



Asian Pacific Islanders for Professional and Community Advancement

Atlanta Chapter

<http://www.apca-att.org>

EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE
August 14, 2008

AT&T Global Business Services Speaker Event Featuring Greg Fike Vice President of AT&T Premier Client Group Remote Sales

The U.S. economic environment and consumer markets are changing. Worldwide financial situations are unpredictable. What will be the impact from these factors to you, your job, and your daily life? As changes occur to you in the midst of your professional career, how are you going to respond and how are you going to make yourself ready? People may not realize that they should be or are already looking for these answers. This event provides an educational environment to listen to a successful career that has weathered the challenges and opportunities that have come.

On August 14, 2008 in Atlanta, GA, APCA - Atlanta Chapter (Asian Pacific Islanders for Professional and Community Advancement), HACEMOS (The Hispanic/Latino Employee Association of AT&T), and LEAGUE (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered United Employees of AT&T) jointly hosted a Global Business Services (GBS) speaker event. Greg Fike, GBS Vice President of AT&T Premier Client Group Remote Sales, was the featured speaker on the topic of "Managing your career in the midst of change." This topic is especially significant as AT&T deals with post merger changes and its employees take ownership of their career planning.

During his talk, Greg shared with the audience of his own personal career experiences. His career had challenges and opportunities with constant career relocations. A surprise career challenge occurred after achieving his 5-year plan, providing excellent customer service during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and being honored for his work. He was feeling on top of the world but unexpectedly found out that he did not have a position during the AT&T and BellSouth post merger. He felt let down. He realized he needed to take control of his career, and seized an opportunity that placed him in his current position.

"Your own skill, your own plan and your own confidence are your personal value and asset. It belongs to you but not to anyone else," Greg emphasized the point through his talk. He also provided his own career planning advice and links to some HR tools. Always have a 5-year career plan and always be ready to change are Greg's advice to the captivated audience.



N. Chu, Greg Fike (GBS speaker), D. Cirgenski and R. Walter

During this lunchtime event the audience was composed of several business units from IT, Technology Planning, Wireline Operations Support, Wireless, and Customer Billing; and from previous companies Cingular, Legacy AT&T, and Legacy BellSouth. This was also an opportunity to see new faces. In the following picture, two perspective members join the discussion and membership to APCA – Atlanta Chapter. With this community support, our Chapter will grow and become more active.



Some Board Members from APCA – Atlanta Chapter with New Members