

Overview

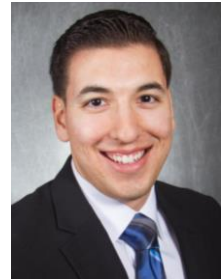
Student Success Coaching is not a tutoring service or crash course on "How to get into Harvard". It is a balanced 1:1 coaching program designed to teach students the value of personal change, goal setting, and building a network.

Lead Instructors



Jacob S. Kashiwagi, PhD

Chairman of the Board | [LinkedIn](#)



Alfredo O. Rivera, PhD

[LinkedIn](#)



Jake Alan Gunnoe, PhD

[LinkedIn](#)



Isaac Kashiwagi, PhD

[LinkedIn](#)



Joseph B. Kashiwagi, PhD Candidate

[LinkedIn](#)



Jacob S. Kashiwagi, PhD

Chairman of the Board | Industrial Engineering | [LinkedIn](#) | Jacob.K@LeadAZ.org

“Quality is never an accident. It is always the result of intelligent effort” (*John Ruskin*)

Professional Achievements

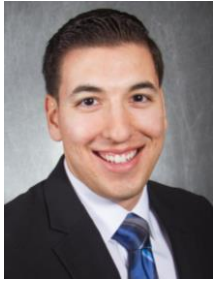
- Managing Director, KSM-Inc
 - Supply Chain Consultant for 15 years
 - 1,000+ projects
 - \$3B+ of procured services
- PhD from Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)
- Creator of the No-Influence Leadership Model
- Two-time best-selling author
- Creator of the Alignment Teaching Model (ATM)
- Mentored 100+ students over 10 years

Personal Development

- Married with 1 son.
- Eagle Scout
- Donates 20 hours a week to supporting LSA
- Wakes up at 4:30am, everyday rain or shine
- Has hiked the second highest mountain in the U.S.
- Can play racquetball with either hand, play the piano and sing



Fun Fact: Dr. Jacob had great leadership skills from a young age. He used to lead 50+ kids to play capture the flag. The park was later renamed after him!



Alfredo O. Rivera, PhD

Co-Founder | Business | Alfredo.R@LeadAZ.org | [LinkedIn](#)

“It is better to simplify and serve, than multiply and manage” (Reece A. Bawden)

Professional Achievements

- Military Service: 6 years (2 tours: Iraq and Afghanistan)
- Management Consultant for 6 years. Assists clients in the procurement and delivery of construction projects and services. Projects:
 - \$21M
 - 150+ (ADEQ, State of Utah, Kamehameha Schools, ON Semiconductor)
- Taught at ASU for 5 years
 - 10 Publications
 - 270 Students, 4.8/5 rating
- Co-developed and taught Master’s-level project management course
 - 30 Industry Projects that resulted in:
 - Cost Avoidance: \$4M+
 - Direct Savings: \$100K in Direct Savings
- Developed and taught 40+ high school programs
 - 1200+ students
 - 4.8/5 rating

Personal Development

- Married for 10 years, (32yrs old)
- Only boy in family (4 sisters)
- Studied entrepreneurship in college
- Loves exercising, racquetball, and family time
- Learned to develop strong family bonds with his parents



Fun Fact: Alfredo is a Grill Master and amateur nutritionist. He will take your taste buds for a wild ride!



Jake Alan Gunnoe, PhD

Co-Founder | Engineering | Marketing | Jake.G@LeadAZ.org | [LinkedIn](#)

“As the physically weak man can make himself strong by careful and patient training, so the man of weak thoughts can make them strong by exercising himself in right thinking.” (*James Allen*)

Professional Achievements

- Education Consultant for Phoenix Union High School District
- Taught for 16 courses at ASU for 4 years
- Lead instructor at LSA:
 - 40+ high school programs
 - 1200+ students
- Management Consultant for 3 years. Worked with:
 - ADEQ, Gordian Group, CH2M, Day & Zimmerman, and PUHSD
- Industry Keynotes: 25
- Two-time best-selling editor & publisher
- Subjects of Expertise:
 - Leadership Development
 - Talent Management & Human Resources
 - Performance Measurement

Personal Background

- Married with 1 daughter
- The youngest of 3 kids (2 older sisters)
- Studied mechanical engineering at ASU
- Loves movies, books, cooking, and rock climbing
- Learned how to manage stress and overcome being a perfectionist



Fun Fact: In high school, Jake wanted to be a comedian. He's been in over 10 performances, loves voice impressions, and is a pretty mean juggler.



Isaac Kashiwagi, PhD

PhD Candidate | Industrial Engineering | [LinkedIn](#) | IsaacKashiwagi@ksm-inc.com

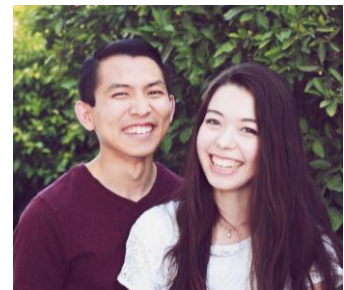
“I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble”
(Helen Keller)

Professional Achievements

- Graduated with Master’s degree summa cum laude in Industrial Engineering at ASU
- Current PhD student through Delft University (Netherlands)
- Has published 8+ academic journal papers, assisted in writing 11 books and have presented at 13 conferences (5 international)
- Management consultant/educator:
 - 8 years
 - 13 countries (including Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, India, Brazil, and Norway)
 - 23 states
- Program manager of the international certification program in the “Best Value Approach”
 - 4 years
 - Educated and certified over 600 professionals

Personal Development

- Married with 1 son.
- Loves Netflix, racquetball, hot Cheetos and sleep!
- Lived in Sao Paulo, Brazil as a teacher where he learned to speak Portuguese
- A true introvert who has learned how to be a socializer, public speaker, teacher, and management consultant



Fun Fact: Isaac is the 2nd youngest of 8 children who grew up in a household with No Rules! He learned at a young age the value of accountability.



Joseph B. Kashiwagi, M.S.

Co-Founder | Industrial Engineering | [LinkedIn](#) | Joseph.k@leadaz.org

“Let me live in my house by the side of the road where the race of men go by. They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong, Wise, foolish - so am I. Then why should I sit in the scorner’s seat Or hurl the cynic’s ban?- Let me live in my house by the side of the road And be a friend to man.” (Sam Walter Foss)

Professional Achievements

- Master’s in Industrial Engineering from Arizona State University
- Directed and organized an annual international conference for 4+ years with 700+ professionals
- Managed a certification program that included 12 of the best roofing contractors in the nation for 4+ years
- Taught for 7+ years
- Educated and presented to over 1500+ students all over Arizona from over 20+ high schools in 40+ high school programs
- Assists in educating and presenting to 1000+ professionals a year worldwide in project management and business administration.

Personal Development

- Born and raised in Mesa, Arizona, as the youngest of eight children (2 girls & 6 boys)
- Married with 4 kids (1 boy, 3 girls)
- Loves to help, interact, and be around people!
- Learned to develop people skills, overcome shyness, and understand what is most important in life!



Fun Fact: Joseph was nominated Prom King at his high school due to the fact that he stood out as one of the only Asians at his school.

Support Staff

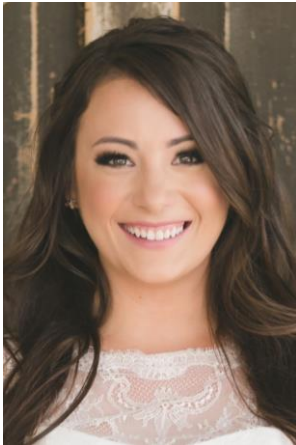
Our support staff attend workshops, events, and provide additional resources for our coaching students. Students may request coaching calls with support staff at any time.



David G. Krassa, M.S.



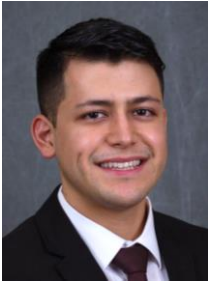
Nguyen Le, PhD



Kayla M. Krassa



Yutian Chen, PhD



David G. Krassa, M.S.

Co-Founder | Justice Studies | [LinkedIn](#) | David.K@LeadAZ.org

“You have a typical crazy life. Between daydreaming and friends and growing up in a small town, you tend to laugh at life even when it can get tough. You've learned to be confident and stand up for yourself” *(from a personality quiz online)*

Professional Achievements

- Created and coordinated a study abroad internship for 110+ of the top 1% engineering students from Brazil
 - 4.7/5 Evaluation
 - Documented stress decreased: 23%
 - 89% of students were satisfied with the program [11% “neutral” / 0% dissatisfied]
 - 99% said the program improved their personal lives [1% “neutral” / 0% dissatisfied]
 - Taught over 130 students from China (online)
 - 307 Sessions
 - 4.95/5 Parent satisfaction
 - Successfully coordinated the first ever coalition of 5+ social justice organizations
 - Created 8 unique education seminars for university students in Peru
 - Editor and content creator for 3 different organizations’ websites and social media
-

Personal Development

- Born and raised in Mexico (single-parent home)
- Married with 2 kids (1 boy, 1 girl)
- Learned the value of hard work from a young age
- Helped family purchase their first home



Fun Fact: David was ranked 14 out of the top 3000 high school chess players but has since switched to home-workout videos and watching comedy specials.



Kayla M. Krassa

B.S. | Communications | [LinkedIn](#) | KaylaKrassa@gmail.com

“Work and live to serve others, to leave the world a little better than you found it and garner for yourself as much peace of mind as you can. This is happiness.” *(David Sarnoff)*

Professional Achievements

- High school valedictorian
- Curriculum Coordinator for the top Honors Course at Barrett, the Honors College
 - 1,200+ students
 - 4.99 out of 5 course rating
 - +80% of students reported an improvement in their personal lives
- Events Coordinator at a top Wedding Planning agency
 - 3 years
 - 200+ weddings
 - Opened and managed the restoration of a new venue
- Operations Assistant at restoration and construction company
 - Oversaw 7+ project managers
 - Ensured the delivery of up to 20 new projects a week

Personal Development

- Married with 2 kids (1 boy, 1 girl)
- Born in Michigan to a hard-working family. Has 1 older sister
- First in family to graduate college
- Overcame feelings of inadequacy



Fun Fact: Both in high school and in college, Kayla wanted to dance so much that she created her own club. Twice!



Nguyen Le, PhD

PhD | Construction Management | ntle5@asu.edu

“Being a professional means doing your job on the days you don't feel like doing it” (*David Halberstram*)

Professional Achievements

- Industry Relations Coordinator for the Del E. Webb School of Construction at ASU
- Procurement consultant for large company in Arizona. Results:
 - Has saved them \$270K
 - Found funding for a new roof
- Student leader for 5 engineering student organizations
 - 15+ awards, \$15K+ scholarship, \$20K+ grants received
 - Hosted 10+ workshops for 200+ high school and college students, 9.7/10 rating
- Mentors 20 of the top Southeast Asia college students
- Interned for 4 U.S. companies in both U.S. and Vietnam

Personal Development

- Born and raised in Vietnam, moved to the US in 2007 by himself
- Married with 1 son.
- Learned how to network and make new friends wherever he goes
- Loves racquetball, playing guitar, and making / collecting computer keyboards.



Fun Fact: Nguyen has only dated two people in his life, and the latter became his now fiancé. He was single for 8 years before he met her.



Yutian Chen, PhD

PhD Candidate | Construction Management | Yutian.C@LeadAZ.org

You are the only one who can control your life and determine where you want to go and who you want to be.

Professional Achievements

- Hosted 8 leadership workshops for local K-12, college students, and IFMA members:
 - 350+ attendees
 - 9.4/10 attendees rating
- Helped 30 college students intern for 3 different companies
- LSA Student Chapter Graduate Advisor at ASU
- Graduate Advisor for the Chinese Student Wellness Organization
 - Create Wellness Program for Chinese student at ASU to help them develop healthy habits
 - 89 members aims
 - Host 2 workshops
 - 5 outdoor activities
 - 120+ attendees

Personal Development

- Married with 1 son.
- Born and raised in China (only child)
- Overcame language issues and culture gap to live a better life
- Loves working out, especially night-jogs at the Tempe Town Lake



Fun Fact: Before Yutian was 23, she never went aboard. The first country she ever travelled to is U.S where she has been living for 5 years. Sometimes you just need courage!