

# MID-CAREER CONFERENCE

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 • 8:15 am – 2:30 pm

Events Center, 20 Commerce Drive, 1st Floor, Cranford, NJ



## AGENDA

**8:15 am – 9:00 am**

### Registration and Networking

*(Continental Breakfast served)*

**9:00 am – 9:05 am**

### Welcome

*Margaux Howard, FVP, Capital Markets & Commercial Banking, Valley Bank*

### Strategic Thinking and Decision-Making in the Age of AI

*George Wright, President, WrightOne Consulting*

*As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly integrated into banking operations and decision processes, professionals must strengthen their ability to think strategically and exercise sound judgment. This session explores how bankers can combine emerging technologies with disciplined strategic and critical thinking to analyze complex situations, manage risk, and make effective decisions in a rapidly evolving environment.*

### Owning Your Style

*Professor Susan J. Stehlik, Clinical Emerita Professor, Management Communication Program, NYU Stern School of Business*

*With the the challenges of tech, the human side of management is becoming equally more important. Owning a personal distinctive leadership presence is essential to achieving your selected goals and leaving a distinctive professional legacy. In this session, you will self assess the dynamics of your professional environment, how you present yourself and values within that environment. We will also consider strategies to navigate those dynamics and project your values with clarity.*

**10:55 am – 11:05 am**

### Networking Break

### Taking a Strategic Approach to Your Career in a Changing Banking Industry

*George Wright, President, WrightOne Consulting*

*Mid-career professionals often reach pivotal moments where expectations expand, roles evolve, and the industry itself continues to change. As technologies such as artificial intelligence reshape how work is performed, bankers must take a more proactive role in understanding these tools and developing the skills needed to remain effective. This session explores how professionals can approach their careers with greater strategic intent, strengthening their adaptability, technological awareness, and long-term value within their organizations.*

**11:55 pm – 12:45 pm**

### Networking Lunch

**Continued on Reverse**

## **Technology and Innovation: Stablecoin Demystified for the Banking Industry**

*Cal Hogan, Senior Manager, Assurance, Wolf & Company, P.C.*

*Stablecoin demystified for the banking industry provides retail bankers with a practical understanding of stablecoin implications. This session offers a risk-based roadmap for deployment or contingency planning as the digital currency landscape evolves.*

## **Empowering Leadership**

*Steve Vitale, CRC, ORM, Executive Vice President, FinPro*

*Your company should train its employees and build an inclusive culture around the lessons of America's great leaders. In an environment of ever-changing generations, it is extremely important to lead effectively, and people are the most important element of banking. This presentation will discuss how to build your leadership skills as true leadership is not a singularly definable thing. It is a collection of traits utilized in a given circumstance. However, we have found similar principles are utilized by the best leaders in our industry and this presentation will emphasize the necessary traits you need to be an effective leader.*

**2:30 pm**

**Program Concludes**