

Friday, March 7

TRANSFORMING BUSINESS
**CONNECTING
DIVERSE
SCHOLARS**



Leeds School of Business

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

Friday, March 7

TRANSFORMING BUSINESS
**CONNECTING
DIVERSE
SCHOLARS**

Friday, March 7, 2025

9:00am – 2:30pm

KOBL 352

A special experience for prospective graduate students

At Leeds, we're determined to create a pipeline of diverse leaders. That's why we're invested in the success of all our graduate students—they are tomorrow's changemakers, CEOs and leaders who will transform business worldwide. While our student body steadily grows more diverse, we continue to push toward equity, both at Leeds and in the world of business.

This program is made possible through the generous support of:

Ellen Balaguer

A champion of Leeds students, Ellen established the Mel and Marcy Balaguer Scholarship that gives economically and socially disadvantaged students the opportunity to get a high-quality business education. Ellen named the scholarship for her parents who endured hardships and sacrifices to send her (and her brothers) to college. Now, she hopes to give the same opportunity to others. In 2023, Ellen was recognized as an Influential Leader, by AACSB. The initiative recognizes alumni from AACSB-accredited institutions who are defining what it means to be a societal impact leader committed to positive change. They make a difference through leadership that is compassionate, curious, and resilient, with a focus on purpose, people, and planet. A retired global managing director at Accenture, Ellen serves as an emeritus chair on the Leeds Advisory Board and has earned the Leeds Distinguished Alumni and Service Award in recognition for her service to the school.



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8:30 – 9:00 am

CHECK IN & NETWORKING BREAKFAST

KOBL 352

WELCOME

9:00 – 9:15 am

- Kristi Ryujin, Associate Dean of Graduate Programs & Special Assistant to the Dean for Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Leeds School of Business
- Ellen Balaguer, Retired Global Managing Director – Accenture
Leeds Advisory Board Chair Emeritus

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TED TALK + Q & A

9:15 – 9:30 am

- Rebecca Mitchell, Ph.D. Assistant Professor – Organizational Leadership; Stone Family Faculty Fellow
 - “Resiliency in Times of Change”

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LEEDS FACULTY SHOWCASE

9:30 – 10:30 am

- Jeremiah Contreras, Ph.D. Assistant Teaching Professor – Accounting Division – Kala and Shiv Khatri Endowed Faculty Scholar
 - Interactive Session on Artificial Intelligence
- Gloria Urrea, Ph.D. Assistant Professor – Strategy, Entrepreneurship and Operations
 - “Supply Chain Strategy”

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10:30 – 10:45 am

NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK

KOBL 352

INDUSTRY PARTNER PANEL

Facilitator: Ellen Balaguer, Retired Global Managing Director – **Accenture**
Leeds Board Chair Emeritus

10:45 – 11:45 am

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Industry Partner Panelists:

- Harrison GreenMaki, Senior Analyst, Finance – **NexCore Group**
Leeds MBA 2022
 - Jennifer Weinberger, Chief People Connector - **Goldstone Partners, Inc.**
Leeds Executive MBA 2023
 - Shannon Sisler, Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer – **Crocs**
Leeds Board Member
-

11:45 am – 11:55 pm

BREAK AND GET LUNCH

NETWORKING LUNCH WITH EXECUTIVES & STUDENTS/ALUMNI

11:55 – 12:55 pm

KOBL 352

- Ellen Balaguer, Retired Global Managing Director – **Accenture**
Leeds Board Chair Emeritus
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PANEL DISCUSSION: What Makes Leeds Graduate Programs & Boulder Special

Facilitator: Ellen Balaguer, Retired Global Managing Director – Accenture
Leeds Advisory Board Chair Emeritus

Leeds Students and Alumni Panelists:

12:55 – 1:55 pm

- Victor Alamillo, Leeds MS Business Analytics Candidate – 2025
- Sai Xiong, Leeds MBA & Supply Chain Candidate – 2025
- Thaala Loper, Principal Organizational Change Maker – University of Colorado
Leeds MBA 2021

CLOSING REMARKS

1:55 - 2:00 pm

- Ellen Balaguer, Retired Global Managing Director – Accenture
Leeds Advisory Board Chair Emeritus
- Dean Khatri, Ph.D. Tandean Rustandy Endowed Dean – Leeds School of Business
Former Professor of Organizational Leadership and Information Analytics

MEET AND GREET RECEPTION: Cookies and Coffee

2:00 – 2:30 pm

- Prospective Students
 - Current Students & Alumni
 - Leeds Faculty
 - Leeds Graduate Programs Staff
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***Please note:** While the event content is focused on the perspectives and experiences of specific communities, all are welcome to attend.*

