



Claudia J. Parker, EdD

Claudia J. Parker is CEO and co-owner of PHRST & Company, Inc., a human resource management outsourcing firm working nationally and internationally. As CEO of PHRST, Dr. Parker provides general oversight of the company's financial and managerial operations, advice to PHRST professional service teams and advisory service for the company's president and executives to develop business. At the same time, she brings her expertise to PHRST clients in the operational areas of domestic and international marketing, and internal and external communications.

In August of 2011 Dr. Parker completed a successful and progressive 15-year career as national director – internal communications for the international accounting firm of Grant Thornton LLP. In this capacity she strategized, planned, directed, and coordinated dissemination of internal information throughout the firm personally or through organization unit heads. She served as a primary resource for firmwide communications from the firm's senior leadership team. At the same time, she served as the director of international marketing for the U.S. firm where she was the primary liaison with the firm's International Business Center directors and national managing partner of International Client Services to plan, direct, and coordinate the international marketing of the firm's products and services with Grant Thornton International member firms.

Dr. Parker began her career in 1973 in the Bristol, PA, public schools system where she directed implementation and regulation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. For the Polk County, FL, school system she was an instructor and managed student evaluation, class reporting, and course outlining. In the Garland, TX, school system she was an instructor, instructional administrator and later district assistant director responsible for administration of computerized instructional systems.

In 1987 Dr. Parker joined the international accounting firm Coopers & Lybrand, now PricewaterhouseCoopers where, as group director – marketing, she was responsible for marketing and public relations for nine CPA offices serving the southeastern region of the U.S., and was marketing liaison for Latin American countries and the Caribbean. Being multi-lingual with insight into bi-cultural business in South America, she edited various business internationally-oriented outlook periodicals for the firm.

In 1996 Dr. Parker joined Grant Thornton and served as the regional director of marketing for the Southeast Regional offices, directing firm marketing programs throughout the southeastern U.S. Later she served as director of marketing for the Mexico, Central, South American and Caribbean firms of the international organization.

Dr. Parker has extensive practical and theoretical background and experience in training and development as well as international relations, strategic planning, organization development, business planning, and top-level liaison with government, public and private organizations. Her multi-lingual fluency, multi-cultural insight, worldwide computer interaction and presentation expertise bring her into new markets to serve as a catalyst for prospects and clients as well as a network resource for business development.

Claudia earned her doctorate in administration, linguistics and secondary and higher education from Texas A&M University, her masters degree in linguistics and English to Speakers of Other Languages from the University of Pittsburgh, and her B.A. in linguistics and Spanish from the Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Parker is active in humanitarian activities such as supporting humane societies, Board of Directors involvement for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and USAID educational support to Mexico and the Democratic Republic of Congo. She travels internationally, studies international business-cultural developments, continues language study, explores archeological sites around the world and enjoys preparing fine international cuisine.