## Valinda Scarbro Kennedy IBM Global University Programs Midwest Program Manager



In March 2016, Valinda joined the IBM Global University Programs team working with universities, code schools, faculty and students to provide access to industry resources to help bridge the gap between academic programs and the skills needed in the global market place. Working with institutions to implement programs to benefit students with hands-on access to IBM's cloud free including access to Watson technologies, data & analytics, security and other hot technology areas is a typical day in working with traditional and new academic leaders.

During her 29 year career at IBM, Valinda Scarbro Kennedy has held a variety of engineering, sales, services and management positions. These assignments include:

- Global program manager
- Ecosystem development leader
- Market segmentation and development
- Disaster recovery planning and consulting
- Technical sales and support
- Business development and sales experience with a focus on services solutions
- Management of sales specialist, technical architects and business development executives

Degrees include an Associate of Science Degree in Computer Science and Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics from West Virginia State University in 1987 and 1988. Activities include being a senior usher at Logan Street Baptist Church, Illinois USA Swim Stroke and Turn Official, Batavia Kiwanis Member, Monday Night Ladies Bowling Team Captain and on the advisory board for the Chicago Women's Networking Group and annual organizer of the IBM CWNG Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event. Advisory Board member for Northern Illinois University Marketing Program, University of Illinois Chicago Minority Engineering Recruitment and Retention Program, Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering new Analytics Class, IBM mentor with American Corporate Partners to mentor veterans and a recognized IBM Voices member. Wife to British Citizen Steven Kennedy and mother to champion runner Adam and violinist Alex Kennedy.