ABSTRACT: Finding a sense of meaning in our work is one of the most potent ways of increasing performance and satisfaction within our career. Studies show that people who find meaning in their work are more than three times as likely to stay with their organizations. They also report 1.7 times higher job satisfaction, and are 1.4 times more engaged at work. While the “What” of a career is interesting, I believe the “Why” is more connected to who we are at our core - what directs us, drives us, fulfills us; what dream is alive inside us. I’d like to share experiences and leadership lessons about finding and building meaning while navigating career choices.

BIOGRAPHY: Stacey Lawson brings 23 years of experience as a business executive and entrepreneur in the areas of finance, clean energy, technology and manufacturing. Stacey served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Ygrene Energy Fund from 2012-2016, spearheading the design and growth of Ygrene’s innovative PACE model for clean energy financing and scaling Ygrene to over $600M in clean energy upgrades. Prior to joining Ygrene, Stacey was a candidate for U.S. Congress in California’s 2nd congressional district where she advocated for property assessed clean energy (PACE) and other leading economic and environmental initiatives, as well as authored “Making More in America: How Restoring America’s Manufacturing Strength Can Help Rebuild Our Middle Class”. As cofounder of the Center for Entrepreneurship & Technology at the UC Berkeley School of Engineering, Stacey was an Industry Fellow, board member, and active advisor to new ventures. Stacey has held executive positions at Seibel Systems and Parametric Technology where she built and grew new businesses to scale, and cofounded InPart Design which was acquired by PTC. Stacey holds a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Washington and a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.