



**MENTOR PLEDGE GOAL: 50,000**

## MWM CA - Mentor Profile

### Denise Coyne

**Education:** B.A. in Criminology, MBA, University of California, Berkeley

**Company:** Chevron; IBM

**Roles:** IT- data communications, data center help desk & operations supervisor, change management, gulf merger, strategic planning, CIO Corp functions



**Personal:** Husband, daughter, dog and 2 cats!

### **Advice to younger women:**

- Know who you are
- Tell people what you want
- Do the best job you can
- Network
- Go for it
- Treat everyone with respect

Denise comes to MWM CA as a mentor after 35 years in Information Technology at Chevron. She is passionate about mentorship and dedicated to encouraging the next generation of women in STEM.

**What led you to MWM CA?** Denise was searching for position on a board at a public company when she connected with Venita Sivamani who is the founding co-chair of MWM CA. Now Denise mentors two students through the MentorCloud platform for the MWM CA/UC Davis Pilot study.

**Why is it important for students to have a mentor?** Denise advises it is important for young women to build a personal advisory board early in their career. Having a mentor is important because it exposes a person to different career paths and the work culture of a particular company that may not be necessarily apparent through a company's website.

**What is the advice you have for young women?** Denise advises young women to not be afraid to change a career path if you have a change in career passion, be true to yourself and follow your dreams. Also she advises young women to look at the bigger picture and not get caught in the moment. As an example, Denise provided a story of a young woman who was accepted into a top liberal arts college that was ranked number one in STEM education. After taking an exam in her introductory science class her score ranked her at the bottom third of the class. The young woman was very disappointed in her score and compared herself to her peers in the class. She later decided STEM was not for her and switched her major. Denise provided this example to state the importance of thinking of the bigger picture and not getting caught in the moment and comparing yourself to your peers. In this example, this young woman was majoring in a STEM field at a top STEM university in which a degree in STEM will be highly marketable on the job market in the near future. Denise stated that struggling in one class at the beginning of college should not determine your long run goals. It is important to think of the broader perspective.

**Lessons learned from a career at Chevron?** Denise mentioned two important things her mentor from Chevron told her: (1) to know the company well and (2) get organized! She said her mentor advised her to write a list of questions to ask about the company and schedule coffee/lunch dates with people in leadership roles at the company to ask them the questions from her list. By doing this you learn many details about the company and ensure leaders at the company know who you are! ***MWM CA thanks Denise for her mentorship and support!***

## Recent MWM CA Activities

### ***Women in Tech: Why Every STEM Professional Needs a Mentor (and How to Find One)***



On July 13<sup>th</sup> Women in Tech at InnoGrove Coworking hosted an event to inspire young women to build a mentoring network and how a mentor can accelerate your STEM career. This lively panel discussion included the following panelist:

- Rena L. Fischer, Co-Founder, The (A)Lyst Group
- Judith “Judy” Kjelstrom, PhD, Director UC Davis Biotechnology Program
- Nandini Parimi, Software Engineer, The SHOP at VSP Global
- Ashma Sethi, Senior Graphics Hardware Design Engineer, Intel

The event was moderated by MWM CA very own, Venita Sivamani, cofounder and CEO, Dermveda and founding co-chair, Million Women Mentors California! Find more information [here](#).

## ***MWM-CA Mentorship Summer Session Series 2016***

In collaboration with MWM CA, UC Davis, and MentorCloud a four-week mentorship summer session was kicked-off in June, 2016. The purpose of this four weeks series was to introduce UC Davis students to the benefits of MWM, mentorship, networking and career exploration.

### **Series topics included:**

- ❖ Introduction to mentoring
  - ❖ Finding a mentor
- ❖ Connecting with a mentor and building relationship
  - ❖ Development of goals with a mentor

The sessions were held and recorded via Google Hangout. Check-out the summer series [here](#)!

## National MWM Information

**MWM**  
Million Women Mentors®  
Advancing Women and Girls in STEM Careers Through Mentoring

**Summit  
& Gala**  
Omni Shoreham Hotel  
October 4-5, 2016  
Washington, D.C.

**Million Women Mentors (MWM)** is hosting its **Second Annual Summit and Gala** this October. The event will feature updates and best practices surrounding the MWM efforts.

- **When:** *Wednesday, October 5, 2016 from 7:30 AM to 9:00 PM (EDT)*
- **Where:** *Omni Shoreham Hotel - 2500 Calvert St NW, Washington, DC 20008*

For registration information on this special event visit the event page [here](#).

## 2016 STEM Symposium

**California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) is a proud co-sponsor of this event!**

Mark your calendars! The 2016 California STEM Symposium will be held in the Anaheim Convention Center in Southern California. This is the largest annual gathering of STEM educators and advocates in California. For more information please check out the [website](#).



Watermark is accepting nominations for outstanding women & men for the 2016 Make Their Mark (MYM) Awards.

Deadline to nominate is July 31st. The Make Your Mark Awards ceremony is Nov. 10th. To nominate a candidate or to receive info, visit the page [here](#).

## Mentoring Resources

Career Girls offers high-quality, no-cost mentoring resources. For more information visit the website [here](#).

## Mentoring Activities to Get Involved In!

### Greenlight for Girls (G4G) DAY @SF BAY AREA

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2016

**What:** A day of interactive hands-on, unbelievable fun with STEM. This is a free event which aims to encourage girls to take up careers in STEM!

**Who:** Inviting 100-150 girls

**How:** Welcome role models, professionals and organizations to lead a 45-minute workshop that links to STEM.

*For more information and to participate please contact  
riaa1030@gmail.com*



Stay up to date with all MWM CA activities!

<http://www.MWM-CA.org>

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Email: [lkbaldwin@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lkbaldwin@ucdavis.edu)

## California's Goal: To pledge 50,000 mentors by 2018

California, it's time to

# JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Pledge Today

#### How to Register as a Mentor:

1. Go to <http://www.MWM-CA.org>
2. Fill in the blanks and click 'Register'
3. Make the Pledge!
4. Receive an email from MWM with next steps

**Already a Mentor?** Did you reach out to a mentee yet? Have an ongoing mentorship relationship on MentorCloud? Questions? Contact Linda Baldwin at [LKbaldwin@ucdavis.edu](mailto:LKbaldwin@ucdavis.edu).

#### About Million Women Mentors – CA

Working with our partners from the corporate, nonprofit, higher education and government sectors, we will engage 50,000 CA Mentors by 2018 to:

- ❖ Increase the percentage of middle school and high school girls planning to pursue STEM careers
- ❖ Increase the percentage of young women pursuing undergraduate degrees in STEM fields
- ❖ Increase the percentage of women staying and advancing in STEM careers through supporting workforce mentoring programs

**For more information, go to**

<http://www.MWM-CA.org>