

Our Success Coaches

Our program is supported by a team of five distinguished success coaches, each holding a PhD and boasting over a decade of experience within the Leadership Society of Arizona. These professionals have also excelled in various professional settings. Each coach brings their unique expertise and personality to the table, ensuring that every student can connect with a mentor who resonates with them. Our ultimate aim is for each student to find a coach they feel comfortable confiding in, sharing their life experiences, and navigating challenges with. Rest assured, our coaches are exceptionally equipped to guide students in developing successful habits and fostering a fulfilling life across all areas.



Jacob Kashiwagi, PhD

Supply Chain | [LinkedIn](#)



Jake Gunnoe, PhD

Marketing | [LinkedIn](#)



Isaac Kashiwagi, PhD

Industrial Engineering | [LinkedIn](#)



Alfredo Rivera, PhD

Business | [LinkedIn](#)



Joseph Kashiwagi, PhD

Project Management | [LinkedIn](#)



Jacob S. Kashiwagi, PhD

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

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

Personal 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 12 years

Personal Development

- Married with 1 son and 1 daughter
- 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.



Fun Fact: Dr. Jacob had great leaderships 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 | [LinkedIn](#) | Alfredo.R@LeadAZ.org

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

Personal 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.
 - \$21M with 150+ projects (ADEQ, State of Utah, 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+, and Direct Savings: \$100K in Direct Savings
- Developed and taught 40+ high school programs: 1200+ students and 4.8/5 rating

Personal Development

- Married with 1 daughter
- 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’s favorite movies are Hallmark! He loves to enjoy an evening with his family and shed a tear or two over a good story!!



Jake Gunnoe, PhD

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

“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)

Personal 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 and 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 Development

- Married with 2 daughters
- 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

Project Analyst | Industrial Engineering | [LinkedIn](#) | Isaac.K@LeadAZ.org

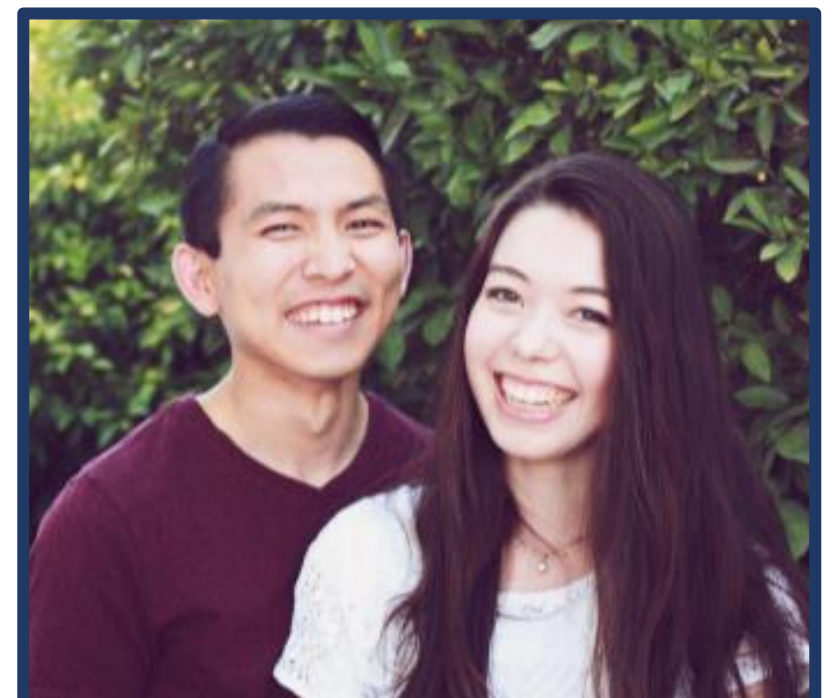
“I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble” (Helen Keller)

Personal Achievements:

- Graduated with a PhD through Delft University (Netherlands)
- Has published 8+ academic journal papers, assisted in writing 11 books and have presented at 13 conferences (5 international)
- International consultant/educator: 8 years, 13 countries (including Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, India, Brazil, and Norway), and 23 states
- One of his core specialties is in setting up simple, meaningful performance metrics and measurement systems.
 - 400+ projects valuing at more than \$100M
- Educated and certified over 600 professionals over 4 years
- Lead instructor at LSA: 40+ high school programs and 1200+ students

Personal Development

- Married with 2 sons and 1 daughter
- 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 Kashiwagi, PhD

Project Manager | Project Management | [LinkedIn](#) | Joseph.K@LeadAZ.org

“Let me live in my house by the side
of the road And be a friend to man.”
(Sam Walter Foss)

Personal Achievements:

- PhD in Business Administration from SKEMA Business School
- Spent 11 years as a project management consultant
- Directed and organized an international conferences for 8+years with 2000+ professionals
- Managed a certification program that included 12 of the best roofing contractors in the nation for 4+ 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
- Married with 5 kids (1 boy, 4 girls)
- Loves to help, interact, and be around people!
- Learned to develop people skills, overcome social anxiety, and find career opportunities.



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