

BARBARA “BASIA” HELEN SKUDRZYK

314-766-2171 | basiaskudrzyk@gmail.com | www.linkedin.com/in/basiaskudrzyk
basianajarroskudrzyk.com | @basiaskudrzyk

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Strategic and entrepreneurial leader with 20+ years of experience driving operational excellence, innovation, and sustainable growth across healthcare, education, workforce, and supply chain sectors. Proven track record of transforming strategy into scalable solutions that improve efficiency, reduce costs, and deliver measurable results. Expertise in leading global, cross-functional teams through large-scale process transformations, risk and resiliency management, and change initiatives. Skilled in building strategic partnerships, fostering entrepreneurial ecosystems, and advancing workforce and economic mobility, working with partners such as NASA, Jobs for the Future, leading universities, and Fortune 500 companies. Holds an MBA with a focus on Organizational Behavior and a Doctorate in Business Administration, specializing in supply chain management. A mission-aligned leader recognized as a *St. Louis Business Journal* “40 Under 40” honoree and a *CORO Women in Leadership* fellow, St. Louis Forum leader, with published thought leadership in outlets including *The Hill*, *Newsweek*, and *NPR*.

Expertise includes:

- Strategic Planning & Execution
- Organizational Growth & Transformation
- Change Management & Optimization
- Innovation & Partnership Development
- Workforce Systems Integration
- Supply Chain Resilience Management
- Cross-Sector Collaboration
- Digital Transformation

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Howard University & Prison Cells to PhD (P2P) – **Workforce Executive**, St. Louis, MO 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 universities, industry partners, and community organizations to help formerly incarcerated students secure stable employment and build long-term career pathways
- Works closely with HR and Legal departments to modernize hiring practices and implement change management strategies that improve organizational 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
- Mentor, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center, helping local businesses advance in their business potential through training, 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 multiple stakeholders 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
- Quickly adapted to the complex STEM and education environment and implemented new processes that improved efficiency

- 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

- Led strategic program management for a \$15 million NASA grant, successfully managing a project team across seven universities and three nonprofits.
- Spearheaded process transformation and a training and mentorship program for leading researchers to learn about agtech research and technology provided through the use of an app that monitors the biodiversity of soil and climate change
- 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

University of Missouri St. Louis, St. Louis, MO 2022 - 2025

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), Supply Chain Risk & Resilience, **4.0 GPA**

Webster University, St. Louis, MO 2003 - 2006

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

University of Missouri St. Louis, St. Louis, MO 2001 - 2003

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Business Administration

Truman State University, Kirksville, MO 1999 - 2001

Business Administration, coursework toward Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

AWARDS & HONORS

St. Louis Forum (2025)

NASA Space Apps 2024 SMEs/Challenge (March 2024)

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Partnership Award for (2021)

St. Louis Green Business Challenge 2020 (St. Patrick Center)

St. Louis Business Journal 40-under-40 (Class of 2012)

LANGUAGES

English – fluent; Polish – fluent; Spanish – intermediate