

Rob Lass





Presenter & Moderator Col, USAF (retired), Ph.D. SBCC Vice President of Education

Dr. Robert Lass is the Vice President of Education for the Small Business Consulting Corporation. A retired Air Force Colonel with over 28 years of operational leadership and staff expertise, Dr. Lass' most recent active duty posting was as the U.S. Air Force's Dean of the Air Command and Staff College and later, the Vice Commandant of Squadron Officers College.

A long-time educator and Cyber commander by trade, he continues to instruct courses and deliver lectures across the world on topics ranging from leadership and professional development, national defense and security strategy, ethics and decision-making, organizational behavior, and metacognition and critical thinking.

Dr. Lass has taught or lectured at Duke University, The University of South Carolina, Louisiana Tech University, Japan's Self-Defense Forces Colleges, and a variety of schools and programs across the Air Force's Air University campus -- both in-resident and online.

He holds a PhD in History from the University of South Carolina and holds three Masters Degrees in Organizational Management, National Security and Strategic Studies, and Aeronautical Science from The George Washington University, the Naval War College, and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, respectively.

Jason Barnshaw





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Jason Barnshaw is a retired Chief Master Sergeant with over twenty-four years of active-duty service in the United States Air Force.

Jason began his career in Maintenance before transitioning into the Cyber career field, serving in eight operational and special duty assignments as well as deploying eleven times. He retired in Aug 2023 as the first-ever Senior Enlisted Leader of the Air Force's newest organization, the 850th Spectrum Warfare Group, Eglin AFB Florida. Jason also served four years as the Commandant of the SSgt Julio Alonso Airman Leadership School, Dover AFB Delaware.

Jason is currently a Product Manager for the Small Business Consulting Corporation. He is also the owner of JLBarnshaw LLC and Catalyst of Development Enterprise (CODE), where he provides cyber, leadership, and business solutions consulting, as well as executive coaching and public speaking.

Jason holds a Bachelor of Arts in Information Technology Management from American Military University and a Master of Science in Management, Organizational Leadership from Wilmington University. He is currently completing a doctorate in Educational Leadership at Liberty University.

Bill Barrington





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Bill Barrington is a recently retired Air Force colonel with over 25 years of experience developing individuals, teams and organizations to reach their highest potential.

Bill's leadership framework draws on his operational and staff experience as a space & missile maintenance officer. His assignments include leading a 470-person maintenance unit, and directing logistics, sustainment and modernization for over 12,000 personnel across a seven-state region. Additionally, he led the training and development of 116 officer candidates, and oversaw talent management for 300 personnel, directing career development and education.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Space Operations from the United States Air Force Academy, a Master of Science in Engineering Management from University of Central Florida, and a Master of Arts in Leadership & Counseling from University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. He is completing his executive coaching certification through the International Coaching Federation.

Charles "Flan" Flanagain





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Charles Flanagain, a seasoned leader with over three decades of dedicated service in the United States Air Force, retired as a Chief Master Sergeant October 2023. Specializing as a Security Forces Airman, he honed his skills across various roles, including an impressive 23-year tenure with the Department of Energy on the global stage. His most recent active-duty assignment placed him at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, where he served as the Group SEL for the largest Security Forces Group in the Air Force.

Throughout his distinguished career, Charles has amassed a wealth of leadership experience at the squadron, group, and wing levels, both domestically and internationally. He has been deployed to nine duty locations spanning seven different countries, including Italy, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Korea. Stateside, he has served at bases in Montana, South Dakota, Florida, and Wyoming, contributing to ten operations worldwide.

Now, as the founder and proprietor of Rise Resiliency, Charles channels his expertise into providing invaluable leadership, life, and business solutions consulting. Additionally, he offers executive coaching and delivers keynote speeches, drawing upon his wealth of experience and insights.

Charles holds a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration and is certified as a Resilience Building Leadership Professional Trainer. He is also an Associate Certified Coach (ACC), recognized as the golden standard in coaching globally. Currently, he is in the process of completing his Professional Certified Coach (PCC) in Coaching through the International Coaching Federation, further enhancing his credentials and commitment to professional excellence.

He resides in the Smokey Mountains of Tennessee, with his wife Donna and their two dogs Minka and Paisley.

Eric Foreman





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Eric "Skid" Foreman served 30-years in the United States Air Force, recently retiring as a the 497th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group Senior Enlisted Leader in April 2022. Entering the military as an Intelligence Operations Specialist, Skid was stationed in Texas, United Kingdom, Arizona, Ecuador, and North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia. He was also hand-selected to be an Airborne Intelligence Technician aboard the EC-130E, Airborne Command and Control Center, where he also earned his Instructor tab and continued to teach other intelligence noncommissioned officers and officers. Skid served a cumulative of 17 years in joint assignments such as the Joint Special Operations Command, U.S. Central Command Headquarters, and the National Security Agency-Georgia.

Skid's career highlights includes serving Airmen, joint, and combined service members for a cumulative of 6 years of deployments to Kuwait, Turkey, Europe, Afghanistan, Iraq, other areas of the Middle East, South America, and Southeast Asia. He is a 4-time Major Command-level winner for the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Awards Program at the Airman and Senior Noncommissioned Officer levels.

Skid is a lifelong learner and earned his Community College of the Air Force Associates Degree in Communications Applications Technology and a Bachelor of Arts in Intelligence Studies. He has a passion for teaching, coaching, and mentoring and also earned several certifications in Dr. John C. Maxwell Advanced Leadership, Mastering Emotional Intelligence, Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue, and more recently, The 4 Stages of Psychological Safety. Finally, he achieved numerous certificates from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, to Innovation (Mastering Business Models, Value Propositions, Business Testing), to Leading High-Performance Teams.

Naomi Franchetti





Presenter & Moderator Lt Col, USAF (retired)

Naomi Franchetti is a recently retired Air Force Lt Col who enlisted in 1996 at the 120 FW, Montana Air National Guard as a videographer. After completing her degree, she commissioned in 2003 and spent most of her career in Air Force Global Strike Command as a Munitions and Missile Maintenance officer which culminated in commanding the 341st Missile Maintenance Squadron at Malmstrom Air Force Base. Additionally, she worked at Headquarters Air Force as the Chief of 21 M Force Development responsible for training and development of the Munitions and Missile Maintenance career field.

Naomi completed her career as the Commander, 649th Munitions Squadron which is the sole provider of Standard Air Munitions Packages to combatant commanders for US and allied air campaigns. Naomi has a Bachelor of Science in Social Psychology from Park University, an MBA from Touro University, a Masters of Military Art and Science from Air Command and Staff College, Project Management Certification, and is a certified Human Potential Coach. She is currently working on her International Coaching Federation accreditation. Finally, she is a certified Arbinger facilitator for Developing and Implementing an Outward Mindset and Outward Inclusion.

Joshua Hurt





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Joshua Hurt is an Organizational and Leadership Development Professional at Rice University. He is a recently retired Command Chief Master Sergeant with over 26 years of Operational, Staff, and Leadership expertise. Most recently, Joshua served as the Chief of Enlisted Force Development at the Pentagon, which was preceded by several senior leadership roles as the Command Chief at Eielson Air Force Base, various Group and Squadron Superintendent roles, an Instructor at the Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, and various leadership and instructor roles in the Aircraft Maintenance field.

Joshua currently runs the Leadership and Development programs at Rice University. Their programs are centered around coaching and helping all employees develop the mindsets that help foster a learning organization.

Joshua holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Education, from Wayland Baptist University and multiple Associate Degrees from the Community College of the Air Force. Joshua is also certified as a Senior Certified Professional from the Society for Human Resource Management, Master Coach from Next Jump Inc and the Association of Talent Development. Joshua also holds a credential through the Resilience-Building Leader Program as a Trainer. Joshua is the founder of Deep Roots Consulting which has a mission to build organizational and leadership success from the ground up.

Susan Mace





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

Susan Mace is a retired Chief Master Sergeant with over 25 years of experience. She entered the Air Force in September 1994 as a Personnel Apprentice and spent the first nine years in the Service in that career field. In 2003, Susan retrained into the Intelligence Operations career field. As an Intelligence Operations Analyst she served at Air and Space Operations Centers as well as Major Command- and Combatant Command-level staff assignments. She also deployed in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM, and ENDURING FREEDOM. Her first assignment as a Chief Master Sergeant was as the Superintendent of the 324th Intelligence Squadron with over 370 personnel assigned.

Before her retirement in 2020, Susan's final assignment was as an elite instructor for the Air Force's Chief Master Sergeant Leadership Academy. She has been a part of multiple Specialty Training and Requirements Teams (STRT) to improve the education and training of intelligence professionals, and has provided multiple training programs to unit, base, and joint personnel. Susan is an experienced organizational leader adept at team building and professional development.

Susan holds multiple Associate degrees from the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), a Bachelor of Science in Intelligence with a focus on Terrorism from American Military University, and is currently pursuing her Master of Science in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from Bellevue University in Nebraska.

Mark Mitchem





Presenter & Moderator Col, USAF (retired)

Mark Mitchem is a retired Air Force Colonel who serves as both a Strategic Advisor for the Small Business Consulting Corporation and as an Adjunct Instructor for Air University's Global College of PME. An Intelligence officer by trade, Mark retired with over 31 years of active duty experience in 2020.

Originally enlisting in the Air Force in 1986, Mark received his commission after graduating from Florida State University and served in Intelligence positions around the world. He commanded a squadron of 850 Airmen at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California and an Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) Group of 1,100 Airmen at Fort Gordon, Georgia. Additionally, Mark served in a variety of other assignments ranging from Joint Interagency Task Forces, National Security Agency operations, Air Operations Centers, Fighter Wings, The Joint Staff; and the intelligence directorate for U.S. Central Command Headquarters – along with six deployments in support of various Air Force and Joint operations around the world. He also served on Air Command and Staff College faculty, serving as a Course Director and instructor.

Mark finished his Air Force career as the Director of Intelligence for Air Forces Strategic, the warfighting air component for U.S. Strategic Command. Upon retirement, Mark served as the Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity in Bay County, Florida. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in International Relations from Florida State University, a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Leadership from Chapman University, and a Master of Science degree in Military Operational Art and Science from Air Command and Staff College.

Mark Nemish





Presenter & Moderator Lt Col, USAF (retired)

Mark Nemish retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 21 years in the United States Air Force serving through various assignments in operations, program management and leadership and professional development.

Mark served as a nuclear Intercontinental Ballistic Missile operator for nine years at Malmstrom AFB, Montana and Offutt AFB, Nebraska. He managed several programs at Hill AFB, Utah, Vandenberg AFB, California and Offutt AFB, Nebraska over the course of eight years. He spent a year in spacelift operations as the Chief of standardization and evaluation at Vandenberg AFB, California. Mark also served a year as an academic instructor at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. Finally, Mark spent two years at Air Force Global Strike Command as the Deputy Chief for leadership and professional development before retiring in 2018 at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana.

Mark has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography from The University of Alabama, a Masters degree in Human Resource Management from Troy University and a Master of Military Operational Art and Science degree from Air Command and Staff College at Air University. He holds certifications for Level I and II Program Management and is a Certified Practitioner for the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator.

David Satchell





Presenter & Moderator CMSgt, USAF (retired)

David Satchell is a retired Command Chief Master Sergeant with over 30 years of operational leadership and strategic engagement experience. A Command Post Operator by trade, he spent a great deal of his career in operational assignments across numerous Major Commands and in various leadership positions across the Air Force. His most recent active-duty tour was at The Pentagon serving as a senior advisor and enlisted cabal to the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff, and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force's executive team.

Prior to his assignment in the Military District of Washington, David served as an Air Mobility Wing Command Chief at Ramstein AB in Germany. His last educational leadership assignment was serving as the Superintendent of the Air Force's Expeditionary Operations School at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst.

Finally, David is the CEO of CORE Leadership Consulting. He holds a Master's degree from Central Michigan University in Human Resource Management and is a regular blog-writer on various leadership challenges. He is the author of Extracting the Leader from Within: An Experiential Model of Influencing Optimal Performance.

Jennifer Auten





SBCC Support Team
Director of Educational
Services

Jennifer Auten is the Director of Educational Services for the Small Business Consulting Corporation (SBCC). She is an enthusiastic Learning and Development Specialist with 15+ years of experience in teaching, professional development programs, and engaging training presentations while considering cultural lenses, implementing DEI initiatives, and improving learner engagement. She helps all learners reach their full potential by designing and delivering engaging and targeted learning opportunities.

She is highly skilled in developing and leading high-impact, cross-functional teams in virtual and in person environments. Jennifer has performed training needs analyses with a strategic vision in order to deliver quality learning programs and content, resulting in increased performance and achieved positive outcomes. She has a proven track record for identifying prime audiences, customizing curriculum, achieving goals, and improving learning programs using ADDIE. Most of all, Jennifer is an advocate for detailed student management and responsive teaching. Her current niche is as manager of whole group and breakout room Zoom sessions, as well as chat conversations and technical difficulties.

Outside of professional life, Jennifer is an avid reader, attends the theatre, visit museums, and enjoy time with friends and family.

Hayden Froehlich





SBCC Support Team
Creative Specialist,
SBCC Stratcom

Hayden Froehlich is a University of Iowa graduate with a BA in Cinema and English Creative Writing. During his time at Iowa, he also studied graphic art, political science, acting, and became a photo and video journalist for The Daily Iowan. His writing has been published in Ink Lit Mag and The Red Cedar Review, his photography appears in Earthwords, and his short films have been featured in Bijou Open Screen and the Snake Alley Film Festival.

His interest in all forms of art and storytelling drives his experimental styles of animation, filmmaking, and writing. He was hired at the Louisiana Tech Research Institute and Strikewerx as a graphic designer for marketing and educational materials. After graduation, he continued his graphic design and marketing work for SBCC and The Bridge along with his own independent art projects.

Nicholas Martin





SBCC Support Team IT Specialist, SBCC

Nicholas Martin has held an intrigue in technology from early on. His interests turned to IT pursuits from the age of 13 on into both his time in the military and outside of it.

Enjoying not only great interest in IT but also having passion for leadership, Nicholas has been both a student and teacher of leadership development from different perspectives since early on in his professional career.

Having the opportunity in the Army to mentor and train incoming troops as well as mentoring leaders in his local community, has seen Nicholas hold a variety of positions. He has held titles and responsibility from data analyst to Director of Database operations as well as small business owner.

Nicholas' time in the army and leadership development background has helped him become a great problem solver and strong visionary director. He hopes to put the skills to use serving those around him and raising the organizations and relationships he is a part of.