Ken Goldberg, Renowned Pioneer in AI and Robotics

Ken Goldberg is an artist, inventor, and University of California (UC), Berkeley professor focusing on robotics. He was appointed the William S. Floyd Jr. Distinguished Chair in Engineering. In 2017-2018, he served as chair of the Industrial Engineering and Operations Research Department. Goldberg has secondary appointments in the departments of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Art Practice, the School of Information, and Radiation Oncology at the UCSF Medical School. Goldberg is director of the CITRIS “People and Robots” Initiative and the UC Berkeley Laboratory for Automation Science and Engineering (AUTOLAB) where he and his students pursue research in machine learning for robotics and automation in warehouses, homes, and operating rooms. Goldberg developed the first provably complete algorithms for part feeding and part fixturing and the first robot on the Internet. Despite agonizingly slow progress, he persists in trying to make robots less clumsy. He has over 250 peer-reviewed publications and nine U.S. Patents. He co-founded and served as editor-in-chief of the IEEE Transactions on Automation Science and Engineering.

Goldberg’s artwork has appeared in 70 exhibits, including the Whitney Biennial. The films he has co-written have been selected for Sundance and nominated for an Emmy Award. Goldberg was awarded the NSF PECASE (Presidential Faculty Fellowship) by President Bill Clinton in 1995, elected IEEE Fellow in 2005, and selected by the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society for the George Saridis Leadership Award in 2016. Goldberg lives in the Bay Area and is madly in love with his wife, filmmaker and Webby Awards founder Tiffany Shlain, and their two daughters.

Chris Stirewalt, Fox News

Chris Stirewalt is the politics editor for the Fox News Channel (FNC) and one of the liveliest commentators covering politics today. Working in FNC’s Washington bureau since 2010, Stirewalt helps coordinate political coverage across Fox platforms by contributing articles, video segments, an extremely-popular newsletter, a weekly podcast with co-host Dana Perino, and regular appearances on Fox’s most popular programs to the network’s lineup. Stirewalt’s daily newsletter, Fox News Halftime Report, boasts nearly 200,000 subscribers, and his podcast, I’ll Tell You What, was so successful that it spun off into a television show of the same name leading up to the 2016 election, an industry first.
Stirewalt is an expert storyteller and astute speaker who keeps audiences engrossed with his trademark humor while breaking down complex political issues. He offers candid and witty insights on the current political climate, the latest happenings on Capitol Hill and in the White House, a breakdown of how our political party system reached its current state of polarization and what he sees coming down the pike in Washington and across the nation. Stirewalt is a quickly rising star on cable news and within political circles whose speeches offer the perfect balance between meaty and hard-hitting takeaways and entertaining personal and professional anecdotes.

Stirewalt makes daily appearances on multiple Fox network programs, including America’s Newsroom, Outnumbered, Special Report with Bret Baier, and Fox News Sunday with Chris Wallace. He is a part of the Fox News Decision Desk team, where he has called races on election nights over the past three electoral cycle. Stirewalt also hosts the feature video series, Power Play, on FoxNews.com.

Prior to joining FNC, Stirewalt served as political editor for The Washington Examiner where he wrote a twice-weekly column and led political coverage for the newspaper. He also served as politics editor at the Charleston Daily Mail and West Virginia Media. Stirewalt began his career at the Wheeling Intelligencer in West Virginia. He is a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia.

Alan Beaulieu, ITR Economics

One of the country’s most informed economists, Dr. Alan Beaulieu is president and a principal of ITR Economics. Since 1990, he has consulted across North America, Europe, and Asia, optimizing companies' forecasts and planning to increase profits through his mastery of business-cycle trend analysis. Beaulieu also serves as Senior Economic Advisor to numerous US and international trade associations.

Beaulieu has co-authored, with Brian Beaulieu, the books Make Your Move, Prosperity in the Age of Decline and But I Want It! He also has penned numerous articles and makes up to 90 appearances a year. Beaulieu’s keynotes and seminars have helped thousands of business owners and executives capitalize on emerging trends.

David Castagnetti, Mehlman Castagnetti Rosen & Thomas

David Castagnetti is a legislative and political strategist with a history of delivering for clients. A trusted advisor who understands how to talk to business, he has played a critical role in shaping many significant policy issues of the past two decades.

Recognized as one of Washington’s top lobbyists by BusinessWeek, Washingtonian magazine, The Hill and Congressional Quarterly, Castagnetti’s policy expertise and political chops are well known. His forte is translating complex policies into straightforward issues, then navigating the political, legislative and regulatory challenges that dictate outcomes. His working style is as renowned as his expertise. A strong believer in “what-you-see-is-what-you-get” client service, he has instilled that same approach at Mehlman Castagnetti Rosen & Thomas, where all principals roll up their sleeves to get results. This combination of skill and working style has
made Castagnetti a trusted advisor to Members of Congress, *Fortune* 100 CEOs and executives across Washington's business community.

Castagnetti’s career has put him at the highest levels of politics, business and government. Before helping to found Mehlman Castagnetti, he served John Kerry as the top liaison to Congress for the Democratic nominee’s presidential campaign. He earned plaudits from House and Senate Members for his briefings on campaign strategy and messaging, deft handling of political requests, and sensitive management of surrogates and speaking roles at the Democratic National Convention.

As a partner at Bergner, Bockorny, Castagnetti & Hawkins, he worked with technology leaders and innovative startups across Silicon Valley to develop and implement effective strategies to drive exports and maintain America’s lead in information technology. He also provided expert regulatory and political guidance for mergers and acquisitions, including the Delta Air Lines and Northwest Airlines merger, Hewlett-Packard’s merger with Compaq, NewsCorp’s merger with DirecTV, and Travelers Insurance in its well-regarded partnership with St. Paul Insurance Company.

**Laura Elsner, DeWys University**

Laura Elsner is the workforce development manager for DeWys Manufacturing, Inc. She is active in the local high schools and colleges, bringing awareness to the manufacturing opportunities that are available to students. Elsner has taken up the challenge of proving that manufacturing isn’t the dirty, dead end jobs of the past. Along with that, she is active in all forms of recruiting to find candidates to be a part of the DeWys Mfg. team.

Laura was also instrumental in establishing DeWys University. She believes in the need for continuous education of the current and future DeWys Mfg. workforce to keep their skill set in-line with the innovative technology transforming the manufacturing workplace. This approach has helped to bridge the skills gap for DeWys Manufacturing.