

## MUAA Speaker Biographies

### April 2013

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**Kristin Adler** has worked at the Career Services Center at Marquette University since the summer of 2008. As the Assistant Director, Employer and Campus Relations, she serves as the primary university contact to employers who want to connect with campus to hire students and alumni. Kristin also oversees the on-campus recruiting program which includes a free job and internship posting database (MU Career Manager), on-campus interviews, career fairs and other networking events.

She earned her Master's degree in Educational Leadership with a special emphasis in College Student Personnel from Marquette's College of Education. Before pursuing her master's degree, Kristin worked in account management for seven years. After graduating from the University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana, she started her professional career as an assistant account executive at a directional marketing agency in the suburbs of Chicago. Kristin loves working at Marquette because she has the fun job of connecting employers with Marquette's talented students and enjoys working with students to help them succeed.

**Anne Deahl** is the associate vice provost for academic support programs and retention, coordinates academic support and retention initiatives at Marquette. Units within her area of responsibility include the offices of the Registrar, Career Services, International Education, Student Educational Support and the four federally-funded Educational Opportunity Programs. Anne has been at Marquette for 22 years, beginning her career here in Student Financial Aid and Admissions, and serving as Associate Provost for Enrollment Management from 1996 to 2007. She has twice served as the chairman of the Conference of Jesuit Enrollment Managers.

She has worked in recent years to re-focus Marquette's retention and academic support efforts in the creation of a comprehensive student success center, which will open in 2014. In her current role she serves on the GMC-funded Talent Dividend project leadership team, as well as the project Student Success/ Completion team, and the GMF/GMC sponsored Milwaukee Succeeds project.

**Laura Kestner-Ricketts** is the director of the Career Services Center. She has been a career services professional since the fall of 1994. She has worked in college career centers in Maine, Ohio, Illinois, Iowa, and at Marquette since January 2002.

Laura values involvement in professional associations and has the opportunity to develop professional relationships with employers and college career practitioners, increased knowledge of cutting-edge programming and resources, and leadership and communication skills that have contributed to her career success. She is an active member of the Midwest Association of Colleges and Employers where she currently serves as President.

She has a B.A. French from Nebraska Wesleyan University and a M.Ed. Student Development in Higher Education from the University of Maine.

**Gary Meyer, Ph.D.**, is one of two vice provosts at Marquette University. Reporting to the provost, the vice provost for undergraduate programs and teaching has overall responsibility for the development of university undergraduate programs, including the university core of common studies, campus-wide student learning assessment and quality of instruction.

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#### **Gary Meyer, Ph.D.** (continued)

Prior to taking on the role of vice provost for undergraduate programs and teaching, Meyer served as Associate Dean in the Diederich College of Communication from 2003-2010 and director of the corporate communication major (2008-2010). Meyer earned a bachelor of business administration degree in finance and economics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (1983), a master of science degree in resource development from Michigan State University (1992) and a doctorate in communication from Michigan State University (1995).

Meyer's primary research is centered in persuasion theory often applied within the areas of health promotion and disease prevention. He has authored or co-authored two books and more than 25 journal articles and book chapters. *Effective health risk messages: A step-by-step guide*, was recognized as Distinguished Book of the Year in 2001 by the Applied Communication Division of the National Communication Association.

Meyer received the Outstanding New Teacher Award (1999) from the Central States Communication Association, the Dean's Recognition Award for Outstanding Teaching (2000) the Excellence in Teaching Award (2002) from Marquette University, the Dean's Recognition Award for Outstanding Scholarship (2005) and the Dean's Recognition Award for Outstanding Service (2010).

**Daniel Ortego** is the director for the business career center for the College of Business Administration and the Graduates School of Management at Marquette University. In this role, he manages all career development, career management and job placement functions for current undergraduate, graduate and alumni. Mr. Ortego oversees the curriculum development and enhancement of LEAD (Leadership Education and Development) 2000 and 3000 Programs. He is also responsible for the development and management of relations with corporations, organizations and alumni to build long-term affiliations/partnerships to create mentoring, internship and career opportunities for College of Business Administration, Graduate School of Management students.

Prior to Marquette University, Mr. Ortego worked for INROADS Inc, a non-for-profit intern and career development organization serving minority college students beginning in 2004. While at INROADS he served as Regional Director for the Great Lakes Region which includes Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin offices. In this role, Daniel oversaw all budget activity, sales plans, goals, metrics; and staff.

Prior to INROADS, he worked in the health care sector for over fourteen years, serving in various roles, including Director of Marketing, Director of Community Relations, Manager of Business Development, Marketing Manager and Marketing Consultant. In these roles, Dan managed and implemented strong sales strategies, successfully met quotas, analyzed research data, increased inpatient admissions, and generated millions of dollars of revenue.

Dan received his Masters of Science degree in Management from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago.

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**Larry Williams** was named vice president and director of athletics at Marquette University by Marquette President Scott R. Pilarz, S.J., on Dec. 5, 2011, and officially took over on Jan. 2, 2012.

Using his experiences as a former professional and collegiate athlete, legal practitioner, and administrator at the NCAA Division I level, Williams believes in creating a culture that focuses on developing success-driven student-athletes. He has gained a tremendous amount of exposure to the benefits of that approach throughout his career, which has led to success in the classroom and competition at each institution where he has worked.

Williams was a two-time All-America football selection at Notre Dame, graduating in 1985 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. He played professional football with four NFL teams from 1985–92, while at the same time earning a law degree from the University of San Diego School of Law in 1992. While in the league, he played in several memorable playoff and conference championship games, participated in a variety of community outreach programs, and negotiated player employment contracts with NFL clubs. He then practiced law for the Indianapolis-based law firm of Baker & Daniels before returning to Notre Dame in 1999 to work on licensing and product marketing.

Williams is a Santa Ana, Calif., native and is married to Laura Lee, a former collegiate All-America selection and national champion tennis player at Notre Dame. The couple has five children: Kristin (Santa Clara '09, Marshall School of Law '12), Sean (Yale '11), Scott (Yale, '13), Eric (Yale '16) and Louis.