

Riga, Latvia  
30<sup>th</sup> March – 1<sup>st</sup> April,  
2015

**INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENT COMPANY  
FESTIVAL 2015**

JA Latvia®

**JA INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS' CONFERENCE**

**Challenges for Business Education:  
Global Thinking and Technological Approach**

**SPEAKERS**

**2015**

## SPEAKERS 2015

### MODERATOR OF THE CONFERENCE

#### **HARALDS BURKOVSKIS (Latvia)**

*Journalist, event professional, founder and CEO of communication consultancy H2B Ltd.*

Philosopher, studied Communication and International Relations as well. Independent communication consultant, media technique, interview practice and public speech trainer, anchoring corporate seminars of brand building and management for corporates, top managers and institutional clients. With more than 17 years of experience in mass media (Radio Latvia, LTV1, LNT, TV3, MTG) and public relations (SEB Baltic), till now I do editing and anchoring my weekly news analysis at LNT (part of MTG). Regular guest-lecturer of universities in Latvia, one of the most experienced and highly professional host and MC for wide range events, forums and conferences.



### SPEAKERS

#### **LOW SIEW THIAM (Singapore)**

*Advisor of the Latvian Honorary Council in Singapore and chairman of the Global Management Forum*



Thiam is a Singapore business consultant specializing in providing strategic advice and leadership training for organizations, both in the public and private sectors. He is Chairman of his family company, Homestead Pte Ltd and also holds other Board positions including appointment as a Director of Baur Asia Pte Ltd, a Swiss-owned company that has operations in South East Asia.

Before he started his consultancy practice, Thiam had worked for a global corporation (Shell Eastern as HR Manager), a national corporation (Telecoms Singapore as HR Director) and a regional conglomerate (Sime Darby where he was first HR Director and later Marketing Director, responsible for both consumer (B2C) and industrial (B2B) marketing).

In the field of training, Thiam has both addressed faculty and taught students at prestigious institutions in the US (Stanford University), Europe (INSEAD, ESSEC, Manchester Business School, University of Bangor and Turiba University in Latvia), and Asia (National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University, Singapore Institute of Management and the

Asian Institute of Technology at their campuses in both Thailand and Vietnam). He was appointed an Adjunct Professor for East Asian Business at Turiba University in 2013. Thiam has also been appointed to the Editorial Board of the Journal for International Business Ethics, a publication of the University of International Business & Economics in Beijing, China.

#### **FIONN DOBBIN (Germany)**

*Creative Industries & Entrepreneurship Program Director at the Stockholm School of Economics*



Fionn Dobbin is a lecturer and the Creative Industries & Entrepreneurship Program Director at the Stockholm School of Economics with a diploma in Industrial Design from the UdK-Berlin. During his studies he has worked as an Innovation Team Designer for the Adam Opel GmbH and as a Creative Director for the Latvian design company ZNAK. After his diploma, he started working as a Social Business Designer for the creative think tank and consultancy "The Grameen Creative Lab" of the peace prize laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus. Besides being a lecture on the topic of creativity, entrepreneurship and social business he is working since 2005 as a freelance design and innovation consultant where his core business is to develop new ways and strategies in the fields of human interaction and communication within their environment. His client portfolio include companies, organization and institutions such as DDB Latvia, Airbaltic, Adidas Germany, BASF Germany, EMBL Heidelberg, Riga City

Council, British Council Riga, MOOZ Riga, The Ministry for Social Development of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the YUNUS Center and several worldwide leading business and design schools. Since 2007 he started several enterprises such as MAMMU, one of the pioneers in the field of social business and fashion. Currently he is developing the educational agency NotPerfectEducation.

**SPEAKERS**



**NIKA ALEKSEJEVA (Latvia)**

*The head of Infogram.org*

Nika Aleksejeva is a passionate data storyteller from Infogr.am, a popular data visualization service. She is in charge of Infogram.org, the company's non-profit arm which aims to enhance data literacy while bringing the power of data visualization to local communities worldwide.

Nika comes from a journalism background - her work involved covering business topics and making data-driven stories about energetics, global economic trends and education. Seeing the future in digital journalism, she continues to work and share the knowledge that helps to develop new communication forms.



**KRISTS AVOTS (Latvia)**

*Marketing at Infogr.am*

Krists Avots is currently working on growth strategies at infogr.am, Latvia based startup enhancing anyone to turn data into infographics in the easy way. Part time lecturer of entrepreneurship courses at the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga and Chief technical mentor at European Innovation Academy. Previously worked as COO of Garage48 Foundation, a non-profit organization running intensive programs to encourage young people & professionals to launch their own technology focused startups in Europe, Africa and Middle East. With Garage48, he had an opportunity to work with ~500 startup teams in 9 different countries. Holds a degree in Economics & Business administration from Stockholm School of Economics in Riga.

**STUDENT COMPANY: SUCCESS STORY**

**MAIRIS GAILUMS and SINTIJA TOMA (Latvia)**

*Founders of Dream Sleep*



**Mairis** has been a director of Dream Sleep since the very first day of this company's history. His company has successfully gone through whole JA Latvia program and has become as a real business. While running Student Company, Mairis has learned what does it mean to have a business, how to be responsible about yourself and, more important, about your team. Accuracy, responsibility, respect, ability to take extraordinary decisions and do not be afraid of being out of comfort zone – these are the characteristics what could be learnt in high school while being a part of Student Company. In this time while dealing with Dream Sleep as a part of his life, Mairis has realized that business isn't just about money; you have to find your own entrepreneurial essence and grow not as a man of success, but as a man of value, everything else is just secondary.

**Sintija** has been responsible about manufacturing process while being in Student Company and also at the moment, and now she also takes care about company's finances. In her supervision was developed very first model of Dream Sleep pillow, and still, there is no pillow which has not gone through the hands of Sintija. As a board member, she is involved in all decision making processes and ready to do all her best to see this company growing. As a potential designer in future, she plays big role in every single decision making about company's perceiving and looking good from customers view.



REPRESENTATIVES OF JA EUROPE



**CAROLINE JENNER (Belgium)**

*Chief Executive Officer of JA Europe*

Caroline got involved with Junior Achievement when she was living in Slovakia in the early 90's running a private language school. She helped set up JA Slovakia and was CEO for 4 years. Caroline began to work with a number of JA organizations across Central and Eastern Europe and became Regional Director for another 4 years. Now based in Brussels for the last 11 years, Caroline heads up JA-YE Europe. Besides working with JA-YE large network, Caroline contributes to EU policy work and expert groups on entrepreneurship education and as a speaker and panelist. Caroline has Canadian and Belgian citizenship.



**GABRIELA ZIDKOVA (Belgium)**

*Senior Operations Manager of JA Europe*

Gabriela got involved with Junior Achievement in 1998. She is currently working as a Senior Operations Manager in JA-YE Europe and she is based in the Czech Republic. Gabriela is the European coordinator of Enterprise without Borders programme since the beginning of this project in 2009 working now with 40 countries involved. She is also coordinating the implementation of various types of Innovation camps in JA network. As a Senior Operations Manager she is responsible for the annual data collection and analytics and providing operations and technology services in the area of CRM, web platforms administration, MS Sharepoint, E-learning tools to the JA-YE Europe member nations.



**VERONICA MOBILIO (Belgium)**

*Senior Manager for Education Development of JA Europe*

Veronica started working at JA-YE Europe in December 2013 as project manager. She has 10 years of experience in the education field, with a specific focus on lifelong learning processes and the use of new media. She holds a PHD in communication sciences, with a dissertation on students' use of Internet as a learning tool inside and outside schools. Before moving to Brussels, she worked as consultant and researcher for several public and private organizations in Italy providing services for universities and developing learning programs. In her last position before joining JA-YE, at CINECA Consortium, she worked with the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) developing the Italian Portal for Research. Throughout her career she wrote several articles and essays for specialized magazines and journals in the field of learning and education.

REPRESENTATIVES OF CISCO SYSTEMS



**EUGENE MOROZOV (Russia)**

*Technical Manager for CEE, CIS and Russia at Cisco Systems*

He started his collaboration with Cisco as a student of Cisco Networking Academy in 2003 in local university in Novgorod, Russia. Then he became an instructor, in an optic of constant learning and skills improvement. In 2011, he strengthens his close collaboration with the program by becoming a *Netacad* instructor trainer and supporting other academies as an Academy Support Center representative. He is now part of Cisco since 2014 with the global Technical Field Engagement team covering Russia, CEE and CIS. He has a very strong background in Systems Engineering, Programming, Web and of course, Networks. Certifications: CCNA, CCNA Security.