Meet the Panelists

Marty Wartenberg M.B.A., P.E. [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Please meet Marty Wartenberg. He has spent over 40 years managing companies and projects in the areas of Aerospace, software, commercial product development, oil field instrumentation and pharma research and development. He has helped many companies develop their project offices and coach their high technology project teams. His projects have been featured on PMNet as examples of the application of basic and advanced project management techniques in high technology rapid development type projects. Marty has received a distinguished instructor award from UCI and had been selected by the McDonald Douglas Corporation, (now The Boeing Company), as a major contributor during the C-17 training program. He has taught project management in Europe, the Middle East, Asia and South America. Marty received his formal Project Management, Systems Engineering and Government Procurement training at the Defense Systems Management College (now the Defense Acquisition University) at Fort Belvoir, VA.

Neil Sahota PgMP, PMP, PMI-ACP, CSP, CSM, PRINCE2, CGEIT [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Next we have Neil Sahota. He is an IBM Master Inventor and Ecosystem Engagement Manager in the IBM Watson Group. With more than 15 years' experience in business, he works with high growth partners to ideate next generation products/solutions powered by Watson. His work experience, domestic and internationally, spans a wide range of industries including healthcare, life sciences, retail, travel and transportation, energy and utilities, automotive, telecommunications, media, and government. In recognition of his diverse talents, Neil is one of the few IBM employees to have been selected for IBM's Corporate Service Corps leadership program pairing leaders with NGOs to perform community-driven economic development projects. For this initiative, Neil lived and worked in Ningbo, China where he partnered with local corporate CEOs to create a leadership development program. Neil has also served as an active volunteer in IBM's Academic Initiative program, as a business mentor for IBM's Extreme Blue program, and works with Tech Coast Angels to assist startups with investor funding. He is a judge in the Butterworth Product Competition, a mentor in the K5 Launch accelerator program, and a coach for various start up competitions. Neil has been awarded 24 certificates from UCI Extension, 3 undergraduate degrees and an MBA from University of California, Irvine (UCI). He has been an active member of the UCI Alumni Association for over a decade, is a former member of the UCI Alumni Board of Directors and Executive Committee, and is a popular, dynamic instructor for the UCI Extension Project Management Certificate Program.

Karen Nguyen PMP [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Finally, we have Karen Nguyen. While a student at UC Irvine Extension, Karen earned two certificates in Project Management, and in Business Analyst. After completing her Project Management Certificate, Karen achieved the PMP® Certification from the Project Management Institute. Karen's professional growth has been astounding since completing the certificate programs at UCI Extension: she currently manages Kia Motors America's enterprise B2B portal consisting of 70 dealer-facing systems. Her position includes overseeing the entire US Network of KIA dealerships, and managing a large portfolio of online and computer based support systems for their Dealer Network. Karen actively serves on the Project Management Certificate Advisory Committee and contributes as a guest speaker in several UCI Extension classes discussing the value of our programs and how to apply what we teach in the "real world."