



Resiliency in Procurement Leadership: Feedback, Reframe, Response

Presenters



Tara Acton, CPPB, began her procurement career in September 2009 with Mohave County. After a 4-year service with the City of Tucson, she returned to the County as their Director of Procurement and Central Services in June 2020. Ms. Acton earned her Bachelor's of Applied Sciences Degree in Public Agency Service from Northern Arizona University in December 2008. She received the designation of Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB) in October 2012 and NIGP Certified Procurement Professional (NIGP-CPP) in May 2023. Tara is an active leader in NIGP. She served as the President of NIGP's Grand Canyon Chapter from July 2015 through June 2017. She also served on several committees with NIGP's Copper Chapter between October 2016 and May 2020. At the Institute (national) level, Tara has served on multiple committees and task forces since 2015. She was elected to the Member Council in 2017 ultimately ending her service on that Council in 2022 as the Chair (and ex officio Governing Board Member). Since August 2022 Tara has been serving as a Member of the Talent Council.



Jenn Myers, MPA, CPPO, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, is the Purchasing Director at the City of Scottsdale. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration in 2012 from the University of Phoenix and started her City of Tucson procurement career shortly thereafter. Jenn also earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration in October of 2022. In 2017, she completed the Foundations of Public Sector Leadership Program from the University of Arizona's Eller Executive Education. Jenn also completed the Ignite Leadership Academy offered through the City of Tucson in 2019. In 2020, Jenn was recognized by NIGP as the Young Professional of the Year. The Copper Chapter of NIGP named Jenn as Copper Chapter Manager of the Year in 2021.



Katherine Tople, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, is the Chief Procurement Officer for the Illinois Secretary of State with more than a decade of experience in public procurement. Since 2011, she has held leadership roles across several State of Illinois agencies. She also serves as President of the Illinois Association of Public Procurement Officials (IAPPO) and represents the association nationally on the NIGP Member Council. Katherine holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Sciences from Illinois State University and a Master of Legal Studies from the University of Illinois Springfield. Jenn is an active leader with NIGP at both the Institute and chapter levels. From 2017 through 2018 she served as the Secretary of the Copper Chapter, and then as President from 2020 through 2021. As an Institute volunteer, she has served on the Pipeline and Placement Committee and is currently serving as a member of the Talent Council.



Summary:

Life changes daily, and your professional position is no exception. We've all been there - leadership changes, and suddenly you're getting negative feedback when previously you thought everyone loved you. Maybe your department was part of a re-organization, and suddenly the measures of success are either undefined, or a constantly moving goalpost. You applied for that promotion and got it, but the position came with baggage you didn't see coming. How you manage your emotions and respond in stressful situations will have lasting impacts on your career. This team of presenters will share lessons learned in real life experiences. With each setback, you can choose growth over defeat. Learn how to use some of the tools that will help you build resiliency through the growing pains.