



December 8, 2015

Panel Discussions on the Value and Impact of Employee Resource Groups Highlight the 2nd Annual California ERG Diversity Conference

On November 12, 2015, the California Diversity Council, in partnership with Oracle, hosted their 2nd Annual California ERG Diversity Conference at Oracle Conference Center in Redwood Shores, California. Attendees of the event gained knowledge and advice from a diverse group of business professionals who shared insight from their personal success and leadership experience. This year's theme was "Connecting Employees, Customers and Communities."



"By hosting this event, our organization provides attendees with networking and professional development opportunities in the ERG industry," said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and CEO of the National Diversity Council.

The conference began with registration, breakfast, and networking followed by a welcome from Oracle, which lead into the event's concurrent sessions. The concurrent sessions focused on four main topics, "ERG Value & Bottom Line Impact," "ERG Evolution & Transformation," "ERG Connecting All the Dots," and ERG Business Case for Innovation." After short break lunch was served and keynote speaker, Barbara Williams Hardy, Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Oracle Corporation, addressed attendees. Question & answer sessions were also held at the event promoting participation amongst the attendees.

The California Diversity Council would like to thank all the sponsors, speakers and attendees for helping to make the event a success.

The events program booklet, photos, and other post events from 2015 can be viewed here:

[Post Event Timeline 2015](#)

[Program](#)

[Photos](#)



ERG Value & Bottom Line Impact Moderator:

Roburta Burroughs

*Senior Services Account Manager, Western Region
NASDAQ Global Corporate Solutions*

ERG Value & Bottom Line Impact Panelists:

Joelle Emerson

*Founder & CEO
Paradigm*

Elizabeth Liedel

*Director of Ally Programs
Pacific Gas and Electric Company*

Anneliese Niebauer

*Brand Solutions
Adroll*

ERG Evolution & Transformation Moderator:

Y'Anad Burrell

*CEO, Glass House Communications
Vice President, Bay Area Diversity Chapter, CADC*

ERG Evolution & Transformation Moderator:

Lise Edwards

*Human Resources Professional
Diversity & Inclusion Specialist and Women's
Leadership Advocate*

Tina Simms

*Design Engineer, Network Operation
Construction and Engineering - West Region
AT&T*

ERG Connecting all the Dots Moderator:

Cedric Brown

*Chief of Community Engagement
Kapor Center of Social Impact*

ERG Connecting all the Dots Panelists:

Ariem Anthony

*Designer
Airbnb*

Aubrey Blanche

*Leader, Global Diversity Program
Atlassian*

Roderick Jefferson

*Head of Marketing, Field Enablement
Oracle*

Susan J. Mallah

*Senior Diversity Consultant, Performance
and Inclusion
Pacific Gas and Electric Company*



ERG Business Case for Innovation Moderator:

Melinda Epler
Founder & CEO
Change Catalyst

ERG Business Case for Innovation Panelists:

Juan Jones
Senior Vice President, North America
Support Services
Oracle

Rachel Williams
Head of Diversity & Inclusion
Yelp

ERG Corporate Event Sponsor:

Oracle