before being appointed to the SES at the Department of Commerce, Ms. Brooks served at the National Nuclear Security Administration, Department of Energy, as the Assistant Director, Office of Human Capital Management Programs; the United States Secret Service, Personnel Division, Department of Homeland Security as the Human Resources Officer and Division Chief; the Library of Congress as the Assistant Human Resources Officer; and the Department of Agriculture as the Branch Chief of the Riverdale/Washington Human Resources Office, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

Ms. Brooks completed HUD's Senior Executive Development Program in 2014 as a part of a continual learning program for SES and the Federal-wide Coaching Program sponsored by OPM and HHS. In 2012, Ms. Brooks completed a Certificate Program at Georgetown University in Government Executive Leadership. Ms. Brooks attended the Federal Executive Institute in 2008. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Writing from George Mason University and a Master's of Arts degree in English Literature from The American University.



Mia Beers
Division Director
U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance USAID

Mia Beers serves as the Humanitarian Policy and Global Engagement Division Director for USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), the lead federal office responsible for coordinating the U.S. Government's response to international disasters.

With a mandate to save lives, alleviate suffering, and reduce the social and economic impacts of disasters, OFDA monitors, mitigates, and responds to global hazards and humanitarian needs as they arise. Ms. Beers heads an international team based in Washington D.C., New York, Geneva, Rome and Atlanta. Her current work focuses on humanitarian policy and best practices, donor and multi-lateral engagement, global programs, interagency coordination and training, strategic communications and public-private engagement. Ms. Beers was posted overseas for fourteen years working on disaster responses in the Horn of Africa, Southern Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and Haiti. While with OFDA, Ms. Beers has led interagency Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) in West Africa, Sudan, Ethiopia, Malawi, Lebanon, and Indonesia as well as Response Management Teams for Libya and Burma.

During her career, Ms. Beers also worked for USAID's regional office in East Africa managing humanitarian and development programs and for the non-governmental organization CARE coordinating capacity building and multi-sectoral programs for local organizations in Somalia.

Ms. Beers is on the Board of Directors of Heartland Alliance International and currently represents USAID on the Advisory Group for the Overseas Development Institute and previously on the ALNAP Steering Committee for five years. Ms. Beers holds a Bachelor's degree in international affairs from George Washington University and a Master of Public Administration with distinction from American University's Key Executive Leadership Program. She is also a graduate of the MIT Seminar XXI Program and the Foreign Service Institute's National Security Executive Leadership Seminar. Ms. Beers has won numerous honor awards for her response work overseas, including the Samuel J. Heyman Service to America group medal for her work on the U.S. Ebola Disaster Assistance Response Team.