

Dr. Meredith Aronson is President of SpireWirk, a regional strategy consultancy, Meredith Aronson provides support to regional development projects in NJ and AZ. Prior to this role, she served as the director of the NJ Advanced Manufacturing Talent Network and as Associate Director for Economic and Workforce Development at Penn State University. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Arizona and has held positions in corporate research, startups, public office and academia.

Dr. Ian R. Roark Is Vice President of Workforce Development, Pima Community College. Ian serves as the single point of contact at Pima Community College for business and industry for workforce development initiatives. He is a member of the Southern Arizona Manufacturing Partnership, Arizona Manufacturing Partnership, and the Manufacturing Institute Education Council, and works with the Pima County Workforce Investment Board on the implementation of sector strategy. Ian joined Odessa College in 2010 as the Dean of Career, Technical and Workforce Education, becoming the Executive Dean in 2014 with an emphasis on external relations with business and industry and the development of resources and new programs. Ian founded and chaired the Education and Workforce Development Committee of the West Texas Energy Consortium and served on the Board of Directors of the Texas Association of College Technical Educators (TACTE) from 2011 until February of 2015.

Dr. Robby Robson is co-founded Eduworks Corporation where he is CEO and Chief Scientist. Robson is an internationally recognized expert in learning technology. He started developing learning management systems in 1995 and has made significant contributions to the theory and practice of eLearning and related fields. He chaired the IEEE Learning Technology Standards Committee from 2000 – 2008, has served as a consultant to the Institute for Defense Analyses since 2004, and has held Board and advisory positions for technology companies in behavioral health and other areas. He has contributed to the design and development of numerous software products and standards used to create, categorize, manage and deliver content and competencies in training, staffing and educational contexts. Dr. Robson combines a broad and deep knowledge of technology used in training and education with an understanding of business and applications.

Gordon Freedman is President of the National Laboratory for Education Technology, NLET, a California non-profit corporation based in Silicon Valley. NLET is committed to education and training transformation consistent with the rapid changes taking place in 21st century society. Freedman also serves as the Co-Director of NLET-University of Santa Cruz Silicon Valley Education Research and Development Center. Freedman founded NLET because there was no national resource to research, analyze and redesign education and training practice at a strategic level incorporating the advanced information technologies commonly used in the consumer and commercial sectors. Freedman served as Vice Global Education Strategy for eLearning leader Blackboard, Inc. from 2005 until 2012 and as the Executive Director of the Blackboard Institute. In these positions, Freedman visited 18 countries and met with numerous leaders in government, higher educations, schools, re- search institutes and related associations. Freedman also runs Knowledge Base, LLC, a K-to-Career consultancy. Freedman’s professional career began as a staff investigator in both the US Senate and the US House of Representatives after which he was in the Washington press corps.