

## SLUX

### Workforce Civic Engagement

Today's workforce is as busy and focused as ever. Millennials living and working in South Lake Union have grown up in a technology-rich environment. They consume information, are captivated by content and give their time in an episodic culture – think news clips, personal posts and other information served up in today's social platform-powered world.

Through **SLUX** the South Lake Union Community Council will explore the questions of how Seattle can capture the civic attention – and the opportunity for the community of workforce millennials. And most importantly, how neighborhoods and community groups can tap into the leadership and intellectual capacity of this population that largely has a desire to participate and give back – but may lack pathways and opportunities that align with their day-to-day lives.

#### Moderator

**SHKELQIM KELMENDI | SLU Resident & Seattle Metropolitan Chamber Young Professionals**



**Shkëlqim Kelmendi** is a Project Manager in the Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives at the Seattle Housing Authority, an organization that fosters stability and increases self-sufficiency for individuals with low incomes. Prior to joining the Seattle community, he worked with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas and the U.S. Department of Labor in Dallas, Texas. Throughout his career Shkëlqim has been actively involved in his local community. He currently serves on the Creative Council of the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Young Professionals Network. In Dallas, he served as a Commissioner on the City of Dallas Community Development Commission, where he chaired the Economic Development and the Housing and HOME Programs Committee, and participated on the Mayor's Task Force on Poverty. He also served on the Board of the Dallas Regional Chamber's Young Professionals, chairing the Policy and Service Committees and the Dallas CASA Young Professionals. As an Albanian-American who immigrated to the United States as a refugee in 1999, Shkëlqim has been outspoken about the rights of immigrants and refugees and has founded the Young Albanian Professionals organization. Shkëlqim lives in the South Lake Union neighborhood and loves hiking, reading, and the Dallas Cowboys.

## **Amazon.com**

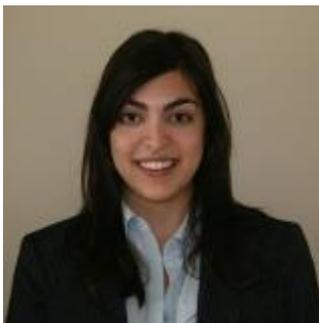
**SARAH WORLEY | Program Manager, Worldwide Operations**



**Sarah Worley** is a Program Manager in Worldwide Operations for Amazon focusing on workforce development. In her role she chairs Connect@ Amazon - a volunteer-led employee resource group that organizes and executes personal and professional development events and builds community for Amazonians both internally and externally. Prior to Amazon, Sarah spent the past 7 years dedicating her work to serving veterans and their families. In 2009, Sarah worked as a constituent services representative in the office of Congressman Walt Minnick (ID-01) where she specialized in veteran and military affairs, immigration, and housing; managing more than 150 cases weekly. Sarah has also worked with Hiring Our Heroes (HOH), a national grassroots initiative to help veterans, transitioning service members, and military spouses find meaningful employment. Sarah created and expanded an inaugural program for HOH, connecting transitioning military with fellowships with corporate companies such as Amazon, USAA, Verizon, GE, and more. Sarah holds a B.A. in Political Science from Western Washington University. She currently resides in Seattle where she spends her time volunteering and staying actively civically engaged; including serving as a passionate advocate and board member of Fuse Washington.

## **City of Seattle Dept. of Neighborhoods**

**SAHAR FATHI | Division Director, Leadership Development**



**Sahar Fathi** is the Division Director for Leadership Development at the Department of Neighborhoods in the City of Seattle. She has previously served the city as Policy, Strategy, and Programs Lead for the Seattle Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs and legislative aide to Seattle Councilmember Mike O'Brien.

Named one of “The Smartest People in Seattle Politics” by The Stranger and recognized as one of “Seattle’s Smartest Global Women” by The Seattle Globalist, Sahar has served in a variety of academic and civic roles including adjunct faculty at the Seattle University and University of Washington law schools, past president and co-founder of the Middle Eastern Legal Association of Washington, as well as the founder of its Legal Clinic – the first Middle Eastern Legal Clinic in the United States. She is has also held board positions with the ACLU, the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, and UNA – USA.

Sahar received her Juris Doctorate and Masters in International Studies from the University of Washington and as an undergraduate at the University of Southern California earned dual degrees in French and International Relations. Sahar also has a diploma in International and European Law from the Université Jean-Moulin in Lyon, France. Sahar is fluent in Farsi and French and has been published in the Seattle Journal for Social Justice, the Seattle Journal of Environmental Law, and the Gonzaga Law Review.



## Facebook

**AMY HIROTAKA | Public Policy & Community Engagement Manager**



**Amy Hirotaka** works at the intersection of policy, technology, and community engagement. At Facebook she serves as Public Policy & Community Engagement Manager in Seattle. Amy was previously with Code.org where she led the charge to enact policies in dozens of states to expand K-12 computer science. She was appointed by Seattle City Council to the Community Technology Advisory Board, where she collaborates with municipal government to promote digital equity (an issue she's very passionate about). She earned her Master of Public Administration from the Evans School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Washington and an undergraduate degree from New York University.

## Google

**DARCY NOTHNAGLE | Head of External Affairs, Northwest Region**



**Darcy Nothnagle** is the Head of External Affairs for the NW region for Google. Prior to working for Google, she served as District Director for a Member of Congress, ran political campaigns, worked on education reform advocacy efforts, and worked in various roles at the city, state and federal level. She holds a Masters degree in contemporary European Politics from the University of Bath.



## **Vulcan, Inc.**

**DAVID PATTON | Senior Manager, Digital Media**



In his role at Vulcan Inc., a Paul G. Allen company, **David Patton** develops strategies for digital and social campaigns, adds a digital perspective to communication and marketing efforts and manages and oversees a slew of digital and social properties. He joined Vulcan in January 2014 after five years at WE Communications, where he was editor-in-chief for the agency. Before moving to the Seattle area, David was a digital journalist with The Wall Street Journal. His experience there led him to focus his post-journalism work on enabling brands and organizations to become publishers and storytellers by creating compelling content, distributing it across social media and inviting audiences to engage with the information. Outside of work, David is an omnisieur, and spends his weekends exploring the outdoors with his wife and two children. He can tell you the displacement and horsepower of most modern car engines but can't remember any song names or lyrics.

## **Seattle City Club**

**DIANE DOUGLAS | Executive Director**



For the past decade **Diane Douglas** has served CityClub as its executive director. The nonpartisan, nonprofit service organization aims to improve the civic health of the Puget Sound region by informing and engaging residents and community leaders, and providing programs that bridge politics, professions, cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. One of those programs; Civic Bootcamp recently featured South Lake Union as a part of its Livable Neighborhoods forum. Formerly, Diane was the founding director of Bellevue College's Center for Liberal Arts and the Director of Bellevue Arts Museum. She is co-author of *Choosing Craft*, a social history of the American craft movement and serves on a variety of regional and national boards that address poverty alleviation and civic education and engagement.