

March 2023

Welcome to this edition of *Fueling Business Growth*! We are pleased to provide you with the latest update on Penn's supplier diversity and inclusion program and invite you to read more about our initiatives.

Save the Date - Penn Supplier Diversity Forum & Expo

Mark your calendars for this year's Penn Supplier Diversity Forum & Expo, which will be held on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 from 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Now in its sixth year, this event will be held at the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts and will bring together University buyers and local and diverse suppliers and organizations where they will showcase contributions to practices and programs that highlight diversity and economic inclusion at Penn.

Registration will open in April.



Mission and Core Values Drive Company's Success

Neta Scientific, Inc. has been working with Penn for more than 15 of the 22 years the family-owned company has been in business. Garnetta Sanders, the business's Co-Founder and CEO has been working beside her husband Winfred since the company was started. Garnetta is joined by her daughter Branetta Toatley, Neta's Vice President of Fulfillment, as the women at the top of this business's organization chart.

According to Garnetta, one of the reasons why this woman- and minority-owned business has succeeded is because of the company's mission and its core values; integrity, mutual respect, flexibility, social responsibility, and innovation. "The mission has not changed since day one. We are constantly aware we want to dispel the myth that diversity suppliers cannot compete. It keeps us motivated." Branetta added that the company employees also help the company stay on course. "They keep the energy level high and keep us focused."

What has been exciting for Neta Scientific is the minority-majority partnership established with MilliporeSigma and Penn last year. "When we first started working with Penn, we began with just Corning products," Garnetta explained. "With this new partnership, our business has grown as we have been exposed to new customers at the University. Relationships can grow and do change." Branetta's and Garnetta's advice to businesses looking to work with the University is straightforward. "We continue to develop the relationship with Penn. We have found going on site can be valuable as well as having our presence known to our customers."

Pictured below is the Neta Scientific team during its annual sales and marketing meeting held last month. It was the first time the employees and many of the company's vendors had come together in one place in two years.





Note: In honor of Women's History Month, you can read more about Garnetta Sanders on Penn Procurement Services' LinkedIn page later this month.