2026
COMMUNITY COLLEGE INNOVATION CHALLENGE

Advancing Student Innovation & Impact

Boot Camp Instructors & Coaches Biographies

AILEEN ANDRES (Instructor and Coach) is a Digital Vice President at Fenton, where she uses her background in international development, global health, and advocacy to drive integrated strategies for large international brands, global health initiatives, and community-based social impact. Aileen has led digital campaigns abroad and at home, advocating public health protections for women and children around the world. She has also led social justice work, campaigning for human rights in the DRC and criminal justice reform in the U.S. Before agency life found her, Aileen worked as an international development professional, implementing governance and justice reform projects throughout sub-Saharan Africa.

DARIA HALL (Instructor and Coach) is an Executive Vice President in the D.C. hub of Fenton where she works with clients and consults with staff to incorporate authentic storytelling, compelling messaging, and effective communications strategies. With more than 20 years of communications experience, Daria has worked in agencies and in-house in the corporate, nonprofit, and government sectors, and possesses skills in strategic communications, message and narrative development, coalition-building, and partnership engagement. Her clients include: Black Voters Matter, Stanford SPARQ, Hope Credit Union, The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, the Center for Black Educator Development, Breakthrough Collaborative, AACC, among others. Before Fenton, Daria led communications campaigns for America's Promise Alliance, the nation's largest youth development network, and also served as adjunct professor in the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of the District of Columbia.

ELIZABETH (LIZ) JACKSON (Instructor) is currently the Acting Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Northeast Regional Outreach Office. In this role, she is responsible for stakeholder engagement and implementing the agency's vision and goals in the northeast region. Prior to working in public engagement, Liz was a Managing Attorney in Trademarks Operations at the USPTO. Liz received her J.D. from American University's Washington College of Law and her undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University. She is an active member in good standing of the Virginia state bar, as well as a graduate of the Partnership in Public Service's Excellence in Government fellowship program and a member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

VALERIE JEAN-CHARLES (Instructor and Coach) is a Vice President, specializing in media relations, building communications strategy, rapid response and project management. Prior to joining Fenton, Valerie worked at the Hub Project, where she worked on economic issues like progressive taxation and national public polling initiatives. She also worked for four years at Everytown for Gun Safety, where she developed both national and regional communication strategies focused on state legislative campaigns and a National Gun Violence Awareness Weekend.

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MARTHA PARHAM (Coach) is the Senior Vice President, Public Relations for the American Association of Community Colleges. Martha leads the marketing, publications, media and public relations and oversees AACC's 21st Century Center. Prior to joining AACC, Martha was the Director of Public Affairs, Marketing and Government Relations at the Coast Community College District, where she directed the marketing, communications, media and public relations, graphics and printing, and government relations and advocacy activities of the ninth largest community college district in California. She also served as the Executive Director to the Coast Community College District Foundation. While at Coast, Martha led the campaign for Measure M, securing nearly $800 million in General Obligation Bond funds for the district's three colleges. Martha is a member of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations. She is a past president of the Community College Public Relations Organization (CCPRO) and served on the board for the Association of Community College Administrators. She has won numerous awards from NCMPR and CCPRO for her creativity in developing advertisements and publications, event planning, and advocacy strategies. Prior to joining the staff at the Coast Community College District, Martha spent her time at Disneyland as an Imagineer, where she served in an administrative capacity tracking graphics and lighting design projects for Tarzan's Treehouse, New Tomorrowland, and the Disney Gallery. A native of Virginia, Martha received her bachelor's degree in English from Longwood University, a master's degree in English in 2005, and her doctorate in Educational Leadership in 2011.

VICTORIA ROBERSON (Instructor and Coach) is a Senior Account Executive at Fenton, specializing in media relations, project management and strategic marketing communications. She uses her experience to strategize impactful messaging and build long-lasting relationships with clients. Victoria has worked with clients at Fenton, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Johnson & Johnson, McKinsey Health Institute, and National Nurses United. Her prior experience with Fleishman Hillard, a public relations and marketing agency, led to her position at Fenton. She joined Fenton as an Account Coordinator in August 2022.

JOE SCHREIBER (Instructor and Coach) is an Emmy Award–winning communications strategist, veteran network television producer, and educator dedicated to helping leaders and innovators communicate with clarity, purpose, and confidence. Over a distinguished career, Joe has earned 13 Emmy Awards and played a pivotal role in launching and producing NBC's George Michael Sports Machine, helping shape the evolution of sports storytelling and the rise of modern cable sports media. Today, Joe serves as General Manager of TUTV, Temple University's student-run television station, and as an adjunct professor in the Klein College of Media and Communication, where he mentors the next generation of storytellers to think critically, communicate with intention, and lead with integrity.
He is also co-founder of 3 Penny Films, which has produced more than 60 programs, including the PBS documentary P.O.W.: Passing On Wisdom, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the return of Vietnam War prisoners of war. As a consultant and coach for the American Association of Community Colleges and the National Science Foundation, Joe brings a philosophy grounded in preparation, presence, and purpose. Drawing on more than 5,000 interviews worldwide, he challenges students and faculty to move beyond delivering information—to communicating with clarity, conviction, and impact. His work helps innovators translate complex ideas into stories that resonate, inspire trust, and drive meaningful change. A graduate of Boston College, Joe earned his Master of Science in Communication Management from Temple University in 2024 and was inducted into the Greater Washington Jewish Sports Hall of Fame in 2008.

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MORGAN TRAVERS (Instructor and Coach) is a Digital Account Executive at Fenton. She earned a degree in Government and Politics with minors in Public Leadership & Science, Technology, Ethics and Policy from the University of Maryland. Morgan frequently draws on her background in digital strategy, government affairs, and public communications to implement strategies that make a lasting change. She was most recently a digital fundraising specialist with Goodman Campaigns, where she worked on rapid-response fundraising email and SMS content for down-ballot candidates, contributing to millions raised for 170+ campaigns. Morgan has also completed successful internships with Vox Global, FGS Global, AARP, and the U.S. Dept of Transportation, where she conducted qualitative media research, tracked news coverage and analyzed congressional hearings. During college, she served as president and vice president of two non-profit organizations dedicated to increasing civic and political engagement: IGNITE and Black Girls Vote.

GRANT WARNER (Instructor and Coach) is the Executive Director of the Center for Black Entrepreneurship at Spelman College and Moorehouse College. In addition, he is the Managing Partner of guru innovation group, LLC. Grant has experience as an innovation coach in the National Science Foundation (NSF) I-Corps program, which focuses on lab-to-market innovations across NSF's portfolio, the National Institute of Health (NIH) I-Corps at NIH program which accelerates the growth of select NIH SBIR Phase I companies in devices, diagnostics, and therapeutics and Energy I-Corps which provides lean startup training for national laboratory researchers. Grant has also supported Lab-to-Market activities internationally via the Innovate Egypt, Innovate Ukraine, GIST-Senegal, and GIST-Macedonia programs. As an ardent HBCU advocate, he also managed programs and development for the National GEM Consortium and the Small Business Administration aimed at increasing access to federal funding. He received a B.S. degree from Cornell University, an M.S. degree from Penn State University, and a Ph.D. from Columbia University all in Mechanical Engineering.

TABITHA WHISSEMORE (Coach) is the publications manager at the American Association of Community Colleges. In that role, she manages production of the bimonthly Community College Journal. She has been at AACC since 2010. Prior to working at AACC, she held positions at the Truman National Security Project in Washington, D.C., and Ordway Center for the Performing Arts in St. Paul, Minnesota. Tabitha has a master's in journalism from Georgetown University and a bachelor's degree in mass communications from St. Cloud State University.