

Ment2Grow

POOL OF MENTORS

2018/2019

Gill Maguire

COMPANY: OxfordSM

POSITION: Consultant

BIO: Gill is an international marketer with start-up experience in the UK, Europe and the US. Having acquired an MBA from Warwick Business School, Gill has worked in financial services, telecoms and technology and has helped to build the First Direct brand in the UK and create a challenger mobile brand, Vodafone, in Europe.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Strategic Marketing, Brand Strategy, Insight and Analytics, Customer Development, New Product and Channel Development, Marketing Innovation, Digital Marketing, Integrated Marketing, Marketing Planning, Marketing Management and Project Management

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gillmaguire/>



Stuart Watkins

COMPANY: Zenoo

POSITION: CEO

BIO: Stuart currently serves as CEO and Founder at Zenoo, delivering digital on-boarding and self-service capabilities into forward thinking financial institutions. Previously, he has held senior leadership roles, such a Chief Information Technology Officer at 4finance in the UK, as well as CTO at CashPlay.Co, CEO at IFlow Solutions, CEO and Founder of C2D in Prague, and more.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Software Development, Software Project Management, Agile Methodologies, Leadership, Outsourcing, Business Development, Pre-sales, Entrepreneurship

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stuartpwatkins/>



Will Rust

COMPANY: Ogilvy & Mather

POSITION: ECD

BIO: Having dropped out of school at age 9, Will has hopped from agency to agency until reaching Ogilvy. Since his first ECD position, every agency he has led has topped their national creative rankings, winning Agency of the Year titles across the board. He also helped make Ogilvy Ukraine the „Most effective agency in Europe,“ according to the 2012 Effie global index. He has won multiple creative awards in every discipline at every major award show.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Interactive Advertising, Concept Development, Digital Marketing, Integrated Marketing, Brand Development

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/willrust/>



Don Seymour

COMPANY: IBM Europe

POSITION: Digital Process Automation Sales Executive

BIO: Don Seymour is currently the Sales Director, IBM Europe for Digital Business Automation. Don is an accomplished global leader with extensive sales and international management experience. While his career at IBM started in 1999, Don has worked for multiple divisions of IBM across various functions such as application implementation services, product development, software sales, and sales management.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Sales Territory and Account Planning, Channel Partner Acquisition and Program Development, Process Automation Solutions and General Sales Enablement.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/donald-seymour-8502b47/>



Drew Garner

COMPANY: Accolade, Inc.

POSITION: Senior Vice President Product Development

BIO: As a Senior VP for Accolade. Drew is responsible for all IT, Support, Customer Technical Implementations, Quality and Cloud Automation Tooling and Public cloud strategy and utilization. On top of these responsibilities, Drew founded, built out and manages the Prague offices which includes over a dozen teams and functions the majority of which are currently focused on Services and Platform development, working on the next generation Healthcare Platform all hosted in the Public Cloud and on AWS.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Architecting, visualizing and the building of teams that specialize on coding, operating, designing and architecting online application Platforms, mobile apps and all of the interconnecting technology that enables them to service millions of customers across the globe for a variety of business functions.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr3wgarner/>



Jakub Plas

COMPANY: STRV

POSITION: Head of European Sales Operations

BIO: Jakub works to build software products to unlock new opportunities for businesses. He has worked in various capacities at STRV for the past 5 years. His experience includes being an advisor at Rapid, Co-Founder of Startup Fund, Co-Founder of Ordr, Social Media Marketing Coordinator and Front-end Developer at FG Forrest a.s., and more.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Marketing Strategy, Marketing Communications, Mobile Applications, Social Media, Graphic Design, Web Development

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jakub-plas/>



Mike O'Mara

COMPANY: IBM Watson IoT

POSITION: Partnerships Development Executive

BIO: Mike is currently a Partnerships Development Executive at IBM's Watson IoT group, building an ecosystem of technology and services companies to complement IBM's strategic offerings. From Startups, to Scale-ups, to Multinationals Mike engages management teams to establish and mature market driven partnerships. Over the past three decades Mike has experienced multiple technology driven transformations across many industries. As each of these shifts have occurred they bring new business and technology approaches, but to be successful, companies must also ingrain fundamental business and sales development programs into their organizations. Mike is a passionate strategist with vast international experience, consistently innovating and applying pragmatic approaches to implement sales and business growth programs.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Strategic Alliances, International Business & Culture Adaptation, Client Driven Sales Management, Growth Programs Development & Execution, IT/OT Convergence, High Performance Team Management, Executive Communications & Relationships, Go to Market Strategy & Planning, IT Management Consulting

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/michaelomara1/>



Rodney Farmer

COMPANY: PCI Security Standards Council

POSITION: Member Board of Advisors

BIO: Rodney Farmer has more than 20 years' international experience in technology driven financial services. He has spent the past decade in senior leadership roles leading card issuing and acquiring technology outsourcing for NASDAQ, NYSE and privately held organizations in Europe and the US. He has a proven track record in achieving operational and financial targets, M&A integrations of technology and operations, geographical expansion and introducing game-changing financial technology products and services across EMEA including deployment from the UK, throughout CEE, Egypt, Greece, Mozambique, Pakistan, Russia, Turkey to Ukraine while living in Budapest, Vienna and Prague. Prior to moving to Budapest in 1997, Rodney was in retail and investment banking in the US after beginning his career as a bank regulator. He is passionate about leading teams to apply technological solutions that improve customer experience, efficiency, processes, innovation, resilience and overall quality.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Fintech, payment solutions, banking, start up and leadership – maybe you could check with him – also he may have a better photo

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/rodneyfarmer/>



Gabriela Trojáková

COMPANY: Vodafone

POSITION: HR Business Partner

BIO: Gabriela has strong experience in human resources conception and planning. She has worked within an international environment in a multinational organization. She has participated in company-wide HR management projects, including Company Climate Survey, Performance Appraisal, Salary Reviews, Job Analysis, etc. At Vodafone, Gabriela acts as the primary HR interface with The Operational Committee Executives, responsible for overseeing delivery on the transformational people agenda and bringing to life the Vodafone People Strategy. Her past experience includes management of the 'talents2grow' division, and as Senior Consultant at CV Partners.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Executive Search and Recruitment activities for various managerial positions, Human Capital Consultancy, HR consultancy in the area of Employee engagement and change of Corporate Company Culture. Experienced in management coaching and career mentoring.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gabrielatrojakova/>



Michal Nebesky

COMPANY: Citibank

POSITION: Country Officer Czech Republic

BIO: Michal Nebesky was appointed as the Citi Country Officer Czech Republic and CZ&SK Cluster Head, effective November 1, 2012. As Citi Country Officer, Michal serves the critical role of leading the Citi franchise in the Czech Republic, is the face of Citi to key stakeholders in the Czech Republic and across the global Citi network. He is accountable for franchise governance and management. Michal Nebesky rejoined Citi from the Czech Railways company where he had been Chief Financial Officer and member of the Board of Directors since 2008. Prior to his time at Czech Railways, he worked for Citibank already between years 1991 and 2008 in several top managerial positions; progressively more senior Banking and Risk roles. In 2002 he was appointed as Risk Management Director in the Czech Republic. In 2006 his responsibility further expanded in countries such as Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, former Yugoslavia and the Baltic states.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Corporate Finance, Banking, Risk Management, Restructuring, Credit Risk, Financial Analysis, Managerial Finance

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/michal-nebesky-26197415/>



Pavel Prikryl

COMPANY: Opero

POSITION: Co-Founder

BIO: Pavel is co-founder and managing director of Opero, a premium business hub in Prague. He also runs GROWTHGARAGE, a boutique strategic consultancy oriented toward consulting new business opportunities for both corporate and start-up clientele. Pavel has years of professional experience in economic advisory, business consulting and mentoring. For more than ten years he worked in an international consulting firm, where he managed extensive projects for corporate clientele and in the last five years led the consulting division in the area of strategy, mergers and acquisitions. And yet Pavel is a renaissance man and in addition to his professional track he pursues a range of other interests. In the academic sphere he has earned his doctorate in international studies from Charles University, worked as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at George Washington University, published a book on the topic of American politics in Europe, and taught students at the Faculty of Social Sciences. He has also worked with the humanitarian organization People in Need for a year on a development mission in Afghanistan and several other short-term missions.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Mergers & Acquisitions, Business Strategy, Management Consulting, Risk Management, Project Management

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/pavelprikryl/>



Richard Keery

COMPANY: HSBC Czech Republic

POSITION: CEO

BIO: Richard is an experienced Chief Executive with a successful career in the financial services industry across Asia, Middle East, North Africa and Europe. In the past, he has also served as Country Head of Commercial Banking at HSBC Bank Middle East Limited, Head of Business Banking at HSBC Egypt S.A.E., and SVP Head of Risk Management at HSBC Bank.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Negotiation, Portfolio Management, Talent Management, Enterprise Wide Risk Management, Corporate Finance and Banking.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/richard-keery-95b65933/>



Eva Shaw

COMPANY: Center-bridge Executive Search and HR Consulting

POSITION: Founder

BIO: Eva Shaw is Founder of Centre-bridge Executive Search and HR Consulting and Board Member of the British Chamber of Commerce in Prague. She is responsible for executive search internationally with a strong focus over the last 10 years within Europe, CEE, Asia Pacific and LATAM for blue chip international companies and private equity / VC firms and their portfolio companies. She has extensive experience in building leadership teams and creating a strong board presence for start-up companies globally. She has worked in the field of executive search for the last 20 years and prior to founding Centre-bridge she worked for Lansdowne international focusing on senior executive search focusing on CEE, Russia and CIS for 10 years and prior to that spent 8 years running her own research consultancy providing senior level executive search support to key international executive search firms globally. Eva started her career initially in market research before moving to executive search where she spent 12 months with Nicholson International and 3 years with Heidrick and Struggles based in both Prague and London.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: HR leadership and strategy, start -up leadership and general Board and top management position recruitment for positions such as CEO's, COO's, Managing Directors, Financial Directors, Sales and Marketing Directors, Engineering Managers / Directors. Organizational design and development, talent acquisition and management and succession planning.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/evashaw/>



Petr Krejčí

COMPANY: Our Names

POSITION: Founder

BIO: Petr is a founder of Our Names – a digital content agency mainly focused on social media and digital content strategies. Beside the core business he is also involved in a software development startup. He is passionate about new technologies, effectivity and innovative ways of creating new products.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Online Marketing, Facebook Marketing, Instagram, Business Social Media

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/petr-krejci-434677ba/>



Jan Přeřovský

COMPANY: Brand Embassy

POSITION: CRO and Member of the Board

BIO: Jan's mission at Brand Embassy is to build and manage worldwide sales that will deliver \$100m in annual revenues within 4 years. As a member of the board he is also focusing on fulfillment of the company vision, global business development and key client & partner acquisition a long term success. Jan is an experienced top executive with excellent knowledge of the Czech market including the e-government project and the EU2020 agenda. He also holds strong business drive with a proven ability to negotiate and close fair business in commercial, multinational and public sectors. He also has experience in local, multinational corporations and state-owned enterprises and has expertise in the field of public procurement including project financing from government and EU budgets. Jan also has experience with IPO preparation and international budgeting & reporting (IAS/IFRS).

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Team Motivation, Crisis and Change Management with the use of cloud technology

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jan-přeřovský-62a4779/>



Lukáš Foglar

COMPANY: LutherX, a.s.

POSITION: Co-Founder & Chief Product Officer at LutherX, a.s.

BIO: Lukas has spent vast majority of his professional life in the corporate sphere. For over 8 years, he has worked for Vodafone where he held various roles in the area of commercial operations and customer experience management. Apart from other things, he designed and implemented a company-wide end2end VoC platform, developed a culture transformation program focusing on customer centricity and employee engagement, or contributed to a design of global 2020 customer service strategy. Within the last two years, he has worked as a Business Manager for CEO, contributing, among other things, to the execution of Vodafone's digital strategy. Recently, Lukas co-founded a company called LutherX, that has an ambition to change lives of millions of people across the world. Because Everybody deserves Happy Mondays.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Project Management, Business Process Improvement, Customer Experience, Business Analysis

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/lukáš-foglar-06a31a80/>



Jiří Fabian

COMPANY: TopMonks

POSITION: Founder, CFO

BIO: In addition to co-founding TopMonks, Jiří has also founded PurposeFly, an innovative team management system for modern teams of any size. Jiří also founded Nebulla Pipes and GripTV. He has also worked as Chief Architect and VP, Engineering & Operations at Vendavo.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Agile Methodologies, Scrum, Web Services, Web Applications

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jirifabian/>



David Zábrž

COMPANY: Czech Startup Association

POSITION: Chairman

BIO: David Zábrž has been supporting startups in their early stage phases as chairman of the Czech Startup Association. He is also a co-founder of the well-known agency [MujZnamy.cz](https://www.mujznamy.cz) which is the biggest social platform for professional companions. David's experience with the company has helped him in making countless decisions at manager and CEO level. He is frequently interviewed in the Forbes Magazine and is very active as a business speaker in the academic field.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Idea Stage, Early Stage, Business Plan, Marketing Plan, Startup Mindset, Hiring Employees, Business Connections with Clients

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/david-zabrz-0117a938/>



Jonathan Smith

COMPANY: Self-Employed

POSITION: Business Transformation Consultant

BIO: Jonathan held various positions throughout his 19 years at Marks and Spencer, including Managing Director Central and Eastern Europe. He then worked as an Associate Consultant at KPMG Boxwood before becoming self-employed. He currently serves on the boards of Yieldigo, Sněmovní 7, and Bevalo.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Advisory Board, Board level, Retail Operations, Service, Strategy development, Business Transformation, International Expansion, Cross Cultural Working, People Development, Mentoring, Coaching, Private Equity & Private businesses.

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jonathan-smith-460abb29/>



Stephen Smy

COMPANY: Marks and Spencer

POSITION: Country Manager Czech Republic

BIO: Stephen has worked at Marks and Spencer for the past 20 years, holding various senior leadership roles throughout his career. He has served as Head of Business Improvement, Country Manager Hong Kong & Macau, and Head of Region East Anglia.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Retail, Management, Merchandising, Sales

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/stephen-smy-15349b104>

Luboš Černý

COMPANY: GROWTHGARAGE

POSITION: Managing Director

BIO: Luboš has been working with numbers since his studies at Faculty of Nuclear Sciences and Physical Engineering, during his rich professional career in banking and corporate sector, and up to his current business in energy markets. Luboš held the position of CFO and later CEO of eBanka before its successful divestiture into Raiffeisenbank Group. Further, he was CFO of Czech Airlines during its strategic restructuring and held various managerial positions in ČSOB, Česká konsolidační agentura, Komerční banka and Czech National Bank. Currently he is co-founder of the strategic consultancy boutique GROWTHGARAGE, co-owner of Opero, co-founder of start-up venture capital fund Fazole Ventures and individual angel investor. On top of that he successfully manages exemplary care for his two children, tireless preparation for the Ironman race, all while keeping a single-digit golf handicap.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Strategy, Business Model, Banking and Finance

LINKEDIN: N/A

Jiří Penzes

COMPANY: TopMonks

POSITION: Software engineer

BIO: Software engineer and architect with 10+ years experience. 2 years as CTO in TopMonks Startup studio. MS in computer science, and researcher. Currently working as CEO and platform architect in PurposeFly Inc. He is also co-founder of many community meetups based in Czech Republic.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Software architecture, Strategy technical decisions, Application scaling, Software oriented startups

LINKEDIN: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jirkapenzes/>

Michael Fehn

COMPANY: ex E.ON

POSITION: Managing Director, Czech Holding AG, E.ON Česká republika a.s. and E.ON Bohemia s.r.o.

BIO: Prior to working with E.ON Česká republika, Michael Fehn served for one year as Sales and Marketing Director at distribution company Isar-Amperwerke, a subsidiary of Bayernwerk. In 1991 and 1992, he headed Bayernwerk's representative office in Slovakia. He served for four years in EuroBayernwerk as Head of the Financial Matters Section, where he was responsible for the funding of international projects. He has also served as an Executive of Umwelt-Energie-Technik, and began working in the Czech Republic in 1999. Michael has been Chairman of E.ON Czech Holding AG since 2002, and serves on various other Supervisory Boards.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE: Business Development

LINKEDIN: N/A