Life in the Sandbox:  
A Journey across Disciplines, Sectors and Continents

Kira Mendez, PA A ’83  
Director of Lehigh University’s  
Iacocca Institute

The Talk: Kira Mendez shares lessons in leadership, learning, and making a difference, drawn from her professional adventures over the past 40 years. A love of complex problems and a drive to empower others’ success shaped her career journey, spanning the diverse fields of engineering, business, consulting, fine art, and international higher education. Join us for a lively discussion about how to leverage our unique value as multi-dimensional professionals in a complex and changing world.

The Speaker: Kira Mendez is Director of Lehigh University's Iacocca Institute, which creates transformative experiences that challenge and empower the next generation of global leaders. The Institute designs and hosts innovative and custom programs for university, young professional, and high-school participants. Now entering its 25th year, the Iacocca Global Village—the Institute’s signature program—has engaged 2300+ participants from 140+ countries in diverse, immersive leadership experiences.

Kira joined Lehigh after 30 years of strategy consulting and is a former partner of The Bridgespan Group, where she worked with social ventures, NGOs, cross-sector partnerships, and philanthropic initiatives. Prior to her social sector work, she spent 20 years working with CEOs, business owners and investors on issues of strategy, growth, organizational design, governance and leadership. She began her career as an aircraft engine controls design engineer with United Technologies. She has served on and led many nonprofit boards over the past 30 years, including a current term on the board executive committee of Bronxworks, a social services agency in the South Bronx, New York City.

Kira holds BS and MS degrees in Electrical Engineering from Lehigh University and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, respectively, and an MBA from Harvard Business School. She lives in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and New York City with her husband of 36 years and enjoys spending time with their two adult children, as well as painting portraits and traveling the world.

Register here: https://tbp-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEscOqrqToiE9Izp7bYH9s_RGbBb4tM1c7U