



J. Gerald Suarez, Ph.D.

Dr. Suarez is an internationally recognized authority on leadership development, systems thinking and design, interactive planning, innovation and total quality management. He is a premier educator, speaker and consultant, dedicated to bridging the gap between theory and practice to create pragmatic innovation and value creation.

Dr. Suarez worked at the White House during a span of over 11 years, serving with distinction in direct support of two Presidents of the United States. During his tenure at the White House, he supported numerous presidential missions worldwide and was a frequent traveler aboard Air Force One.

He was Director of Presidential Quality, the first post in the institutions' history. He led efforts to redesign and enhance the operational readiness of the White House Communications Agency, the White House Military Office and the Executive Office of the President.

Currently, Dr. Suarez is Professor of the Practice in Systems Thinking and Design, and Fellow of the Center for Leadership, Innovation and Change at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business. He also teaches in the undergraduate, Executive MBA and corporate programs, and is an Executive Coach for senior corporate leaders. From 2005-2009, he served as the Executive Director of the multidisciplinary Quality Enhancement Systems and Teams (QUEST) Honors Program, between the Business, Computer Science and Engineering Schools.

Outside the University of Maryland, Dr. Suarez has traveled the world as an educator - serving as a Visiting Professor at the Asturias Business School in Spain, delivering corporate education in Shanghai and Tianjin, China, and designing and leading an accelerated MBA train-the-trainer program to faculty at the Islamic University of Gaza in Cairo, Egypt. Inside the United States, he collaborates with Villanova School of Business and the Center for Organizational Dynamics at the University of Pennsylvania.

Beyond of the classroom Dr. Suarez consults with executive teams at companies, such as CSX, Lockheed Martin, Siemens, SAIC, Anne Arundel Healthcare System, and government agencies such as Sandia National Laboratories and others inside the defense and intelligence community.

To recognize the contribution of his work, Dr. Suarez has received various awards ranging from the White House Distinguished Service Award and the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service Medal, to the 49th Jovellanos Award and the 4th Dali Original Sculpture, which have also awarded to King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia. These awards are to showcase individuals who make a significant contribution to the advancement of social responsibility in Spain. Dr. Suarez has been consistently recognized as a Top 15% faculty member at the Smith School, where he won the Prestigious Allen J. Krowe Award for Teaching Excellence in 2008. He was also named 'Most Distinguished Faculty Member of the Decade' by the National Graduate School for the decade 1993-2003.