Meet Moms in Tech: Real women. Real talk.

How we can all support each other

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## ABSTRACT

Moms in Tech is an online community of more than 11,000 professional women worldwide who are in technical roles or work in technical fields. Our mission is to support women in tech through all stages of motherhood.

Come meet our founder and members from a variety of roles in tech.

# AUDIENCE

This panel is for new moms, moms who have been at it a while or those who haven’t even considered having a child yet. Any woman who has doubts about how to have a wildly successful career and have a family should come to this panel.

This panel is for students, early career professionals, mid-career professionals, and senior professionals. Even if you have raised your children you may find someone you can help along their way.

INTRODUCTION

We will be debating the issues that confront women as they build their career while building a family..

CORE POINT OF CONTENTION

Having a child means leaving your “home life” at home.

PLAN OF ACTION

Timeline breakdown for this session:

* **10 minutes – Opening Remarks** – the moderator will introduce herself and explain about Moms in Tech group. The panelists will then introduce themselves each providing how long they have been in tech and their family situation
* **30 minutes** – Moderator led Q & A – the moderator will as a set of questions to the panelists. Panelists will share their experience to answer the questions
* **15 minutes** – Audience Q & A – the moderator will direct questions from the audience to each of the panelists
* **5 minutes** – Closing Remarks – the moderator will summarize key points and give contact information for Moms in Tech.

Help the reviewers visualize this session. For instance –

* What are some tactics to navigating maternity leave with a not-so-family-friendly company?
* What resources did you use to stay technical while out on leave?
* Is it better to be self-employed when having a family?
* Moms who have done it alone vs Moms who have had help
* Description of timing of the session and the format of interaction among participants and with the audience.
* Timeline breakdown of how you intend to run this session.

Ask questions to panelists who have excelled after maternity leave, breaks, career pivots and challenges all while remaining technical in a fast paced industry. Topics we plan to cover: navigating maternity leave, how kids really affect your career and life, pros and cons of being a self-employed mom in tech, and tips to set up your career as you are heading into motherhood.

In just a bit over a year, we have built an amazing international community of 11,000 women. We are here to support each other and all women who may want to be a mom someday.

Let us help you make the most of your life both at work and at home.

OUTCOMES/CONCLUSION

At the end of this session we expect that women? What are the takeaways for the attendees?

**PARTICIPATION STATEMENT**

All participants have made a commitment to attend the conference if accepted.

REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPGHY

<Http://www.ediolabs.com/>

# BIO

**Annie Tsai** is an entrepreneur and thought leader in the field of marketing, go-to-market, customer experience, and customer success for startups and growth stage software companies. She has spent the past 22 years working in tech, starting as a part-time intranet and creative design intern at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory to help pay her way through undergrad at UC Berkeley. Annie has held a myriad of roles throughout her career, from being a Sales Engineer to two-time Chief Customer Officer, Chief Marketing Officer, and head of Human Resources at growth, scale, public, and acquired companies like PGi, DemandForce, Intuit, and DoubleDutch. Over the past several years however, Annie has played the role of Entrepreneur as startup founder, angel investor, consultant in the fields of Customer Experience, Customer Success, and Management Strategy, executive coach to mid-career and transitioning leaders, advisor to three early/growth stage startups, and part-time partner at The House Fund, an early-stage venture fund. In her spare time, Annie sits on the Housing & Development and Emergency Medical Care Committees with San Mateo County, fundraises for the Peninsula Humane Society/SPCA, supports community building and moderates the 11k member Moms in Tech group, and is on the PTA Board at her son’s school. Her most important and challenging role to-date, however, has been mother to a little boy now in Kindergarten - it’s made her a better manager, friend, leader, and strategist in every conceivable way.

Susan DeGennaro is a Solution Architect and programmer with 25 years of experience in the industry. Susan started out as a mainframe programmer then moved up to OO. For 18 years she traveled the country using her technical skills to training programmers and consult at Fortune 100 companies. Susan has taught and coded in COBOL, DB2, Java, JavaScript, C#, Spring, Design Patterns, HTML, CSS, JSON and jQuery to name a few. After 9 years of blissful marriage and many infertility treatments, Susan and her husband welcomed their son. Her husband had planned to stay home with him. Sadly, when their son was 6 months old her husband had unsuccessful brain surgery that left him hospitalized. She was left to manage his care, the care of their son, work full-time, travel and pay all the bills. After 2.5 years in the hospital her husband passed leaving her the solo parent of a three year old. She continued to work, grow her career and reputation as well as raise a wonderful caring, now 15 year old, son. Susan volunteers regularly as a board member for local Java user groups, bike advocacy groups and Habitat for Humanity. She continues to mentor other young women in the field as women in tech, STEM and learning are her passions.