Marc Bruno
President, Aramark Sports & Entertainment

Marc Bruno is President of ARAMARK Sports & Entertainment, provider of award-winning food and beverage, retail merchandise and facility service programs for more than 150 premier sports, entertainment and convention centers across North America.

Under Bruno’s leadership, ARAMARK has distinguished itself as an industry leader by consistently developing hospitality programs that enhance the guest experience. His commitment to utilizing consumer insights, identifying new technology and introducing innovative solutions has enabled ARAMARK to deliver positive results for its arena, ballpark and stadium, convention center and concert venue clients.

In 2010, Sports Business Journal named him to its annual global list of “Forty Under 40,” which recognizes the best and brightest young executives in the sports business industry.

Bruno also leads ARAMARK’s Olympic and Global Special Event catering projects, for which the company has served as the dining and catering services provider for 16 Olympic Games. His involvement with the Olympic Games spans six Olympics, dating back to the 1996 Atlanta Games and up through the recently completed 2012 London Games.

Since joining ARAMARK in 1993, Bruno has held a variety of domestic and international management roles within the company, where he has gained diverse experience in the International, Business and Industry, Higher Education and Sports & Entertainment divisions of ARAMARK. He was promoted to his current position in May 2008.

He serves on the board of directors of Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau and Boston University School of Hospitality, and is the immediate past-Chairman for the Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management (TEAM) Coalition.
He is a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration and earned an MBA from the Harvard Business School. Originally from Chicago, he resides outside Philadelphia with his wife and three daughters.

Thursday, September 25, 2014
3:30-5:00 pm
115 Purnell Hall

Deborah Marriott Harrison, Director
Marriott International

Deborah Marriott Harrison, an honors graduate of Brigham Young University, has held several positions within Marriott since 1975, including accounting positions at Marriott Headquarters and operations positions at Key Bridge and Dallas Marriott hotels. She has been actively involved in serving the community through participation on various committees and boards, including but not limited to the Mayo Clinic Leadership Council for the District of Columbia and the boards of the Bullis School, the D.C. College Access Program, and the J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation.

Her extensive knowledge of the Company, its history and its mission, and her strong ties with the community bring valuable experience and insight to Marriott’s Government Affairs initiatives.

She has also served on the boards of several mental health organizations, including The National Institute of Mental Health Advisory Board, Depression and Related Affective Disorders Association, and the Center for The Advancement of Children’s Mental Health in association with Columbia University. She currently serves on the board of Marriott Vacations Worldwide.
Linda Parkowski became Director of Tourism in 2008. Linda has over 20 years of experience in the Delaware Tourism industry. Prior to working for the Delaware Economic Development Office, Linda was the general manager of the Sheraton Dover Hotel, and Wild Quail Golf and Country Club in Wyoming, Delaware. Additionally, Linda has served on many boards to name a few: Governor's Tourism Advisory Board, Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Delaware Tourism Alliance, Delaware Hotel & Lodging Association, Board of Directors, and Greater Dover Committee. Since taking over as Director of Tourism Linda and Delaware Tourism Team have launched quite a few successful initiatives such as the Delaware Geocaching Trail, the creation of the Delaware Sports Commission and the Delaware Wine and Ale Trail. The Book Landmark’s and Legacies was created to compliment another successful initiative The Delaware History Trail.
Thursday, October 9, 2014
3:30-5:00 pm
115 Purnell Hall

Sam Calagione, Founder and President
Dogfish Head

Sam Calagione is the founder and President of Dogfish Head. Sam got the brewing bug back in the early 1990s while working at a bar in NYC that featured microbrewed beer. After a number of homebrew batches, Sam put his English degree to the test while writing the brewpub business plan. Sam is the brainchild behind all the wacky things that happen at Dogfish Head. He's often on the road promoting Dogfish Head through beer, song, dance and words! - See more at:

http://www.dogfish.com/company/dogfish-way/our-people.htm#sthash.BTjihaJI.dpuf

Thursday, October 16, 2014
3:30-5:00 pm
115 Purnell Hall

Mr. Dave Sibley – White Lodging
President and CEO Hotel Management Services

Mr. Sibley is responsible for the White Lodging Management Division which includes nearly 170 hotels, 19 brands, and more than $1 billion in revenue across the United States. White Lodging's revenue and growth projections have us reaching $2 billion in 2018. With those numbers in mind, the company's focus on its mission of maximizing the value of every asset, including associates and properties. White Lodging is strategic with its growth and does not want to take on new
management contracts for growth's sake, but instead focus on contracts where the company can add value for the owners.

White Lodging's vision is to be the most-desired and highly-valued third party management company of premium brands, full and select service, in the United States. In addition, White Lodging prefers to work with a small group of owners where a collaborative partnership exists that enhances value for both parties.

White Lodging is driven by its core values of growth, ethical, accountable, reliability, genuine care and impact. The company works hard to add value and not confuse activity with accomplishment. When taking over a hotel contract, White Lodging wants to stabilize within six months, add value within 12 months and be at peak performance within 24 months. This does not happen without a strong plan and holding each other highly accountable.

White Lodging is constantly looking for "A" talent (superstars) to support its growth. Company leaders believe in hiring before they need the position. In addition, The company has a strong track record of 80 percent of its GMs and 75 percent of its regional vice presidents being promoted internally. White Lodging doesn't hire for a position; White Lodging hires for the career progression to match its growth.

White Lodging believes in giving back to the community. In 2012, the company raised $341,000 for Back On My Feet, an organization that helps homeless people achieve confidence, independence and employment. Besides raising funds, the company hired six people from the program last year and was an integral part of starting the Austin chapter in January 2013.

Thursday, October 23, 2014
3:30-5:00 pm
115 Purnell Hall

Paula L. Kelly, CCM, CCE
General Manager
Vicmead Hunt Club & Bidermann Golf Course

Paula Kelly is a 1992 cum laude graduate from the University of Delaware Hotel, Restaurant & Institutional Management Program (HRIM) and has been a part of the Vicmead Hunt Club since
Prior, she spent time at Philadelphia Cricket Club (PA) as the Assistant General Manager, Jupiter Island Club (FL) as the Clubhouse Manager and at Baltimore Country Club (MD) holding various positions from Dining Room Supervisor to Clubhouse Manager during her tenure.

Paula holds her Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Palm Beach Atlantic College as well as her Certified Club Manager (received in 1997), part of the Honor Society and a Certified Chief Executive (received in 2010) with the Club Manager’s Association of America (CMAA). During her career Paula has been actively involved on both local boards and national committees for CMAA including the International Wine Society, Certification and Chapter Member Services Committees.

Paula has been actively involved with student programs since her days at University of Delaware. She was a founding member of the Club Manager’s Association student chapter at the university and has worked with internship programs in Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Florida, Pennsylvania and Delaware. She also served on the Alumni Association board for CHEP (College of Human Services and Public Policy – before HRIM moved to the College of Business) and as Secretary for the Hospitality Alumni Association at the University of Delaware. In 2012, she joined the Board for the Philadelphia & Vicinity Club Manager’s Association and is serving as a Director responsible for Executive Career Services, Welfare & Reception and Certification.

In 2008, Paula was honored as a “Champion of Club Education” from the University of Delaware Blue Hen Student Chapter for her dedication and commitment to club education of students the university.

Paula volunteers as a regular facilitator for Supporting Kids in various capacities. Supporting Kids is a center for grieving children and their families and provides an environment of healing for children beginning at age 5 through teen years who have experienced the death of someone close to them. She was named Volunteer of the Year in 2011 while organizing their 5K Run and serving on various event and fundraising committees.
Gary Price, a dynamic restaurant executive with over 20 years of fast-track leadership experience, joined Corner Bakery Cafe as president in October 2012.

A strong admirer of Corner Bakery Cafe, Gary is excited to be joining such a great brand and well-respected team. Under Gary’s leadership, Corner Bakery Cafe will continue its fast-paced growth track, with plans to double its footprint in the U.S. over the next four years through a combination of franchised and company-owned cafes.

Most recently, Gary served as head of food service operations at Pilot Flying J, a national chain of travel centers where he was involved in helping the company grow its revenues from $4 billion to $35 billion. In that position he served on franchise advisory boards for several of Pilots’ 12 franchise concepts, which include Subway, Wendy’s, Arby’s, Cinnabon, Moe’s Southwest Grill, Huddle House and Denny’s.

Gary’s success has been driven by his intense focus on operational execution, service excellence and ensuring a strong talent pipeline. He has a deep understanding and appreciation for the importance of best-in-class technology in today’s business and marketing strategies.

Gary financed his undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware on an Army ROTC scholarship, fulfilled his work requirement as an Army Ranger for six years and completed an Executive MBA from Fayetteville State University as an Army Officer. In 1992, PepsiCo restaurants hired Gary as a fast-track operations leadership candidate. Within a short time he moved from Area Manager to District Manager, gaining significant restaurant opening expertise and improving sales and profit with each assignment. His passion for restaurants and drive for success had been ignited.

Gary and his wife, Stacy have three children. All actively enjoy sports and travel, and are excited to become part of the Bakery family.
Roland Parrish  
McDonald’s Owner/Operator  
Chair and CEO, National Black McDonald’s Owners Association

A McDonald’s Franchisee since 1989, Parrish currently owns 25 McDonald’s Restaurants in North Texas with sales of more than $60 million annually. For the last 8 years, Parrish Restaurants, LTD has been recognized by Black Enterprise Magazine’s BE 100, as one of the Top Black Owned Businesses in the U.S., based on sales volume.

He is currently serving his 2nd term as Chair and CEO of the National Black McDonald’s Owner Operator’s Association (NBMOA). As Chair of the 41 year old organization, boasting $3.6B in sales and 1400 restaurants, the NBMOA awards over $750k in scholarships annually.

As a high school senior, he was an All-American and 800 meter state champion in Hammond, Indiana. He also lettered four years and served as team captain and a two time MVP for the Purdue track and field team.

Parrish earned his Bachelor’s and Master’s in Business at Purdue’s Krannert School of Business. He was Dr. Cornell Bell’s first recruit into the BOP Program and made the Dean’s List seven out of eight semesters. He was inducted into the Hammond, Indiana Sports Hall of Fame in 1993. He is committed to giving back and most recently was the major donor of Purdue’s Library Renovation Project. The former Management and Economics Library reopened in April 2012 as the Roland G. Parrish Library of Management and Economics. The state of the art library and learning lab is the first major campus facility named in honor of an African American alumnus.

A proud family man, Parrish and his wife, Jewel, of 37 years, have a son, TV Personality Ro Parrish (UNT – BA 2002) and daughter, Jade (Purdue – BS 2012). His hobbies include running,
Steve Bauman joined the Marriott International team over twenty-four years ago as Director, Program Development (Training) for Marriott Hotels, Resorts and Suites. In this position he developed Total Quality Management (TQM) programs, executive education programs and the division’s performance management system. Later he led initiatives in workforce planning, performance management, career management, recruiting and immigration services.

In 1998, he was promoted to Vice President, Management Staffing and Development, a position that evolved into his leading a multi-brand team that focused on global management and hourly recruiting, including General Manager and Vice President staffing, University Relations & Recruiting, Relocation & Immigration Services and Flex (Temporary) Staffing.

In his current role, Steve leads a multi-brand team of learning professionals delivering educational products and training to both exempt and non-exempt employees throughout the world. His team focuses on both instructor led and virtual training resources through an enterprise-wide Learning Management System.

Prior to joining Marriott, Steve completed a twenty-year career with the United States Army where he led units both in Europe and Vietnam; taught British Literature at the United States Military Academy, West Point; and, worked with the U.S. Congress on Human Resources issues.

Steve holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Education (English and Physical Education) from the University of North Dakota and a Masters Degree in English from Indiana University. He and his wife, Jeanne, live in Woodbridge, Virginia. They have three adult children.
Linda Parkowski became Director of Tourism in 2008. Linda has over 20 years of experience in the Delaware Tourism industry. Prior to working for the Delaware Economic Development Office, Linda was the general manager of the Sheraton Dover Hotel, and Wild Quail Golf and Country Club in Wyoming, Delaware. Additionally, Linda has served on many boards to name a few: Governor’s Tourism Advisory Board, Kent County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Delaware Tourism Alliance, Delaware Hotel & Lodging Association, Board of Directors, and Greater Dover Committee. Since taking over as Director of Tourism Linda and Delaware Tourism Team have launched quite a few successful initiatives such as the Delaware Geocaching Trail, the creation of the Delaware Sports Commission and the Delaware Wine and Ale Trail. The Book Landmark’s and Legacies was created to compliment another successful initiative The Delaware History Trail.
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Xavier Teixido was born in Asuncion, Paraguay and moved to the United States as a child with his family. While attending the University of Delaware where he studied agriculture, Xavier began his restaurant career as a cook with the Harry M. Stevens Company at the Brandywine Racetrack in Wilmington, Delaware. From there, he went on to positions of Chef and General Manager at the Frog and Commissary restaurants in Philadelphia and served as Managing Director in New Orleans at Ella and Dick Brennan's Commander's Palace (it was here that he worked with Chef Emeril Lagasse). Xavier returned home to Wilmington in 1984 where he co-founded the 1492 Hospitality Group which included Harry's Savoy Grill, which he purchased outright in 1993. In 1998, Harry's expanded to include Harry's Savoy Ballroom and in 2003, Xavier opened Harry's Seafood Grill in partnership with Chef David Leo Banks on Wilmington's Riverfront. Harry's Hospitality Group added the casual bar/restaurant Kid Shelleen’s Charcoal House and Saloon in September 2010, again partnering with Banks as well as company general manager Kelly O’Hanlon.

Teixido has served as the Chairman of the National Restaurant Association (2002-2003), is former president of the Delaware Restaurant Association and serves as immediate past Chair of the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation’s Board of Trustees (2011-2012). In 1999, he was named the Delaware Restaurateur of the Year and was recipient of Delaware's first Cornerstone Award in 2003. Xavier also serves at the pleasure of the Governor of Delaware on the state's Tourism Advisory Board and is a member of the University of Delaware's HRIM Advisory Board. Past service includes acting as the NRA/NRAEF’s representative to the Multi-Cultural Foodservice & Hospitality Alliance Board of Directors and serving the Riverfront Development Corporation.

Xavier chairs annually the Harry's Hospitality Scholarship Golf Outing benefiting the Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Management Department at the University of Delaware and with David Leo Banks is co-chair of Share Our Strength's Taste of the Nation in Delaware since 1989, which to date has raised over $900,000 for area childhood hunger relief organizations.
J.W. Marriott, Jr. is Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Marriott International, Inc., one of the world's largest lodging companies. He was Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board for 40 years, before stepping down on March 31, 2012. His leadership spans nearly 60 years, and he has taken Marriott from a family restaurant business to a global lodging company with more than 3,800 properties in 72 countries and territories.

Known throughout the industry for his hands-on management style, Mr. Marriott has built a highly regarded culture that emphasizes the importance of Marriott’s people and recognizes the value they bring to the organization. Today, there are approximately 325,000 employees at the company’s headquarters and other offices, and at managed and franchised property locations.

Marriott International is also well known as a great place to work and for its commitment to diversity, social responsibility and community engagement. It has consistently been named to Fortune’s lists of most admired companies, best places to work and top companies for minorities.

At an early age, Mr. Marriott developed a passion for the business and worked in a variety of positions in the Hot Shoppes restaurant chain during his high school and college years. He joined the company full time in 1956 and soon afterward, took over management of Marriott’s first hotel. Mr. Marriott became executive vice president of the company, then its president, in 1964. He was elected chief executive officer in 1972 and chairman of the board in 1985.

Regarded as a lodging innovator, Mr. Marriott began shifting the company’s business model in the late 1970s from hotel ownership to property management and franchising. His strategic decision allowed the company to accelerate its growth and broaden its leadership position. That
transformation culminated in the company’s split in 1993 into Marriott International, a hotel management and franchising company, headed by Mr. Marriott, and Host Marriott International, a hotel ownership company chaired by his brother, Richard Marriott.

Mr. Marriott has also worked to compile the greatest portfolio of lodging brands, ranging from limited service to luxury hotels and resorts. The company operates and franchises hotels and licenses vacation ownership resorts under 17 brands, including Marriott Hotels, The Ritz-Carlton, JW Marriott, Bulgari, EDITION, Renaissance, Autograph Collection, AC Hotels by Marriott, Courtyard, Fairfield Inn & Suites, SpringHill Suites, Residence Inn, TownePlace Suites, Marriott Executive Apartments, Marriott Vacation Club, Grand Residences by Marriott, and The Ritz-Carlton Destination Club.

Mr. Marriott serves on the board of The J. Willard & Alice S. Marriott Foundation. He is the Executive Committee of the World Travel & Tourism Council. Mr. Marriott has served on the Board of Trustees of the National Geographic Society, as director of the United States Naval Academy Foundation, chairman of the President’s Export Council (PEC) and a member of the Secure Borders Open Doors Advisory Committee (SBODAC) and the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board (TTAB). He also recently served as chairman of the Mayo Clinic Capital Campaign, and has served on the Board of General Motors Board.

Mr. Marriott attended St. Albans School in Washington, D.C., earned a B.S. degree in banking and finance from the University of Utah and served as an officer in the United States Navy. He is an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He is married to the former Donna Garff. They are the parents of four children, and they have 15 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.
Gary Price, a dynamic restaurant executive with over 20 years of fast-track leadership experience, joined Corner Bakery Cafe as president in October 2012.

A strong admirer of Corner Bakery Cafe, Gary is excited to be joining such a great brand and well-respected team. Under Gary’s leadership, Corner Bakery Cafe will continue its fast-paced growth track, with plans to double its footprint in the U.S. over the next four years through a combination of franchised and company-owned cafes.

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General Manager – Vicmead Hunt Club & Bidermann Golf Course

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Paula holds her Masters Degree in Business Administration from Palm Beach Atlantic College as well as her Certified Club Manager (received in 1997) and Certified Chief Executive Status (received in 2010) with the Club Manager’s Association of America (CMAA). During her career Paula has been actively involved on both local boards and national committees for CMAA including the International Wine Society, Certification and Chapter Member Services Committees.

Although Paula was born in New England she was raised in Delaware and graduated from St. Elizabeth High School and the University of Delaware. During her years as a student Paula was able to do one of her first internships in the hospitality field at Vicmead and Bidermann and returned many years later as the General Manager.

Paula has been actively involved with student programs since her days at University of Delaware. She was a founding member of the Club Manager’s Association Blue Hen Student Chapter at the university and has worked with internship programs in Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Florida, Pennsylvania and Delaware. She also served on the Alumni Association board for CHEP (College of Human Services and Public Policy – before HRIM moved to the College of Business) and as Secretary for the Hospitality Alumni Association at the University of
Delaware. In 2013, she joined the Board for the Philadelphia & Vicinity Club Manager’s Association and is serving as a Director and the Executive Career Services Chair.

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Thursday, November 14, 2013
3:30 pm
115 Purnell

Fred Dame
President, Guild of Sommeliers Education Foundation

Frederick L. Dame, Master Sommelier brings an impressive blend of experience, expertise and enthusiasm to the world of wine and cuisine. He is the first American to have served as President of the Court of Master Sommeliers Worldwide and assists restaurateurs and hoteliers in developing their wine programs in his role as Director of Prestige Accounts for Beam Wine Estates. He is currently the President of the Guild of Sommeliers Education Foundation.

Dame's ability to transmit his passionate interest in wine make him a natural teacher. One of just seventy-three Americans to have passed the Master Sommelier Examination, Dame was the first to successfully pass all three parts in a single year. This feat and his high score won him the coveted Krug Cup of the British Guild of Sommeliers in 1984. Dame founded the American Branch of The Court of Master Sommeliers in 1986 and has played an active role in the expansion of the Master Sommelier program throughout America since that time.
As Cellarmaster of The Sardine Factory in Monterey, California for twelve years, Dame created a wine list which won the Wine Spectator Grand Award. With the many wine events held in the brick and wine lined Wine Cellar, Dame turned The Sardine Factory into a wine destination restaurant of world renown. He is also active in the culinary arts serving as an Honorary Trustee of The American Academy of Chefs, the honor society of The American Culinary Federation. He was awarded the Antonin Careme Medal and was made a Supreme Knight of the Knights of the Vine in 2000. He has been elected to the prestigious National Restaurant Association College of Diplomates for 2004.

A sixth generation Californian, Dame graduated from Washington and Lee University with a degree in journalism and communications. A European trip after high school piqued his curiosity about wine and food. Since then, he has applied his considerable persuasive skills to the service and appreciation of fine wine.

Thursday, November 21, 2013
3:30 pm
115 Purnell

Tony Wedo
CEO, Buffets, Inc.

Anthony Wedo is a highly successful proven leader and executive in the restaurant industry. With more than 25 years of restaurant industry experience, he possesses a unique background in that he has demonstrated success as a Fortune 50 senior executive, a high growth entrepreneur, and a turnaround CEO.

Wedo was appointed as Chief Executive Officer for Buffets, Inc., the nation’s largest steak-buffet company, in December 2012. Buffets, Inc. currently operates 347 restaurants in 35 states, comprised of 337 steak-buffet restaurants and 10 Tahoe Joe’s Famous Steakhouse restaurants.

Wedo began his career as an entrepreneur prior to joining PepsiCo as part of a new breed of young, entrepreneurial restaurant operators to help the corporate giant create a culture of nimbleness. As one of the first participants in PepsiCo’s Senior Operations Designate program, Wedo was fast
tracked and quickly grew to Vice President and General Manager of the Southeast Division of KFC, overseeing more than 1,200 restaurants, 7,000 employees and $1 billion in revenue.

Following his success at PepsiCo, Wedo founded Mid-Atlantic Restaurant Systems, the largest Area Developer and franchisee of Boston Market. As Chairman, President and CEO, he grew the company over a four-year period to 160 restaurants, generating in excess of $250 million in annualized sales. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year and chosen a top 50 Employer in Pennsylvania.

Following the acquisition of Mid-Atlantic Restaurant Systems by Boston Market, Wedo held the position of Chairman, President and CEO of New World Restaurant Group. New World, with approximately 1,000 units and $750 million in system revenues, operated six unique brands, including Einstein Bros., Noah’s and Manhattan Bagel.

During his tenure with Mid-Atlantic Restaurant Systems, Wedo was recognized with national, state and franchisor awards including: Entrepreneur of the Year and twice runner-up, Top Fifty Employers in Pennsylvania and Area Developer of the Year.

Most recently, Wedo has served as CEO of Mainline Capital Advisors, LLC, which provided M&A, turnaround management, advisory and executive management consulting services to debt investors and private equity sponsors in the restaurant industry. He developed Leadership – The 12 Commandments (a guide for and about leadership), and is a highly sought after speaker on the subject of leadership.

Wedo holds an M.BA. from Cornell University and the Queen’s University of Kingston, Ontario Canada. He has a B.S. from Penn State University. He is also a retired Commissioned Officer in the United States Naval Reserve.