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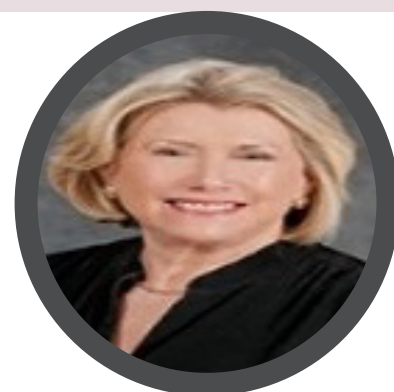
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THE NEW “SOLUTIONS ECONOMY” AND HOW IT WORKS GLOBALLY TO SOLVE NUTRITION AND HEALTH SOCIETAL PROBLEMS

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Rising obesity, food insecurity, a lack of quality education and safe water for the poor in the developing world are some of the global society's entrenched problems. Whose job is it anyway to solve these problems? For decades, the answer to the question has been simple: government. Today we live in a different world where a new economy has emerged. The new “solutions economy” represents not just an economic opportunity, but a new strategy for solving many of the global nutrition and health problems. This presentation explores how, in today's new “solutions economy,” solving social problems is becoming a multidisciplinary exercise that challenges businesses, governments, philanthropists, and social enterprises to think holistically about their role and their relation to others, not as competitors but as collaborators serving as many stakeholders as possible.



Biography

Sandra Poirier has been employed at Middle Tennessee State University, USA, since 2005. She received her BSc and MSc degrees in Family and Consumer Sciences from Florida State University and University of Arizona respectively. Her Doctorate was received in 1998 from Florida International University in Miami, Florida with her dissertation in the area of health-related quality of life. Prior to coming to MTSU, she taught for three years at Zayed University in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Additionally, she has worked at the University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Florida International University, Florida Atlantic University, University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Service, and the Provincial Government of Alberta, Canada. She has more than 15 years of international teaching experience working in culturally diverse environments. Her strengths include creating innovative educational programs with a focus on food and culture, identifying appropriate outreach efforts to solve community problems, and empowering students for successful careers. She has been recognized for her ability to create and teach online courses, work as an advisor for student organizations, and creating positive educational environments for optimal learning. She has published over 25 journal articles and been invited to speak in Malaysia, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, Austria, Puerto Rico, and the Andros Island in the Caribbean.

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