

LAURA WONTROP KLAUSER

Detroit, Michigan ♦ www.carsandchocolates.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Program Manager and Engineer specializing in efficiency improvement by building and leading collaborative teams. Proven success in a high stakes, quick moving, high stress environment with six 24 hour race wins and five season championships.

CAREER

GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION, NA Product Development

Sports Car Racing Program Manager (Detroit, MI)

01/21-Present

- ◆ Lead the Sports Car Racing Competition Engineering group at GM that manages the development and support of GM's Sports Car Racing programs including the Corvette Z06 GT3.R (2024 launch) and Cadillac V-Series.R racing in IMSA Weathertech and the World Endurance Championship (WEC) with growth into other GT3 series coming.
- ◆ Responsible for establishing the Sports Car Racing team at General Motors, which grew from one employee in 2021 to 24 in 2024.
- ◆ Developed and **sold to leadership** a Sports Car Racing Vision for GM Motorsports Competition Engineering that selects programs to maximize global exposure within budget constraints.
- ◆ Established relationships with teams, sanctioning bodies, constructors, suppliers, promoters, and competitors to create new opportunities for GM exposure and program success.
- ◆ Coordinate the design and development of the racecars with constructors and teams. **Negotiate and write contracts** and ensure teams have what they need to be successful and teams properly represent the brand. **Manage the multi-million dollar budget.**
- ◆ Represent GM on sanctioning bodies Manufacturer Councils to protect GM's interests and help grow the sport. Collaborate with other manufacturers to create joint proposals for improvements to the sport.
- ◆ Serve as spokesperson for racing programs participating in interviews and attending customer touchpoint events to promote brand enthusiasm.
- ◆ Create opportunities for tech transfer between racing and production to improve production tools and processes.
- ◆ Cadillac V-Series.R **won all IMSA Championships in its 2023 launch year.** Corvette C8.R **won Le Mans and WEC Championship in 2023.**

Cadillac and Camaro GT4.R Racing Program Manager (Detroit, MI)

06/16-12/20

- ◆ Cadillac DPi-V.R program **won the Rolex 24 in 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020** and claimed **various IMSA championships in 2017-2021**. Also managed the Camaro GT4.R program 2018-2022 and the ATS-V.R program 2016-2017.

Vehicle Noise, Vibration, and Harshness Integration Engineer (Milford, MI)

09/13-06/16

Chassis Suspension Design Release Engineer (Warren, MI)

07/11-09/13

Advanced Engineering Operations Engineer (Warren, MI)

09/10-7/11

Vehicle Definition and Balance Engineer (Warren, MI)

07/08-09/10

EDUCATION

RENSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, B.S. **Cum Laude** in Mechanical Engineering

May 2008 – Troy, NY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, M.S. Global Automotive and Manufacturing Engineering

May 2014 – Ann Arbor, MI

EXTRACURRICULAR LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

FORMULA SAE DYNAMIC EVENTS COORDINATOR

09/09-Present

- ◆ Lead team of volunteers responsible for the dynamic events portion of the collegiate design project Formula SAE Michigan Competition.
- ◆ Participated in Formula SAE as a student serving as Team Leader in 2007 when team placed 9th in the Michigan competition.

SAE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER

01/24-Present

SAE DETROIT SECTION BOARD (~8000 members) – Section Chair 2018

10/08-12/20

WOMEN IN MOTORSPORT and WOMEN IN MOTORSPORTS NORTH AMERICA MEMBER

07/21-Present

HONORS AND AWARDS

WORLD ENDURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR

2023

MERCY HIGH SCHOOL (Baltimore, MD) MCAULEY AWARD TO AN OUTSTANDING ALUMNA

2020

SAE INTERNATIONAL TOP CONTRIBUTOR CLASS

2019

SAE DETROIT SECTION OUTSTANDING YOUNGER MEMBER

2012

RPI PHALANX HONOR SOCIETY MEMBER

Inducted 02/08