

NCTA - WISE
2009 Program Mentors

Mentor Name	Company	Bio Summary	Mentoring Interest
Penny Morris	Gmac Financial	<p>Penny has over 18 years of financial, leadership, process design/re-engineering and project management expertise. Her industry exposure includes several different service and manufacturing disciplines including but not limited to, Banking, Insurance, Computer Communications, Food Products and Small Appliances industry segments. She had led many system development projects/programs to include the implementation of large scale lending systems, IT revamp of retail banking branches (network and equipment), major mergers, system selections, and centralization of common service functions.</p> <p>She has excellent soft skills, in addition to being an excellent communicator, organized and results oriented. She has the ability to turn strategic vision into tactical action plans to obtain the desired results. One of her biggest strengths is the ability to very quick assimilate new information, making my learning curve extremely short, even within new industries and functional areas.</p> <p>Penny has a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Sacred Heart University.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To help others achieve their goals • To provide insights based on my experiences from which others can avoid pitfalls • To leave a small but positive mark in the community • To provide others with networking contacts as needed to enhance career path or job search
Connie Taylor	Premier Inc	<p>Connie has been in the technology industry for almost twenty years, most recently leading application development teams at Premier Inc. Her focus is on leading high-performing teams in building enterprise solutions. Past experiences includes Vice President of software engineering at DST Innovis and eleven years at Manugistics Inc where she was key to growing the company to one of the top 100 software companies worldwide in 2001.</p> <p>Connie has a BS in Mathematical Sciences from UNC Chapel Hill and a Masters degree in Computer Science from Johns Hopkins University, with Honors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide guidance and coaching to a young professional • Learning from others ("I always learn from experiences and challenges of others, even in a mentor role) • Networking – meeting other professionals in the Charlotte area
Cheryl Brooks	Duke Energy	<p>Cheryl is a Director at Duke Energy. She has been with Duke Energy for 30 years in Information Technology (IT) acting as various levels of management for 23 years, and in an IT Director role for the last nine years. Most recently, Cheryl has been named the director/leader of Generation Applications. Generation Applications is a division of approximately 100 employees that provide application project, development and support services to the Nuclear and Fossil/Hydro business units. She is experienced in managing employees, managers, working with internal customers, peers, and leading through influence.</p> <p>Cheryl's strengths center around people skills such as interpersonal, building relationships, coaching and developing teams. She is currently mentoring six employees at Duke Energy from individual contributors outside IT to employees and managers within IT.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide career planning advice • Provide career development advice • How to manage people

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Ilieva Ageenko	Wachovia, a Wells Fargo company	<p>Ilieva is a multi-faceted technology and business executive with over 25 years of experience across eCommerce, information technology, marketing and customer analytics. Record of driving business development of internet customer facing capabilities and emerging technology strategies across the organization. Recognized industry leadership with solid expertise in emerging technologies. Strong track of proven execution and service delivery in complex, high volume transaction environment. Talent for using technology innovation to drive business results and maximize profits. She has extensive international exposure.</p> <p>Ilieva holds a Master's degree with Highest Honors in Economic Cybernetics and a PhD in Artificial Intelligence. Ilieva's professional experience spans across banking, academia and government economic research.</p> <p>Ilieva is the Chair of the mentoring program for NCTA WISE and a Director in the Latino in Information Technology National Board (LISTA). She is also the author of "Connecting My Dots" – a leadership guide to empower women to achieve multidimensional success.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help young women to apply leadership skills to other aspects of their lives. • Provide career coaching to retain women in the STEM field. • Help women on how to juggle career, family and personal demands.
Karen Mclsaac	Project Managers	<p>Karen is the Founder and Managing Director of Project Managers, Inc. a niche consulting firm that helps manage strategic business change for companies in Fortune 1000, non-profits, and government agencies.</p> <p>An accomplished industry professional, Karen has over 25 years experience leading numerous projects with significant and sustainable financial impact. Among other recognitions, Karen has received the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce's Entrepreneur of the Year Award and The Women in Business Achievement Award.</p> <p>She is also a Founding Director and current Vice-Chairman of Charlotte-based Bank of Commerce.</p>	
Jody Griczewcz	Lash Group	<p>Jody has been in the technology industry for almost thirty years, most recently leading quality and application development teams at Lash Group. Her focus is on leading, developing and mentoring high-performing teams in building enterprise solutions.</p> <p>Past experiences includes creating IT solutions as an IT consultant, working for a holding company with vastly different owned entities and for a company that provides merchandising to military facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing guidance and coaching to a young professional • Provoking thoughts and ideas from discussions/interactions • Networking

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<p>Jennie Wong</p>	<p>Limelight Solutions, Inc.</p>	<p>Jennie is co-owner and Vice President, Business Development for Limelight Solutions, an award-winning website design, development, and hosting company.</p> <p>Her prior experience includes organization development, change management, and strategic planning in both internal and external consulting positions for companies such as Mercer HR, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Countrywide, and AIG.</p> <p>Jennie holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Communication from the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California and is a certified executive coach.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking my business “to the next level.” • Networking, branding, PR, marketing, and sales • Getting certified as a woman and minority owed small business and related business opportunities • Building capacity for execution • Work life balance
<p>Frances Queen</p>	<p>Queen Associates, Inc.</p>	<p>Frances Queen is the founder and CEO of Queen Associates, Inc., an integrated business and technology consulting and staffing firm headquartered in Charlotte, NC. With over 25 years of experience in the technology industry, Frances started her career as a hands-on consultant. She advanced into executive management positions, steering corporations through mergers, acquisitions, and tremendous growth. Frances’ leadership has lead to winning many prestigious awards and Prime Vendor selections.</p> <p>Frances has been the proud recipient of the 2009 50 Most Influential Women in Charlotte award, 2008 Harvard National Inner City 100 award (ranked #10), 2008 Business Leader Entrepreneur of the Year award, 2007 NCTA Top Customer Service Technology award, 2006 NAWBO Woman Business Owner of the Year award, 2005 Charlotte Chamber Blue Diamond Award for Top Growth, and 2005 CPCC Richard Hagemeyer Educational Advancement award to name a few.</p> <p>As a dedicated member of the community, Frances continues to give back to the Charlotte region and the Carolinas. She serves on steering committees and boards of several Chamber of Commerce, education, non-profit, and technology organizations. As a board member with organizations that support women (WISE, NAWBO, National Forum for WBENC, and WBEC Greater Women’s Council), Frances has become passionate about the promotion of women business entrepreneurship, women breaking through corporate barriers, and math and science careers for young women.</p> <p>Frances Queen received her Bachelors of Science in Computer-Based Business from Queens University after completing an Associates in Computer Science degree from Central Piedmont Community College.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting both junior and senior professionals with their career goals • Helping to attract young girls (and boys) into exciting STEM careers • Encouraging executives within corporate America to break through “glass ceilings” • Networking and connecting STEM professionals in the Charlotte region