

BARBARA "BASIA" HELEN SKUDRZYK

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Strategic and entrepreneurial leader with 20+ years of experience driving operational excellence, digital transformation, and innovation across healthcare, education, supply chain, and workforce sectors. Demonstrated success in turning strategy into scalable solutions using human-centered design, AI-enabled process optimization, and data-driven decision frameworks. Proven track record leading global, cross-functional teams through large-scale change, systems modernization, analytics implementation, and risk and resiliency management. Experienced in applying AI tools for workflow automation, predictive analytics, talent insights, operational forecasting, and knowledge management to strengthen organizational performance, working with partners such as NASA, Jobs for the Future, leading universities, and Fortune 500 companies. Skilled in designing technology-enabled ecosystems that integrate program management, operations, workforce pathways, supply chain solutions, and enterprise systems. Recognized as a St. Louis Business Journal "40 Under 40" honoree and CORO Women in Leadership fellow, St. Louis Forum member, with published thought leadership in The Hill, Newsweek, NPR, and academic outlets.

Expertise includes:

Program & Portfolio Management • Digital & AI Transformation • Organizational Growth • Change Management • Enterprise Program Leadership • Supply Chain Resilience • Workforce Systems Integration • Data Analytics • Cross-Sector Partnership Development • Continuous Improvement (Lean/Six Sigma)

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The Petey Greene Program – Assoc Dir of Educ & Workforce Integration, remote 2025 – current

- Launched and operationalized the national Workforce Development program headquartered at Princeton University for the Petey Greene Program, managing multi-workstream delivery using Trello and Monday.com to track milestones, dependencies, risks, and execution across a nationwide portfolio
- Designed and implemented a multi-partner workforce initiative with universities, employers, and reentry organizations, coordinating timelines, ownership, and deliverables through shared dashboards, Microsoft Teams collaboration, and recurring operating cadences
- Synchronized systems, operations, and communications across 1,000+ stakeholders nationally by establishing governance artifacts and maintaining centralized documentation and version control in SharePoint, supported by executive scorecards, decision logs, and escalation paths

Howard University – Workforce Executive, remote 2020 – current

- Designs and implements workforce development initiatives, including training workshops and career pathways programs, in collaboration with leading institutions such as SUNY, Harvard University, Jobs for the Future, Baltimore City Community College, NASA, and Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, helping organizations expand their workforce capacity and talent pipelines
- Serves as Principal Investigator for a \$15M STEM workforce grant, with responsibility for program strategy, project scoping, budget oversight, and coordination across five universities, 100+ industry partners, and community organizations to help formerly incarcerated students secure stable employment and build long-term career pathways
- Collaborated with HR and Legal teams to redesign hiring processes and implement change management strategies that strengthened operational efficiency and workforce integration

St. Louis University - Adjunct Faculty, St. Louis, MO 2025 – current

University of Missouri – St. Louis (UMSL) – Adjunct Faculty, St. Louis, MO 2024 – 2025

- Founding Member, RISE Leadership Academy – a leadership academy dedicated to advancing opportunities for business scholars and training them to reach their fullest potential
- Lecturer, Intro to Supply Chain Management & Public Speaking

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- Mentor, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center, helping local businesses advance in their business potential through training, program management, mentorship, and business development
 - Recruits external speakers and consultants for RISE Leadership Academy workshops

[Education Development Center \(EDC\)](#) – **Executive Director & PI**, Waltham, MA 2023 – 2025

- Led the STEM-OPS alliance, a multi-disciplinary team with ten non profit organizations and community partners, focusing on providing STEM education and workforce opportunities for system-impacted people and working with stakeholders to implement systems change in their HR practices
- Managed a project team across five institutions to develop and implement STEM workforce development products, impacting 1000+ scholars
- Led cross-functional strategic initiatives by translating high-level goals into actionable project plans, optimizing internal operations, and implementing performance dashboards that increased visibility, accountability, and execution across departments

[University of Maryland/NASA Acres](#) – **Senior Faculty Specialist**, Baltimore, MD 2023 - 2024

- Directed program management for a \$15M NASA grant, managing cross-institutional delivery across seventeen universities and three nonprofits, leading the implementation of a NASA AgTech app now used nationally by farmers and agtech partners
- Spearheaded process transformation and a training and mentorship program for leading researchers to learn about agtech research and technology provided through onsite and virtual training
- Implemented and designed a farmer pilot program bringing community colleges, scholars, farmers, and research scientists together nationally and globally to develop cohesive strategies that streamline supply chain decision-making processes and improve crop management practices

[St. Patrick Center](#), **Workforce Development Case Manager**, St. Louis, MO 2020 – 2022

- Directed workforce development programs that achieved a 65% increase in job placement rates
- Developed a manufacturing pathway with World Wide Technology to help unhoused clients obtain meaningful and sustainable work in the manufacturing sector through operational change management
- Awarded two \$50,000 seed grants and a \$750,000 grant from the state of Missouri for job training and life skills workshops, working with community partners and the Department of Corrections to help improve outcomes for the unhoused population of St. Louis

[Electro Plastics, LLC, STEP Warm Floor™ Manufacturer](#), **Director of Operations**, St. Louis, MO 2018-2019

- Led marketing and data analysis strategies and supported business planning requirements for a nanotechnology engineering company with annual net revenue of \$5 million
- Managed production and sales teams using Lean Six Sigma strategies and expanded sales opportunities internationally
- Transitioned the company from a paper-based system to an electronic-based management system, which resulted in higher sales revenues and efficiencies in the production system

EDUCATION

<u>University of Missouri St. Louis, St. Louis, MO</u>	2022 - 2026
Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), Supply Chain Mgmt & Analytics, 4.0 GPA	
<u>Webster University, St. Louis, MO</u>	2003 - 2006
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	
<u>University of Missouri St. Louis, St. Louis, MO</u>	2001 - 2003
Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Business Administration	
<u>Truman State University, Kirksville, MO</u>	1999 - 2001
Business Administration, coursework toward Bachelor of Science (B.S.)	