


**SCHEDULE**

[▲](#)  
 AI2V 1: Waltham, MA 8/1-4  
 AI2V 2: Urbana, IL 9/9-12  
 Southfield, MI - 9/28  
 Kansas City, MO - 9/29  
 St. Paul, MN - 10/6  
 Fargo-Moorehead, MN - 10/12  
 Orlando, FL - 11/2  
[▼](#)

[About Us](#)
[Events](#)
[Resources](#)
[Archives](#)
[Purchase the I2V  
Participant Guide](#)
[Read our Weblog](#)
[Contact I2V](#)

MADE POSSIBLE BY:


 Ewing Marion  
**KAUFFMAN**  
 Foundation

## ARCHIVES - 2005

### CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO: Speakers' Profiles

Click on a speaker's name to learn more.

[Kirk Nagamine](#)  
[Suzanne Bertz-Rosa](#)  
[Alison Haugan](#)  
[Jon R. Haugan](#)  
[Gregory Powell](#)  
[Joseph Steig](#)  
[M. Todd Stemler](#)  
[Timothy Stearns](#)  
[Genelle Taylor](#)  
[Stephen Years](#)

#### Kirk Nagamine, CEO, Co-founder, VIPSpree

Mr. Nagamine has over 10 years of executive level management experience. He was most recently responsible for creating a business that generated \$35 million in sales within a year of its inception and was subsequently sold to Microsoft. Mr. Nagamine has extensive experience in the areas of senior sales, sales management, marketing and finance and holds a degree in Business and Economics from St. Mary's College in Moraga, California.

[Back to top](#)

#### Suzanne Bertz-Rosa, Bertz-Rosa Design

Suzanne Bertz-Rosa is a design and marketing professional focusing on making the best use of both offline and online media. The Visalia-native's 20+ year career includes developing an interactive division for Young & Rubicam's Austin presence. During her tenure at Bank of America, in addition to stewarding the multinational brand, she helped in developing the face of online banking. Returning to the Valley after a 12-year absence, Suzanne is currently working on projects that are geared to making a positive difference in the community, including the launch of MindHub, a listserv for local creative professionals. Suzanne is involved in Creative Fresno, Fresno Coalition of Arts, History, and Science, Fresno Design Alliance, Regional Jobs Initiative (innovation and communication task forces), and Art Venture at McLane High School. Photo by Michelle Pattee

[Back to top](#)

#### Alison Haugan, Co-Founder and President, OptiStreams, Inc

Alison Haugan is Co-Founder and President of OptiStreams, Inc., a nationwide, satellite broadband services provider that offers leading-edge satellite and wireless solutions for government, homeland security, business, education and transportable markets. Founded and based in Fresno, CA, this high-tech enterprise is six years old and is #140 on Inc. 500's fastest growing privately held companies list for 2004. Prior to OptiStreams, she founded the National Initiative for Civility Encouragement (n.i.c.e.), where she trained and consulted professionals in how to create more respectful and responsible work environments. Her background also includes personal, business and executive coaching, speaking and non-profit management. She is a graduate of Coach University (a virtual university specializing in business and personal coaching skills) and has a B.A. in Psychology from California State University, Fresno.

[Back to top](#)

#### Jon R. Haugan, Co-Founder and CEO, OptiStreams, Inc

Jon R. Haugan, is Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of OptiStreams, Inc., a nationwide, satellite

broadband and content services provider that offers leading-edge satellite and wireless solutions for government, homeland security, business, education and transportable markets. Founded and based in Fresno, CA, this high-tech enterprise is six years old and is #140 on Inc. 500's fastest growing privately held companies list for 2004. Mr. Haugan has spent the last 20 years in the communications industry, seeking out and pioneering cutting edge technologies in a variety of fields, including personal and professional development, advertising, graphics, and engineering support. He has been a featured speaker on satellite connectivity issues at conferences, including: Rural Telecon, National School Boards Association, State of Virginia conference on rural connectivity; and the Oregon Rural Telecommunications conference to name a few.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Gregory Powell, Walter Law Group**

Fresno native, Greg Powell was admitted to the bar in 1996 following graduation from San Joaquin College of Law and San Diego State University where he majored in psychology. Greg focuses his practice on bankruptcy, civil litigation and intellectual property, where he specializes in Internet domain name registration issues and disputes. He is a member of the Fresno County and American Bar Association as well as the Central California Bankruptcy Association. Greg is admitted to practice before all of the courts of the State of California and the United State District Court, in the Eastern District of California. He is rated BV by Martindale-Hubbell. His outside interests include computers, martial arts, and outdoor sports activities.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Joseph Steig, Director, Invention to Venture**

Joseph Steig leads the Invention to Venture program for the NCIIA. He has a background in finance and strategic planning and has worked as a CFO with early stage companies in a diverse range of industries, including agriculture, environmental technologies, outdoor recreation products and software. Over the last fifteen years, in both a consulting and employee capacity, he has gained extensive operational experience helping move companies up the development curve, secure equity financing, and perform successfully against established milestones and objectives. For much of his career he has been closely involved in raising equity capital for companies and projects, particularly at the early stage with individual investors and venture capitalists, as well as at the mezzanine stage with larger investment banks and through corporate acquisitions.

Additionally, Mr. Steig has extensive experience managing community economic development initiatives and in this work has gained a wide range of public process experience, working with universities, non-profits, government and business on developing shared development objectives. Through his consulting company, Innovation Path, he runs a New England-based angel investor group, River Valley Investors which has a primary focus on manufacturing and distribution companies.

[Back to top](#)

#### **M. Todd Stemler, Vice President, Central Valley Fund L.P.**

M. Todd Stemler is a Vice President with the Central Valley Fund L.P. and is based in Fresno. The Central Valley Fund is a \$100M later stage venture fund focused on making low tech investments in companies located in the California Central Valley. Mr. Stemler has 10 years of experience in the areas of financial audit, consulting and investment banking with particular concentration on transactions. These transactions include due diligence, structuring, equity and debt offerings, and structured debt products. This concentration has allowed Mr. Stemler to partner with companies in analyzing complex financial challenges while implementing successful solutions with efficient execution. Prior to joining the Central Valley Fund, Mr. Stemler worked in Arthur Andersens audit and business consulting groups, Ernst & Youngs Transaction & Real Estate Advisory Services, and Salomon Smith Barneys / Citigroups Investment Banking Division. Mr. Stemler graduated with high honors in Business Economics from the University of California, Santa Barbara and with a Master in Business Administration from the Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California. Mr. Stemler is also a Certified Public Accountant.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Timothy Stearns, Director, Lyles Center for Innovation Entrepreneurship**

Timothy M. Stearns is Director of the Lyles Center for Innovation Entrepreneurship and the Coleman Foundation Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies in the Craig School of Business at California State University, Fresno. Previously, he held the Edward M. Reighard Chair in Entrepreneurship. Dr. Stearns has taught, conducted research, and consulted on the subject of entrepreneurship, corporate restructuring, planning, and management practices for almost 20 years. Professor Stearns has co-authored a textbook on management and is the author of more than 50 research articles and presentations. He has also taught and lectured on entrepreneurship, strategic planning and corporate reengineering to public and private sector executives in Thailand, Poland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Macau, Sweden, and the Peoples Republic of China.

In 1998, Professor Stearns was named President of the Central Valley Business Incubator. He is also a founding member of the Coleman Education and Awareness Council ([www.colemanchairs.org](http://www.colemanchairs.org)). Currently he is directing the development of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship on the CSU Fresno campus, a multimillion dollar complex that will house San Joaquin Venture Partners, a creativity lab, a technology transfer center, and curriculum for both undergraduate and graduates. In addition, he

writes a monthly column on entrepreneurship, Venture Ink, which appears in the Fresno Business Journal. Professor Stearns received his Bachelors degree in Sociology from San Jose State University. He also received a MBA degree in management and a doctorate in management and sociology from Indiana University. He previously was a member of the Management faculty at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and Marquette University.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Genelle Taylor, Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**

Genelle Taylor is currently the Associate Director of the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at California State University, Fresno. The Lyles Center facilitates, supports and encourages entrepreneurship and innovation by assisting students and clients in new venture growth in the Central San Joaquin Valley of California through outreach, education and research. Genelle is also the Director of the Kauffman Innovation Partners Program and previously Co-Director of the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization Western Regional Conference (CEO West). She has received her degree in Business Administration Management from CSU, Fresno. She is a native of Salinas, California and moved to Fresno for her educational studies.

Genelle has extensive professional experience in the field of entrepreneurship, working for the past eight years with the University Business Center of the Craig School of Business, IDEA, the Entrepreneurial Resource Center, Central Valley Business Incubator, the Kauffman Internship Program, Outsourcing Data Bank and the Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

[Back to top](#)

#### **Stephen Years, Sun Microsystems, Inc.**

Stephen Years is a high-technology and telecommunications professional with over 10 years of experience working with hardware, software and networking technologies. Currently Mr. Years is employed by Sun Microsystems, Inc., as a strategist within Sun's networked service delivery organization to identify and develop new areas for subscription-based revenues. Prior to joining Sun, Mr. Years was a Manager with KPMG Consulting, LLC, specializing in large-scale systems integration projects for global telecommunications firms. Mr. Years also has substantial experience with early stage start-ups and was a Business Development Manager at Interval Research Corporation - a business incubator and R&D lab founded by Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen. Mr. Years graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and with a Master of Business Administration from the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University.

[Back to top](#)

[<<Back to workshop](#)