The Future of LeadHERship: Stop thinking. Start Doing. Everyone wants to succeed but not everyone is willing to do the work.

Tiana Sanchez
Keynote Speaker
What does the career path for an attorney specializing in maritime litigation look like, and what does maritime litigation really entail? This session will detail the basics of maritime litigation, including key terminology, types of maritime litigation, and roles within the industry. The presentation will also discuss careers in maritime litigation: how to pursue them and what to expect.
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Develop a Commanding Presence

Mary Lyons
You may have heard about self-driving cargo ships developed by Rolls-Royce. But did you know self-driving vessels are also being researched at Cal Maritime? Dr. Mike Holden, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, has been working with students in the Mechanical Engineering program to develop an autonomous oceanographic research vessel that collects water quality data from the Carquinez Strait. Dr. Holden will discuss the current state of this research, as well as the future for autonomous boats and ships.
In October 1978, the Navy launched its Women in Navy Ships program, assigning women to fill sea duty billets on support and noncombatant ships for the first time. The Navy initially found itself unprepared for this shift in terms of aspects ranging from shipboard facilities, to a lack of working uniforms for women, to wide-spread cultural issues. A full-scale commitment to integration transformed the Navy to allow not only access for women to serve on board ships, but a more inclusive and forward-looking institutional culture. President Cropper will discuss what institutional commitment to diversity really looks like and why it is a crucial piece of organizational excellence.
Why are so few women attracted to the seagoing maritime industry? Is this something to do with individual women, with the organizations in the maritime industry - or with both? This session will detail the findings of a qualitative study focusing on women in the seagoing maritime industry. The presentation will highlight research findings which offers multiple answers to these questions, including recommendations to the maritime industry in order to increase the recruitment of female seafarers - and subsequently, the number of female leaders.

Glass Ceiling or “Otherness” in Maritime Leadership

Lise Langakat
Norway
In this presentation, Mary will challenge the notion that work and life are somehow at odds with each other. Using examples from her athletic career, she will introduce a framework for experiencing success and satisfaction in all aspects of life by taking a deliberate approach to gain your desired results, whether you are a college student or seasoned professional.

Busting the Myth of Work/Life Balance

Mary O. Andrews
Olympian and Professional Coach
How would you grade your own thinking and problem solving skills? Are you adept at figuring out a way forward when a situation initially has you stumped? Is it always bad to fail? Do you deliberately "peel back the onion" when examining a complex or highly charged issue? What do you do when someone assumes you have knowledge that you really don't? This participatory workshop will include a hands-on activity followed by a discussion of practical tactics to improve your ability to think your way through even difficult challenges—while potentially lowering your stress level!

Critical Thinking

Betsy Strines
Olympian and Professional Coach
In the maritime industry of the 21st century, diversity and inclusion (D&I) are key considerations to companies’ employee development plans. This session will feature panelists from various sectors of the maritime industry discussing company-specific diversity, inclusion, and development efforts that support the career success of maritime professionals. Participate in this engaging, interactive session to learn how to plan your route toward a successful career.

Diversity, Inclusion & Development... A Route to Success

Joy Hall & Bob Carr
Captain Sam Dickson of the California Highway Patrol will conclude the conference by discussing the importance of mentoring in career development. Using examples from his career, Captain Dickson will describe how both having and being a mentor has positively impacted his career, as well as the importance of a culture of mentoring for women and other underrepresented groups in traditionally male-dominated environment.

Closing Speaker

Sam Dickson
California Highway Patrol