



2020 NATIONAL HELLENIC SOCIETY'S HERITAGE AMERICA
WOMEN'S HELLENIC LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
BOSTON, MA

SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH | BOSTON COLLEGE

KEY NOTE SPEAKER



DR. PRISCILLA BRASTIANOS, originally from Vancouver, British Columbia, received her BSc in biochemistry and chemistry from the University of British Columbia, where she graduated as her class valedictorian. She completed her medical school training and her internal medicine residency training at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. While at Hopkins, she received the Johns Hopkins Medical Student Award for Excellence in Research, the national Leah J. Dickstein, MD, award for leadership and scholarship, and the Bradley Benton Davis Research Award from the American Brain Tumor Association. Following her training at Johns Hopkins, she pursued her fellowship training in hematology/oncology and neurooncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Massachusetts General Hospital. During her training, she received a number of awards including: ASCO Young Investigator Award, a Susan G. Komen Postdoctoral Fellowship Award, an American Brain Tumor Association Postdoctoral Fellowship and a Terri Brodeur Foundation Fellowship Award. She is now director of the Central Nervous System Metastasis Center at Massachusetts General Hospital and leads an NIH-funded laboratory. Recently, she received the 'NextGen Star' award by the American Association for Cancer Research, a Damon Runyon Clinical Investigator Award, a Breast Cancer Research Foundation Award and a Susan G. Komen Career Catalyst Award. Dr. Brastianos' research focuses on understanding the genomic mechanisms that drive brain tumors. She has lead studies which have identified novel therapeutic targets in brain tumors. She has more than 120 scientific publications and has translated her scientific findings to national multicenter trials. She also leads a multidisciplinary central nervous system metastasis clinic at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School.

SESSION 1- MAINTAINING ETHNIC IDENTITY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MODERATOR- KATERINA SOKOU



JENNIFER DJAFERIS MICHAUD is the New England Regional director for the Hellenic American Women's Council (HAWC), a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan, nationwide network whose mission is to identify and harness the tremendous talents of Hellenic American Women. HAWC encourages awareness of public policy issues and promotes women who wish to play leadership roles in their communities, the nation and their professional fields of endeavor. Before joining the board 6 years ago, Jennifer was an active member of the organization. Jennifer graduated from Boston College in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. Following graduation, she joined Goldman Sachs & Co, where she spent nearly 11 years working with institutional and hedge fund clients in both an electronic trading and franchise sales capacities in New York and Boston. Jennifer lives in Hingham with her husband and daughter.



MARIA LOI, businesswoman, author, television personality and philanthropist. Chef Maria Loi brought her knowledge of ancient Greek gastronomy to the US eight years ago with the opening of her first successful New York City restaurant and the launch of her award-winning line of products bearing her name. Chef Loi is the author of numerous books, including "Ancient Dining," the official cookbook of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games and her most recent book, "The Greek Diet." Chef Loi is deeply involved in a number of causes benefitting children's health and education.

Her latest partnership with Dr. Stefanos Kales of Harvard University's School of Public Health aims to educate America and the rest of the world through television and various media initiatives about the powerful health benefits of the Greek Diet, which is the foundation of the Mediterranean Diet.



KATERINA SOKOU is a Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Future Europe Initiative of the Atlantic Council and Washington DC correspondent for SKAI TV and Greek daily newspaper *Kathimerini*, where she is also a columnist. She was a visiting scholar at George Washington University's *Elliott School of International Affairs*, where she started researching the U.S. role in the Greek debt crisis, and a member of the editorial board at the Washington-based *European Institute*. Katerina majored in History (BA with First Class Honors, University of Ioannina, Greece) and

holds postgraduate degrees in International Studies from the University of Warwick and in Journalism from Columbia University, where she was a Knight-Bagehot Fellow in Economics and Business Journalism. She started her career as a financial reporter at *To Vima*, covering Greece and the Eurozone, and was International Financial News editor at *Kathimerini* during the global financial crisis. She has covered extensively the Greek financial crisis from Athens and Washington DC, providing commentary and reporting for news media in the U.S. and Europe. Katerina is a PhD candidate at the University of Piraeus, a director at The Hellenic Initiative Canada and a member of the Hellenic American Women's Council.

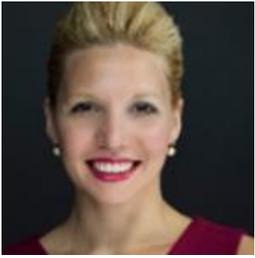
SESSION 2- GENDER INEQUALITY: ASSESS AND OVERCOME

MODERATOR- KATERINA SOKOU



DR. DENA HARITOS TSAMITIS has led Carnegie Mellon's Information Networking Institute (INI) as director since 2004. Her efforts have prepared the next generation of information networking, security and mobility professionals. Under her direction, the INI has spanned globally to offer programs in Greece, Portugal, and Japan and has led the innovative design of bicoastal programs offered at the Silicon Valley campus. As the INI's associate director from 2002-2004, Dena established a master's program in Athens that was the first Carnegie Mellon

degree to be earned at a global location. In 2005, she co-founded the student organization, Women@INI (WINI), to address the unique challenges faced by women in the male-dominated field of engineering. Under her leadership, Carnegie Mellon earned three distinct cybersecurity designations from federal agencies as a National Center of Academic Excellence. Currently, Dena is a member of the American College of Greece Board of Trustees. She also serves on the board of advisors for the RSA Conference, Executive Women's Forum, Minorities in Cybersecurity, RedMarlin, Inc., St. Clair Hospital Foundation, and the Norfolk State University Information Assurance Research, Education and Development Institute. For her achievements in information security and education, Dena was named 2018 Woman in IT Security Power Player by SC Magazine and received the 2008 Women of Influence Award, presented by Alta Associates and CSO Magazine. In 2017, she was named as the first recipient of the endowed Barbara Lazarus Professorship in Information Networking at Carnegie Mellon University.



MARIA MARKOU, ESQ. is the Founder and President of New York based law firm "Markou Global Legal Group". She is a respected authority on international law, an experienced attorney, certified mediator by New York Peace Institute, legal journalist, and the President of the nonprofit charitable organization "Hellenic Women's Alliance". She was born in Athens, Greece and is licensed to practice law in both Greece and New York. She holds a Diploma in Law (Greek equivalent of a J.D. degree) from the Law School of Athens, an LL.M degree from

St. Mary's University School of Law, Texas, and a M.Sc. degree in Sociology of Law & European Law from Lund University, Sweden. Mrs. Markou is also a holder of Executive Diplomas in Negotiation & Leadership from Harvard Law School and Law Firm General Counsel Practices from Georgetown Law Center. Furthermore, she is specialized in Intellectual Property Law & Digital Information from Lund University of Sweden.



DORETTA MISTRAS is a Managing Director in the Healthcare Investment Banking Division of Citigroup, based in New York. She is responsible for the firm's coverage of the Healthcare Technology and Outsourcing Practice. Prior to joining Citigroup in 2019, she spent 15 years at Goldman Sachs & Co. in their Healthcare group focused on M&A. While at Goldman Sachs, Ms. Mistras advised on over \$200 billion of M&A transactions for Healthcare companies. Ms. Mistras earned a dual degree from the University of Pennsylvania, receiving both a B.S. in

Economics and a B.A. in Spanish and International Studies. Ms. Mistras serves on the Board of the National Hellenic Society and the PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation.



LEA SOUPATA, who retired from UPS after 37 years of service, managed a Human Resources organization within UPS that served over 407,000 employees worldwide. A member of the UPS Management Committee and the Board of Directors, Ms. Soupata oversaw the company's strategy in training, developing, and retaining a diverse and highly skilled workforce. During her tenure she was committed to maintaining UPS's reputation as an employer of choice. She also served as General Manager in the New York area. Ms. Soupata served as chair of the UPS

Foundation, the company's charitable arm, and was a Board Member of Junior Achievement of Georgia. She is currently a trustee of the Annie. E Casey Foundation, the world's largest philanthropic foundation dedicated to helping at risk children and families and is a fellow of the National HR Academy. She additionally serves as a Board Member of St. Basil's Academy, a Greek Orthodox children's home and the Advisory Council of the National Hellenic Society.

SESSION 3- GLOBAL INITIATIVES

MODERATOR- KATERINA SOKOU



ARTEMIS KOHAS is founder of PR agency *The Kohas Agency*. She has a highly personal approach to everything she does and knows the ins and outs of the world of product promotion, strategic collaborations, communications, branding and event production. She earned a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Art History from Lafayette College and a Masters in Applied Psychology from New York University. She has always held leadership positions in her church community growing up in Pennsylvania, was the philanthropy chair of her sorority at

Lafayette, and did work study at NYU. Her previous jobs include guidance counselor at a school affected by 9/11, owner of mastihashop in New York, and grief and bereavement counseling through nonprofit *A Caring Hand*, the Billy Esposito Foundation. Her current work with The Hellenic Initiative she finds especially fulfilling as it combines her love for philanthropy with her ability to skillfully

connect people and businesses with special causes. She works with clients in both New York and Greece; Artemis has been called an ambassador of Greek culture as she is very tied to her heritage, is constantly sharing the wonders of Greece with the world, is bilingual, and travels to Greece several times a year.



NATALIA LINOS is Executive Director of the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University. Previously she led UNDP's work at the nexus of health and environment, looking especially at the vulnerability of poor and marginalized communities to climate change, and served as a speechwriter for the Administrator of UNDP and as a policy specialist at the United Nations in Beirut, Lebanon. She also served as Science Advisor to the NYC Health Commissioner, helping shape strategy around several key initiatives, including ThriveNYC, the Mayor's \$800 million citywide mental health initiative. Natalia is a three-time Harvard University graduate, earning her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, Master of Science in Social Epidemiology, and Doctor of Science in Social Epidemiology. She also holds a Certificate in Forced Migration from Oxford University's Refugee Studies Centre. She speaks Greek fluently and has basic conversational skills in Arabic, Spanish and French. Natalia is married and has three children.



DR. ELIZABETH PRODROMOU is Visiting Associate Professor of Conflict Resolution at The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, where she directs the Initiative on Religion, Law, and Diplomacy. Prodromou served as Vice Chair and Commissioner on the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (2004-2012) and was a member of the U.S. Secretary of State's Religion & Foreign Policy Working Group (2011-2015). Her current research project focus on Orthodox Christianity and geopolitics in Europe and Eurasia, as well as on digital information and mixed migration flows in Greece. She has been involved in

research and advisory work for international and non-governmental organizations on religious freedom and human rights, and is active in religious peacebuilding initiatives around the world. She is co-editor and contributor for *Eastern Orthodox Christianity and American Higher Education* (2016) and *Thinking Through Faith: New Perspectives from Orthodox Christian Scholars* (2008). She holds a Ph.D. and an S.M. in political science from MIT, an M.A.L.D. in international relations from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (Tufts University), and a B.A. in history and international relations from Tufts University.

SESSION 4- YOUNG ADULT ENGAGEMENT & IMPACT

MODERATOR- DEMETRA GANIAS SOTERAKIS



DR. ANN MITSAKOS BEZZERIDES has served as Director of the Office of Vocation & Ministry (OVM) at Hellenic College Holy Cross since 2003, when she was hired to run a new \$2 million Lilly Endowment grant. In that role she founded CrossRoad, a high school summer institute to help students explore their vocation and purpose within the context of our Greek Orthodox theological tradition. Over the last 17 years, CrossRoad has expanded from one session to three, with its latest iteration in Chicago, and has an active cohort of alumni. The OVM also recently received a new \$1.5 million grant to start The Telos Project, working with 14 pilot parishes

across the country to research and design initiatives for and with young adults. Ann teaches the graduate course in Youth Ministry at Holy Cross and is an editor and contributor to two volumes of collected essays that inform the OVM work: *Christ at Work: Orthodox Christian Perspectives of Vocation* (Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 2006) and *Eastern Orthodox Christianity and Higher Education* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2017). She is a graduate of Middlebury College (BA), St.

Vladimir's Seminary (MDiv), and Boston College (PhD). She and her husband Vassilios, a pediatric cardiologist, have three boys and live in Brookline.



NOEL GIGLIO DENISE is Legal Counsel at Philips North America. Her practice focuses on anti-bribery and anti-corruption in the med-device space. Ms. Denice is responsible for the North American Market, supporting the sales function across the full suite of medical devices and solutions. Last year, Ms. Denice started a women attorney affinity group at Philips as a forum for sharing experiences and advice to support recruitment, retention, development, and advancement. Previously as Assistant General Counsel at Olympus, she supported the life science and industrial businesses in the US and Canada. She is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law. Ms. Denice chairs the Heritage Greece Alumni Program of the National Hellenic Society, working to preserve Greek heritage and culture. She also enjoys traveling abroad and cooking.



DEMETRA GANIAS SOTERAKIS is the founder of *Ganias Media Lab*, a speech coaching and media training business that she launched earlier this year. Demetra began her news career as a writer in Boston and later became an associate producer at MSNBC. Her on-air career in local news included roles as producer, reporter, and anchor in markets across upstate New York and in New York City. Demetra graduated from Boston University's College of Communication. A wife and mother to three young children, Demetra is passionate about keeping young American-Greeks connected to Hellenism and Orthodoxy.



TAMIKA TOMPOULIDIS is a professional speaker and career counselor focused on interpersonal relationships and strategic business communication. She currently serves as the career counselor at the University of Kentucky in the Honors College and teaches public speaking courses for the College of Communications. For the past eight years, she has coached students and professionals in the art of connecting with audiences and effectively presenting, while managing public speaking anxieties. As the advisor for the Forte Club, a national organization with the mission to empower women and link them to influential mentors in business sponsors of Fortune 500 companies, Tamika prepares the next generation of female leaders. Her focus, professionally and interpersonally, is inspiring her clients by teaching them how to transform their skills in public speaking. She accomplishes this goal through training and coaching young professionals and established leaders how to highlight an authentic presence, strengthen their confidence, and deliver a strong message. Tamika serves as an advisor for the National Hellenic Student Association and regularly conducts professionalism workshops during their national conferences. She earned her Bachelor and Masters degrees from the College of Communications at the University of Kentucky.



EVA TSAOUSIDOU is a Postdoctoral Scientist at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (2016-present) and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. She was awarded a 2-year Postdoctoral Research fellowship by the American Heart Association and is currently studying the role of DNA damage response in metabolism and cancer. She comes from Thessaloniki, Greece, where she also obtained her degree in Biology/Genetics from the Aristotle University. She received her MSc and PhD with a full scholarship from the University of Cologne, Germany, where she conducted research at the Max Planck Institute for Metabolism Research on the role of hypothalamic inflammation and smell perception in the development of obesity and type 2 diabetes.

SESSION 5- LOCAL CALL TO ACTION

MODERATOR- DEMETRA GANIAS SOTERAKIS



DESPINA KOULES ANTON is President of The Hellenic Women's Club, Inc., founded in Boston 84 years ago by seven women of Greek descent. It is believed to be the oldest Greek American organization of its kind in the United States and as a non-profit engages in numerous philanthropic endeavors. Despina is a graduate of Middlebury College and holds a Master's degree in Administration, Planning & Social Policy from Harvard University. She has thirty years of experience in higher education and non-profit administration.



ERI FRANGIADAKIS is the National Secretary for the Hellenic American Women's Council, a non-profit organization which identifies and harness the tremendous talents of Hellenic American Women. She also is on the Executive Board of the Hellenic Women's Benevolent Association which oversees the Hellenic Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center in Canton, MA. Eri graduated from the University of Massachusetts with a Bachelor of Art Degree in Anthropology and Sociology. After graduation, she worked for the Museum of Science on global traveling exhibits. She is also the founder and owner of Kandia's Wild Herbal Tea, a company which she developed and sold in 1998. Eri's passion for volunteerisms led her to seek organizations which empower and make a difference in the lives of individuals in need of support. She recently retired from a non-profit organization dedicated to establishing a global volunteer movement that provides one-to-one friendships, integrated employment and leadership development for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. She was born in Thessaloniki Greece and immigrated with her parents to the United States in 1964. Eri lives in Dover MA with her husband and two daughters.



ATHENA KALYVAS was born and raised in Portland, Maine and is a graduate of Regis College, Weston, Massachusetts with a BA in Greek and European History. Professionally, she has worked in the biotech industry for over twenty years supporting C-Suite executives and currently works at Morphic Therapeutic. Athena is a dedicated Philoptochos member for over thirty years and has held various positions including past Philoptochos President at Saint George Church, Bethesda, Maryland and Saint Demetrios Church, Weston. Serving on the Metropolis of Boston Philoptochos Board since 2017, she was appointed as President by His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios in September 2019. In 2018, she had the honor to serve on the 2018 Clergy Laity Congress Committee in Boston. Currently, she is a member of the Saint Demetrios Church, Weston, Massachusetts serving on the Parish Council and as alternate Choir Organist.



DR. SOPHIA KOUTSAS is Assistant Professor at the School of Business Global Business & Leadership Department at SNHU's University College. Her studies include: a dual major degree BM in Music Education and International Affairs (University of New Hampshire); Graduate Certificate in International Business (New Hampshire College); MSc in Organizational Leadership (Southern New Hampshire University); PhD in Business Administration with a specialization in Industrial Organizational Psychology (Northcentral University). She is co-founder of S.Mou.Th. (Synergy of Music Theater), elected member on several boards, and recipient of a European grant for Young Female Entrepreneurs which led to the creation of SK Boutique Agency in Greece (2011-2015). Koutsas enjoys working in creative, evolving environments where experience, talent,

culture and individuality are respected and recognized. Her current projects revolve around experiential education, entrepreneurship, sustainability, and leadership.