



# Diversity and Inclusion as Key Pillars of Success at Northrop Grumman

**Wednesday, October 11th, 2:30 pm-3:30 pm; Room E-201**

### **Abstract:**

A vital component to ingenuity and innovation is diversity. Diversity has many different perspectives; it comes in the form of race, gender, religion, thought, etc. What matters is that every perspective has a seat at the table. This seminar focuses on how to successfully navigate in an engineering company where diversity and inclusion are key pillars to its success. Hearing from three women from Northrop Grumman who have found success in their respective fields will shine a light on how to best prepare students to integrate into a dynamic workforce. Northrop Grumman acknowledges the challenges of diversity and inclusion, particularly in STEM, and has committed to ensuring its company reflects our population.

### **BIO: Lana Bagley, Process Improvement Manager**

Lana Bagley started working at Northrop Grumman in 2004 after graduating from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with an Industrial Engineering degree. She has held various positions at the company and continues to apply her Industrial Engineering approach to each role she is in. She specifically leverages a big-picture strategic approach as well as an integrated style to best connect and engage. She has worked in a variety of roles ranging from Knowledge Management to Process Improvement. She thrives on solid communication and strategy to collaborate and to lead in creating proactive solutions that best connect.



**Lana Bagley**

### **BIO: Melissa Packwood, Fire Scout Program Director**

Melissa Packwood started her Engineering career with Wyle Laboratories as a government contractor at Naval Air Station North Island. She supported several engineering design endeavors and transitioned into logistics engineering with a focus in Bills of Material and Quality. She led a Reliability Team that identified and implemented engineering solutions to significantly reduce costs. Melissa is Black Belt certified and led 25 Kaizen events for NAS North Island resulting in a 79% reduction in Turn Around Time. Melissa moved to Northrop Grumman in 2008 as the Diminishing Manufacturing Sources Manager for Unmanned Systems. Melissa is now the Program Director for the Fire Scout unmanned helicopter program. Melissa's education includes a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from San Diego State University and a Masters Certificate in Program Management from George Washington University.



**Melissa Packwood**

### **BIO: Tara Welborne, Quality Engineer**

Tara Welborne has been with Northrop Grumman for 8 years. She previously was a systems engineer in the Electronic Systems sector, where she led missile load and system testing and analysis for the Underwater Launch Subsystem (ULS) on ballistic nuclear missile submarines (SSBN). Prior to NG, Welborne had various experiences as an Assistant Chemical Engineering Researcher at Proctor & Gamble and Tuskegee University. She currently supports the Aerospace Systems sector conducting failure analysis on Autonomous Systems. Welborne has a BS in Mechanical Engineering Technology, a Masters of Engineering Management from Old Dominion University, and a PhD in Systems & Engineering Management from Texas Tech University.



**Tara Welborne**

### **Contact:**

Julie Smitherman  
Administrative Support Coordinator  
Department of Mechanical Engineering  
San Diego State University,  
5500 Campanile Drive  
San Diego, CA 92182  
Email: [jsmitherman@sdsu.edu](mailto:jsmitherman@sdsu.edu)  
Phone: 619-594-6067

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