The Top 100 Chief Operating Officers of 2022

Alumni Spotlight is pleased to announce The Top 100 Chief Operating Officers of 2022. These executive team members are in charge of implementing strategy, managing change, and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the organizations they serve. This year’s awardees span across nearly all industries including education, information technology, food and beverage production, healthcare, civil engineering, tourism, financial services and more. While their responsibilities vary, their overall goal remains the same – to make the company’s vision become a reality. Two of the world’s most well-known COOs, Tim Cook formerly serving in the role with Apple and Sheryl Sandberg of Facebook, are credited with being the key driving force behind their company’s successes. Their track records are an inspiration to many and provide proof that a highly proficient COO will propel a business forward.

80. Mélange Matthews
Chief Operating Officer & Executive Vice President, Public Health Institute
University of California – Berkeley

Mélange Matthews is the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Public Health Institute. She first joined the organization in 2009. The Public Health Institute (PHI) is an independent, nonprofit organization, and one of the largest and most comprehensive public health organizations in the nation dedicated to promoting health, well-being, and quality of life for people throughout California and around the world. Matthews brings a wealth of expertise in management, planning, organizational support, and policy analysis to PHI. She is focused in part on ensuring PHI’s operational excellence and internal efficiency. The organization has more than doubled in size and funding as a result of the pandemic, which has increased the operational lift. Matthews has overseen and implemented every change and had a direct positive impact on patient outcomes.

With over two decades of public health experience, Matthews has served as the director and board chair of a number of local and statewide organizations. Her previous roles include acting director and chief operating officer for the San Francisco Mayor’s Office of Community Development, senior legislative planner for the San Francisco Department of Public Health, board member of the Regional Poison Control Center and member of the California Senate Medicaid Blue Ribbon Committee. As a consultant, Matthews has provided strategic planning and organizational support to foundations and nonprofits nationally. She has also taught critical thinking and contemporary health issues at San Francisco State University. Matthews holds master’s degrees in public health and city regional planning, both from the University of California – Berkeley.