

LA ROCHE UNIVERSITY 2020 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT



Robert Koehler '93, M.S. Associate Partner IBM

Robert Koehler '93 is a senior client partner executive for IBM, where he works to improve multiple corporations' operations and profitability by leveraging disruptive technologies to drive business transformation. He is responsible for contractual cost, schedules and deliverables, and leads the functional and business units supporting these corporate clients.

For 37 years Mr. Koehler has focused on creating long-term business value for corporate clients through leveraging technology, improving processes and maximizing the human performance of business segments. Previously he worked for Accenture, PricewaterhouseCoopers and Oracle Corporation.

In 2000 Mr. Koehler founded Plan B Inc., a private business consulting practice with offices in North Carolina, California and South Africa. The business saw exponential growth in the first three years and won 10 multiyear contracts with organizations including Veterans Affairs, Toyota, Exelon, Smurfit-Stone and The Regence Group. In 2006 he stepped down after arranging another two years of business, ensuring all 20 employees time to complete work and transition to new endeavors.

His extensive volunteer work consists of teaching hundreds of class sessions in corporate settings and professional institutions to help others develop leadership, management and business operation skills. He has assisted veterans transitioning to post-military careers as well as individuals without degrees who want better jobs. In addition he has worked with historic black colleges to coach students to develop and deliver community service projects.

Mr. Koehler said his volunteer inspiration comes from Jesus Christ.

"My striving to be a servant-leader has blossomed with organizations whose greatest asset is in empowering their people," he said. "Focusing on the growth of individuals so they may flourish and achieve their full potential has inspired me to lead."

Mr. Koehler graduated from La Roche University with a bachelor's degree in administration and management. He went on to receive his master's degree in management with an emphasis on project management from Boston University in 2009.

His son, Michael Koehler, graduated from La Roche in 2017 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and now works as a business development coordinator/associate scientist with Gateway Analytical.

