



"I have discovered in life that there are ways of getting almost anywhere you want to go, if you really want to go." ~Langston Hughes



"Black Lives Matter on Boards"



Faculty Office Hours

AABLI faculty member, Zachary Gabriel Green, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist, professor, and international social justice consultant. Dr. Green gives focus to practices that are considered "soft skills," hard to master in board leadership.

The #BlackLivesMatter movement began in 2012 as a mere social media hashtag in response to the killing of Trayvon Martin and the non-conviction of his assailant. As the list of unarmed Black people who died in the face of police excess or under mysterious circumstances grew, a diverse array of strategists and activists responded to the call of the founders of this Internet effort. Further inspired to action by the death of Mike Brown in Ferguson, a national movement was born. #BlackLivesMatter moved from seats at a computer to feet on the streets. Since that time, #BLM has become arguably the most powerful and prominent "ideological and political intervention" on issues affecting Black people in the United States.

The actions of #BlackLivesMatter have not been without controversy. In particular, the disruptions of presidential candidate Bernie Sanders' remarks created a rift in the ranks of progressives. These disruptions were either deeply denigrated or loudly applauded at left, center, and right of the political spectrum. The result has been that the discourse on how Black lives matter has moved up on the national political agenda. Polling results suggest that for the first time in more than a decade, the majority of white Americans also recognize race relations as an issue that needs to be addressed in this country. [Read more...](#)



Congratulations to our recent graduates!
Class # 7 - June 2015



Photo by Leroy Hamilton

"Welcome class # 7! You've all done it! We are excited to welcome you into the AABLI alumni family."

~Katarina Eleby, Manager, Programs & Operations

[Click here to see more photos](#)



Why choose AABLI? [Click here and listen.](#)



Register early and save for the November Board Leadership Program!



BOARD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

NOV. 6 - 7, 2015
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL
 (Downtown Campus)
 919 Albany Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Faculty

HEAD FACULTY

				
LATONYA SLACK PRINCIPAL, SLACK GLOBAL CONSULTING "PERFORMANCE AND HONOR"	BRIEKSON DIAMOND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL "JUST TRUCK TO FUNDRAISING"	PAUL HUDSON PAUL C. HUDSON CONSULTING "STRATEGY" FEAR, FUNK & FUN!	ZACHARY GREEN, PH.D. UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO "WITTABLE SKILLS OF BOARD LEADERSHIP"	VIRGIL ROBERTS BOARD CHAIR, AFRICAN AMERICAN BOARD LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT OUR OFFICE:
(213) 346-3241
BOARDLEADERSHIP@AABLI.ORG
WWW.AABLI.ORG

REGISTER TODAY

\$550 - Early registration (before September 25, 2015)
 \$650 - Registration fee (after September 25, 2015)

Apply now! Deadline for applications: October 16, 2015

[Click here](#) to register and complete the online application.



REAL TALK: Head & Heart of Boards as Teams



Thyonne Gordon, Ph.D., is an accomplished social profit management expert and writer. Her work with 501c3 organizations has enhanced the not-for-profit sector with on-purpose success through her proven technique of S.T.O.R.Y.™ (Structure, Target, Ownership, Relatability and YOU). Using this technique for creating growth-oriented businesses, strong board governance, productive teams and sustainable fundraising strategies in the 501c3 arena, Dr. Gordon has empowered hundreds of organizations nationwide.



Dr. Thyonne Gordon
 CEO, Beyond Story
 AABLI alumna
 Class # 3

Face it. Most of us join boards either to support a cause or to get paid! But many of you may not know which boards actually offer remuneration for board service. "Usually," you may be thinking, "board service comes with an expectation for a contribution, doesn't it?"

Well, slow your roll. When I say "get paid," I'm not just speaking of money, though that's not a bad reason to join and to be fully committed. Joining a board delivers a payment that can't be monetized. We find it in entities such as the NBA, the NFL, sororities, fraternities, the Girl Scouts, the Boy Scouts and other clubs and organizations. The pay-off is being part of a team.

What's so special about being on a team? [Read more here...](#)

Spotlights



LaDawn Best - Class # 5
Los Angeles Program Director
[Peer Health Exchange](#)

For several years, it was Best's desire to serve on the Board of Directors at the LGBTQ Center of Long Beach. Here she shares her personal journey with us.

"I attended the AABLI Board Leadership Program in mid-2014. During the two day training, I met professionals from all over the country whose expertise covered a wide range of areas. It was truly an inspiring and informative weekend. During Brickson Diamond's "Fast Track to Fundraising," I made the decision that I was ready to serve on another board and that The LGBT Center of Long Beach was my placement goal. I approached Brickson later in the day and asked for any pointers he could offer. What he said really resonated with me. He told me to go for it! His advice was that if I believe I have what it takes to serve on the board and if I believe in the organization, I should contact the executive director about my availability for service. He said I could expect only one of three responses: "They could say no, not now, or yes." It took me a couple of months to act on his advice, but later that year I was at a Long Beach Community event and happened to run into Porter Gilberg, the executive director for the Long Beach Center. Porter is a longtime acquaintance, so I took the opportunity to express my commitment to working within the LGBT community in Long Beach. I inquired about potential board membership. He was very responsive and invited me to meet with the board president and chairman. I was elected to the board about two months later. The LGBT Center of Long Beach truly represents the intersections and diversity that make our city great and I am proud to serve on the board of directors."



[The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach](#)

The President and Chairman for the LGBTQ Center of Long Beach, Ron Sylvester, wrote the following:

"I was first introduced to LaDawn by The Center's Executive Director Porter Gilberg, who spoke highly of her and suggested that I meet with her as a potential board candidate. I spoke with Ms. Best on the phone, looked over her impressive résumé and was immediately ready to meet with her in person. LaDawn's impressive nonprofit experience, her enthusiastic passion for our mission and her outgoing personality won me over immediately. I invited her to attend a board meeting and began the vetting process as a potential board member. This process includes attending at least two to three board meetings as an observer and also meeting one on one with other board members outside of the board room over the course of two months. During that time I would check in with the board members for their reaction to LaDawn. As I suspected, everyone she met with was equally impressed and felt she would make an excellent addition to our leadership. I then met again with LaDawn in person to discuss her reaction to the individual meetings, her overall feelings about the board members and ultimately a board position. I'm happy to say from there it was all systems go. We started the next month's meeting by unanimously voting LaDawn onto the board and welcomed her as our newest board member. To date, Ms. Best has proven to be an asset to the organization in many ways and her role continues to expand."

The LGBTQ Center of Long Beach serves over 21,000 people a year and offers an array of services including support groups, workshops and seminars, youth services, legal assistance, employment referrals, rental and roommate referrals, a hate crimes hotline, domestic violence survivor support, mental health counseling, cultural and social activities, educational forums, HIV prevention and support programs, and a thriving volunteer program with an active database of over 300 volunteers.

Our Educational Leadership Series

Best Practices for Obtaining Corporate and Business Sponsorships

Wednesday, August 5, 2015
The California Endowment



(L-R) Byron Reed, Senior VP, Wells Fargo; Angela Gibson, President, AG & Associates; Carol Komatsuka, VP of Development, Southern California Public Radio (KPCC); and Moderator Carl Ballton, President/CEO, MUFG Union Bank Foundation

Carl Ballton, AABLI board member and President/CEO of MUFG Union Bank Foundation, moderated an all-star panelist. The panel shared their personal and professional experiences with a room filled to capacity.

[*Click here to see the photo gallery*](#)

Recent Placements



Malcolm A. Johnson - Class # 6

Senior Vice President, Real Estate Banking, JP Morgan Chase & Company elected to serve on the [Executive Committee, USC Lusk Center for Real Estate](#)



Iberie N. Seck - Class # 3

Senior Associate, The Cochran Firm, joins the board of the [Westside Children's Center](#)



Deidre Robinson - Class # 4

Director of Strategic Alliances, Golden Gate University, appointed as State Commissioner of the [California Board of Accountancy](#)



Myeisha Peguero Gamino - Class # 5

Vice President, Global Philanthropy, JP Morgan Chase & Company, appointed to the board of [Sustainable Burbank Commission](#)



Schelle Y. Rocher - Class # 6

Senior Director of Provider Operations, Los Angeles Universal Preschool, appointed to the board of the California Community Foundation's [Council on Immigrant Integration](#)



Loren M. Hill, Ph.D. - Class # 6

Professor of psychology and Director, Forensic Training, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, joins the board of the [Academy of Science and Engineering](#)



Tana M. Session - Class # 7

Director of Human Capital, Golden State Water Company, joins the board of the [Boys and Girls Club of Hollywood](#)



Oliver L. Sims, III - Class # 6

Managing Partner, Oliver Sims Business Advisors, joins the [Sam M. Walton School of Business Dean's Alumni Advisory Council](#) at the University of Arkansas

[**View other AABLI affiliated placements!**](#)



Social Media Blueprint...Do You Have One?

Monique Stennis is the digital marketing specialist for Inter Valley Health Plan. She is responsible for the day-to-day management of social media campaigns. Stennis also develops informative content and



Monique Stennis
AABLI Alumna
Class # 6

Believe it or not, social media is here to stay. More than ever, today's business environment is saturated with communication messages. As recently as five years ago, the prevailing marketing messages came from brands. Whether they were communicated through broadcast, print or online media, most messages came from the organization. Today, social networking is the top online activity, with the average American spending 37 minutes per day online. In addition, around 46 percent of web users look to social media when making a purchase.

For these reasons, business leaders cannot afford to underestimate the value of robust social media strategies to engage with their stakeholders. Just as drafting a business plan is critical to establish goals and objectives, developing a social media strategy is an important blueprint to: increase brand awareness, engage your target market, and diffuse a communication crisis (to name a few).

Whether you are a small business, a large organization, a not-for-profit or a one person show you want to communicate with consumers directly, you must create a social media strategy to effectively reach them. While social media is under the marketing umbrella, you will find that an effective strategy will take into account all operational areas within the organization.

[Read more...](#)



Staff News

AABLI shaking it up!



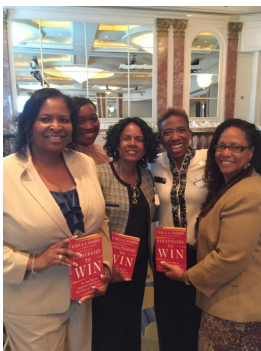
Teberina Johns, Victoire
Prothro & Katarina Eleby

Teberina Johns returns to California State University Long Beach for the fall, to finish her degree in journalism and communications. Victoire Prothro was promoted to manager of communications and marketing. Katarina Eleby, who was appointed by the Governor to the Physical Therapy Board of California, accepted the role of vice president - the youngest person to do so.

Go team!
~Yvette Chappell-Ingram
President and CEO



Recommended Reading



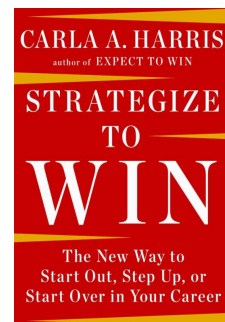
(l-r) S. Burroughs, T.
Johns, Y. Chappell-
Ingram, C. Harris, & V.
Prothro

A few of our AABLI women were pleased to attend the "Black Women On...Transformational Leadership" forum to meet Carla A. Harris, Vice Chairman, Global Wealth Management, Managing Director and Senior Client Advisor at Morgan Stanley *and* the author of "Strategize to Win."

Ms. Harris is a leader, an author and a singer! In August 2013, President Obama appointed her as chairperson of the National Women's Business Council.

We are happy to make this recommendation to our readers.

For more on the author, please visit her [website](#), Carla's Pearls.



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