



BALLIOL ENTREPRENEURS EVENING, 24 OCTOBER – FACILITATOR PROFILES

Dermot O'Hare (1978)



Professor Dermot O'Hare studied at Balliol College, Oxford University, where he obtained his B.Sc. in 1982 and his D. Phil in 1985, under the direction of Professor M.L.H Green. Subsequently, he was awarded a Royal Commission of 1851 Research Fellowship. He was a visiting research fellow at CR&D E.I. du Pont de Nemours in Wilmington, Delaware in 1986/7 where he worked in the group lead by Prof J.S. Miller on molecular-based magnetic materials. In 1987 he returned to Oxford to a short term lectureship and in 1990 he was appointed to a permanent University position and a Septcentenary Tutorial Fellowship at Balliol College.

In 1996 he was honoured by the Institut de France, Académie des Sciences as one of the top 50 leading scientists in Europe under 40 yrs. He was the Royal Society of Chemistry Sir Edward Frankland Fellow in 1996/97. In 1997 he was awarded the Exxon European Chemical and Engineering Prize. In 1998 he became Professor. His interests are wide ranging, and include exploratory synthetic organometallic chemistry, intercalation chemistry, time-resolved, in situ diffraction studies and the synthesis of meso- and microporous solids. In 2010 he won the Royal Society of Chemistry's Ludwig Mond award for outstanding research in Inorganic chemistry.

Victor Christou (JRF 1994-1997)



Victor Christou is the CEO at Cambridge Innovation Capital and has considerable experience on both sides of the investment table. In recent years he has focused his attention on technology investing. Immediately prior to joining CIC, Victor was at pan-European venture capital investors Wellington Partners, where he was a Venture Partner in the Tech Team. Before that he founded Ophys, an organic electronics business focusing on OLEDs and was a member of the team that sold Ophys Limited to Cambridge Display Technology, Inc (now owned by Sumitomo Chemicals).

Victor has a BSc and PhD in Chemistry from Imperial College, London and was a Sloan Fellow in the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University. In the early stages of his career, he was an academic at the University of California at Berkeley and then at the University of Oxford, where he was a Royal Society University Research Fellow and Junior Research Fellow at Balliol College. Victor was the Royal Society of Chemistry Entrepreneur of the Year in 2002.

Dan Nicolau (2005)



Dan Nicolau holds degrees in Mathematics, Engineering, Applied Science, Computer Science and a DPhil (Balliol) and medical degree (GTC) from Oxford. As an entrepreneur, he co-founded and was CEO of Altitude Medical Inc -a currently successful medical devices firm- for most of its life.

He founded and led Symbiosis Labs Ltd, a quantitative hedge fund, and is the co-founder and CEO of Molecular Sense Ltd, a biotech firm. He is a Principal Investigator in the European Union's FP7/ABACUS and H2020/Bio4Comp research consortia. He has published around 100 articles and pioneered the field of Networks-Based Biocomputation.

Lucinda Bryce-Gardyne FRSE



Lucinda attended Leiths School of Food and Wine – mainly to get the cooking bug out of her system before starting a career in medicine. However, she quickly realised that cooking was her passion. She spent a gruelling but memorable and educational time in Terence Conran's Michelin-starred restaurant Bibendum before setting up her own catering company, which she ran for three years. Lucinda then returned to the comparatively calm environment of Leiths Cookery School in London as a teacher. During her time there she lectured and devoted four years to co-authoring the award winning Leiths Techniques Bible. During this time, Lucinda's first son was diagnosed with a severe allergy to dairy products and her second son with an intolerance to gluten. A situation that challenged eating normally as a family and which led to her second book How to Cook for Food Allergies, published in 2007. Her determination to create soft and tasty, fresh brown and white bread, firstly for her son and the book, and then for people like her, struggling to find tasty gluten free bread in the supermarket, became her all consuming passion for three years.

Lucinda sits on the Board at Genius as Product Director and spends a great deal of time in the company's two bakeries, developing pioneering and tasty new products. In addition she acts as brand ambassador for the company, keeping in close contact with Genius consumers and speaking at seminars, universities and business events. She is also committed to supporting and encouraging the next generation of entrepreneurs.