



May 2012 Conference Speaker Biographies

Charles Block is currently enrolled at UW Oshkosh. He started February 2010 and is expecting to graduate May 2013. He enlisted in the Army Reserve in 1999 as an All-source Intelligence Analyst and has served for 12 years. He served 9 months in Kuwait and Iraq as Intelligence in support of rail operations. In 2005 and 2006 he was an Army Recruiter in Oshkosh, WI. At UW Oshkosh Charles will be receiving his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Supply Chain and Operations Management. Along with the BBA he is attending Army ROTC. Upon graduation Charles will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Charles also has a wife, Beth, and three sons, Benjamin (5), Jeremiah (3), and Theodore (2) and one daughter Charlotte (born Feb. 2012).

Thomas (Tom) Lyga is currently employed in Oshkosh Corporation's corporate human resources department as its campus relations manager. Oshkosh Corporation is a leading designer and manufacturer of the world's toughest specialty trucks, truck bodies and access equipment, headquartered in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

In this capacity, Tom is responsible for managing upwards of 180 students from across the nation who participates in the company's intern and new hire programs. His responsibilities include recruiting, hiring, training and professional development of those interns, as well as managing the new college graduate hiring program and the campus relations programs for his targeted colleges and universities. He has also been the company's community liaison for several local and start boards and organizations.

Tom joined Oshkosh Corporation in 2008 after a 21-year career in the Air Force, culminating as the director of staff for the 97th Air Mobility Wing at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma. Tom also served in a variety of leadership and command roles to include serving as Air Officer Commanding and Operations Officer at the United States Air Force Academy where he was in charge of anywhere from 100 to 400 cadets, as well as associated training and development programs. Tom was selected as the lead advisor to an Iraqi Base Commander at Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq, leading a team of 30 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines from across all branches of the military in base reconstruction and sustainment efforts. He has also served as the wing executive officer for a training wing, a fighter wing and the composite wing in Saudi Arabia.

He graduated from UW-La Crosse in 1983 with a degree in Business Administration and received his MBA from Golden Gate University in 1991. Tom is originally from La Crosse, Wisconsin and is married to the former Jean Gassen, also from La Crosse. They have two daughters, Jessica and Rebecca.

Amy O'Donnell joined The University of Toledo's College of Business and Innovation in August 2004. She holds a Master of Science in College Student Personnel Services from Miami University and a Bachelor of Science in Journalism from Bowling Green State University. As the College's Associate Lecturer for Career Development, Amy's current emphasis is on Career Development I and II, two required career courses which take students through self-assessment to the job/internship search. As the College of Business and Innovation's sole career development lecturer she supports the decentralized Business Career Programs Office by bearing responsibility for career advising, teaching all relevant career/job search skills, and assisting with or planning special events designed to groom undergraduate and graduate students for the world of work. Amy is committed to two professional associations: the Midwest Cooperative Education and Internship Association and the Midwest Association of Colleges and Employers.

She resides in Bowling Green, Ohio, with her husband, Ed, two sons, Ryan and Sean, and their golden retriever, Rory. Other interests include travel, vocal music, and weight training.

Attorney Patel is the principal attorney of the Mahadev Law Group, which focuses on Employment Law Counseling and Litigation Prevention for businesses. He has over ten year of experience working with Human Resources and Employment Law issues. He has worked with small and mid-sized businesses and with municipalities in Wisconsin. He has also taught at the University of Wisconsin Law School for a course, *Employment Law Counseling & Preventive HR*, and worked there as an Assistant Director of Career Services.

Attorney Patel currently serves as Chair of the Communications Committee at the State Bar of Wisconsin, is a Board Member for the ACLU of Wisconsin, and has also served on the Diversity Outreach Committee for the State Bar of Wisconsin.

Frank Tierney, is the UW-L Veteran Student Coordinator. In his new role, Frank provides support and advocacy for students who are veterans or family members of veterans. He also cooperates with UW-L colleagues to assess and evaluate the needs of veterans and their families and works toward improving and expanding services. Frank has with over 11 years of experience at UW-L, six as an Assistant Professor of Military Science and five years as an advisor in the Academic Advising Center. His understanding and empathy for veterans and families of veterans is a result of his extensive military career. Frank spent many years in the US Army and retired in January 2000.

Rhett Zietlow is currently employed with Oshkosh Corporation in their Talent Acquisition team as a Senior Recruiter. In his role he supports hiring initiatives throughout multiple segments with predominant emphasis on Mechanical and Advanced Engineering functions.

In addition to targeted recruitment, Rhett is responsible for key input associated from hiring decisions in coordination with Hiring Managers intent across various functional groups. These vital groups to the organization include New Product Development, Product Support, Advanced Products, Test & Development, and Project Management. In establishing and developing relationships Rhett provides the passive and active candidate pools a look inside the dynamic culture of Oshkosh Corporation. He has also been involved with community veteran, and academic outreach through attending numerous career fairs, trade shows, seminars, and his ongoing military service.

Rhett joined Oshkosh Corporation in early 2011 after having been a vendor for the company the prior 4 years with a technical recruiting firm. In addition to his civilian position at Oshkosh; Rhett currently serves as the Material Management Officer for the 732nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion out of Tomah for the Wisconsin Army National Guard.

He has had two deployments including one to Afghanistan in 2003 and more recently to Iraq in 2009. Other roles held throughout his 16 year career include; Motor Transport Operator, Team Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, & Transportation Officer. His areas of concentration throughout his career have been heavily involved with Logistics & Transportation however he was selected by his previous Battalion commander to lead an Enhanced Infantry Platoon of 56 Soldiers in his last year long deployment to Northern Iraq.

He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in 2006 with a degree in Sociology and is currently completing his requirements towards an MBA from Cardinal Stritch University. He is originally from the small town of Marion, Wisconsin where he grew up with his parents and three brothers. Rhett currently resides in Neenah, Wisconsin.