# **ACC NCR Career Development**

# How the Rules Have Changed – Developing a Personal Brand & Increasing Visibility During a Pandemic

**PRESENTED BY:** 

**Deborah Ben-Canaan** 

Partner & Senior Practice Leader, Major, Lindsey & Africa

**Veta T. Richardson** 

President & CEO, Association of Corporate Counsel



#### **Deborah Ben-Canaan**





- Partner and Senior Practice Leader for MLA's In-House Recruiting group.
- Joined Major, Lindsey & Africa in 2001.
- Regularly works with CEOs, Boards, CHROs and General Counsel at organizations of all sizes to help them shape, grow and develop their legal teams.
- Formerly a litigator in San Diego.

#### **Veta T. Richardson**

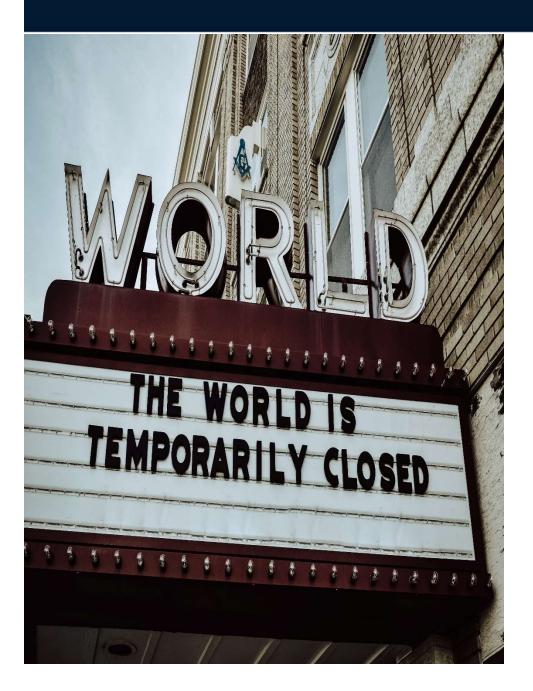




- ACC President & CEO since 2011
- Responsible for leading ACC's global transformation and rebranding to continuously improve services and remain relevant for in-house counsel.
- Previously, Executive Director at MCCA, and in-house counsel to Philadelphia-based energy company (ACC member for +10 years).

## Introduction





- New environment with the same goals
- Internal Communication
- External Communication
- Social Media
- Q&A

#### The 2020 Challenges to Self Promotion





















- No in-person time with colleagues and others outside your organization
- No opportunities to network
- Marketing budgets slashed, events cancelled
- Pervasive sense of fear health and economic
- Distractions: home schooling, elderly or sick parents, pets
- People feel very unapproachable

## **Keeping Up Your Internal In-House Profile**



- Create a community and share information
- Identify internal clients to stay in touch with
- Be likable, top of mind
- Volunteer to lead a virtual training or town hall
- Become a thought leader
  - Write articles, gather information



# **Keep In Touch – Internal Networking**

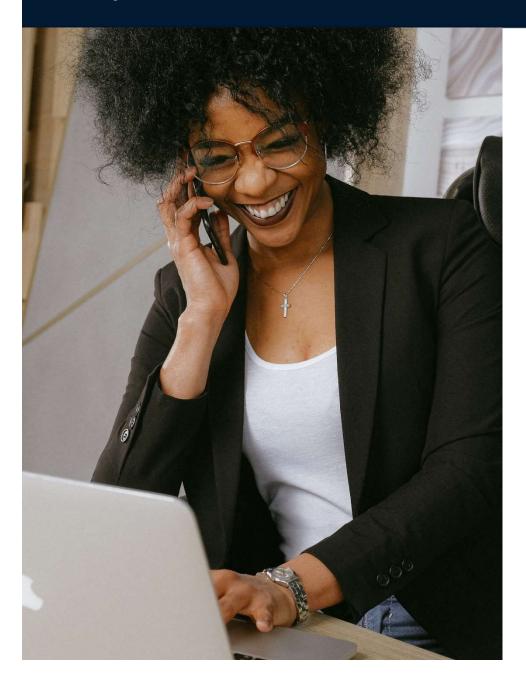




- Don't forget the old fashioned ways to connect
  - Email, phone calls
- Be the glue that brings the team together
- One on one Zoom meetings

# **Keep In Touch – External Networking**





- Cold emails and calls
- What value do you bring?
- One on one Zoom meetings
  - Networking
  - Share information
  - Mutual support

# **Unique Ways to Connect via Video**



- Podcast Club
- Wine tasting, cheese tasting or spa day
- Mocktail or cocktail recipes
- Similar industries to talk shop (Women of FinTech)
- An event that is not happening this year



#### **Video Call Rules of Thumb**





Think about your audience



Control the size of your group



Timing (start and end)



Plan ahead by having an agenda



Work out the tech issues in advance

# **Tips & Tricks for Video Conferencing**



- Enhance appearance button on Zoom
- Good webcam
- Green screen
- Lighting equipment
- Look at your spot, it is distracting? Solid backgrounds work better than windows
- Virtual backgrounds
- Test out the different VC options



#### **Social Media**



- What Kinds?
  - Twitter
  - LinkedIn
  - Facebook/Instagram
- How Often?
  - Is there such thing as too much?
- What to Post?
  - Sex, drugs & rock and roll?

#### **How to Approach the World**



#### Use your gut and don't be weird.

- Approach people with the appropriate amount of familiarity.
- Different people in the same organization might have different levels and that is okay.
- Pay close attention to new social cues.
- Some people are not going to be interested and it is not about you or your request.

#### **Frequency**

A little goes a long way. The first contact makes the path.

#### **Benefits Associated with Work From Home**



- Increased empathy, authenticity (allows for forming deeper more personal connections sooner – the we're in it together mindset)
- People are online not travelling and more reachable (caution on do's and don'ts for reaching out)
- Timed well, fewer distractions (ability to focus on other party to conversation)
- Approachable flipside view? (my thought is that notwithstanding perceptions of being unapproachable, many are actually more so because they are home – a networking conversation may be a nice break from routine)



# Questions and Thank You

#### **Deborah Ben-Canaan**

PARTNER & SENIOR PRACTICE LEADER MAJOR, LINDSEY & AFRICA dbencanaan@mlaglobal.com

#### **Veta T. Richardson**

PRESIDENT & CEO
ASSOCIATION OF CORPORATE COUNSEL
richardson@acc.com