



Carol Hobbs-Kates
Human Performance Improvement Consultant
IBM Corporation

Carol Hobbs-Kates' current role at IBM is to integrate technology when appropriate, develop human performance improvement strategies, diagnose and solve business performance issues to maintain a high-performance workplace, increase intellectual capital, productivity, and profitability. She is an IBM internal consultant and has directed project teams throughout the IBM Corporation at the corporate and division (Brands) levels globally. Responsibilities include client relationship management, ensuring client satisfaction, and managing all aspects of the consulting engagement Carol joined IBM in 1992, where she has had several positions.

Carol is an experienced manager of application software professionals in consulting services, education, instructional design, and course development. Prior to joining IBM Carol held positions at Tivoli Corporation, VTel Corporation, and Execucom Systems in sales and consulting services.

Carol received a bachelor's degree from Tuskegee University and a master's degree from the University of Louisville.

Carol is active in several professional organizations and with local organizations including Meals on Wheels and Lone Star Girl Scouts Council. She currently serves at Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church as a Life Application Sunday School Teacher and in the Women's Ministry. Carol is also a Children's Leader in BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) International Austin Evening Women's Class. She is especially proud to have been a founding board member of Austin Sickle Cell Anemia Association.

Carol is the proud mother of a daughter who recently graduated from Emory University and a nephew, currently attending college with an expected graduation date of December 2010.



Jane Kovacs
3M

Jane Kovacs is a writer by nature, for a living and in her spare time. She is also a self-proclaimed drama queen and tech geek, which makes a career in high-tech PR a perfect fit. With more than 10 years of public relations and corporate communications experience in the technology sector, she has calmed irate reporters, battled belligerent bloggers, and pulled all-nighters to launch products with a shelf-life of six months.

Jane joined 3M in March 2008 and currently manages product public relations in addition to managing the annual 3M Half Marathon and Relay. Prior to 3M she spent two years with Fleishman Hillard, a global PR agency based in St. Louis, Mo., and seven years with AMD here in Austin.



David Neff
Lights. Camera. Help.

David J. Neff is a teacher, speaker, blogger and filmmaker. Until recently he was director of web, film and interactive strategies for the American Cancer Society. This year he was named one of the Top 20 Social Media People in the State of Texas by the Austin American-Statesman and was also named the Nonprofit Social Media Marketer of the Year by the American Marketing Association. He is the founder of the soon-to-be nonprofit Lights. Camera. Help., which aims to help other nonprofits through film.



Kerri Qunell
Vice President, Communications
Capital Area Food Bank of Texas

Kerri Qunell's role is to educate the public, media and community organizations of the mission, activities, programs, events and other CAFB services through public relations and communications programs. She joined the CAFB team in May, 2005.

Previously, Kerri was the Community Relations Director for KEYE - TV, Austin's CBS television station. She has also worked at Dell, SicolaMartin, and the Austin Chamber of Commerce and has done freelance work for several local publications. She is a current contributing writer for Edible Austin magazine.

Kerri is a 2004 Leadership Austin graduate and a current Leadership Austin board member. She served as President of Young Women's Alliance (YWA), served on the YWA board for eight years, and was named "YWA Member of the Decade" in 2003. Kerri is active in the Association for Women in Communications.

Kerri was named a 2009 "Profiles in Power Central Texas Woman of Influence" by the Austin Business Journal, and was the 2006 "Austin Under 40" winner in the community service category. She is an alumna of the Frank McBee, Jr. Fellowship Program in Civic Entrepreneurship, and serves on committees with local organizations focusing on empowering youth, including Girlstart and YouthLaunch. She serves on the Administrative Board for First United Methodist Church, and is a regular guest speaker and mentor at Texas State University, where she received her bachelor's degree in Journalism.

Kerri and her husband, Jason, are active with local organizations including Foundation Communities and Austin Sunshine Camps. They have a five-year-old daughter, Avery Tessa.



David Garlock
University of Texas

David Garlock is a senior lecturer in the School of Journalism at the University of Texas. He has been on the UT faculty for 20 years, teaching a variety of writing, reporting and management classes. He currently heads the magazine program and is advisor for the campus magazine, ORANGE. Before that, Garlock was a Texas-based independent publication consultant and publisher. His career also includes a 10-year stint as vice president and editorial director in New York for Executive Business Media, an international publishing firm.

Garlock is a recipient of the 1993-1994 Teaching Excellence Award (Teacher of the Year) for the College of Communication at the University of Texas.

Chris James
AMD

Chris James' role is to evangelize and institutionalize "social" web tools & technologies for Advanced Micro Devices. As a part of AMD's Global Communications team, Chris also serves as liaison with various AMD online communities that exist on Facebook, in forums, blogs and live events.

Before joining AMD in May of 2008, Chris worked with Dell's online team for two years. Chris worked hard to improve the online customer service & support experience by integrating features such as web chat and community forums. Prior to working for Dell and moving to Austin, he worked for Intuit where he managed worldwide operations for Intuit Central, the corporate intranet portal.

Chris has a bachelor's degree in Management Information Systems from the Eller School at the University of Arizona. In his spare time, Chris enjoys spending time outdoors in the Hill Country hiking, camping and kayaking. He is also a licensed pilot and big aviation buff.