

# ENTREPRENEURS-IN-RESIDENCE (EIRs)

Polsky Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIRs) are seasoned entrepreneurs and business executives who host a variety of skills- and career-based workshops, and are available to meet with students, alumni, and faculty for individual coaching sessions throughout the academic year.

## SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT:

To schedule an individual meeting with one of the Polsky EIRs, please visit: [bit.ly/PolskyEIRs](https://bit.ly/PolskyEIRs)



### **ROBERT ALTMAN, MBA '88**

#### **Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship**

**Areas of Focus:** Healthcare and biotech entrepreneurship

**Program Involvement:** Collaboratorium and student lunch and learns

*Robert Altman, MBA '88, has had a long career in executive roles for both mature and emerging biotech and pharmaceutical businesses. Most recently, Altman served as president of Pinnacle Biologics, a subsidiary of Concordia Healthcare. Altman also previously founded and built a fully-integrated specialty pharmaceutical company, Marathon Pharmaceuticals, and led the company as CEO and president from 2008 to 2012. Altman's earlier career included numerous leadership positions over 17 years at Abbott Laboratories.*



### **MUS CHAGAL, MBA '97**

#### **Adjunct Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship**

**Areas of Focus:** Entrepreneurship, manufacturing, customer acquisition, and international entrepreneurship

**Program Involvement:** New Venture Challenge and student lunch and learns

*Mus Chagal is the former CEO of UICO, a venture-backed company with proprietary technology that enables touchscreens to work under direct exposure to water and liquids, and through gloves. He previously served as the chairman of the board of directors at UICO. Chagal has been involved in international trade acting as a bridge between American companies and suppliers from Turkey and Israel since 2002. He founded CWW/Kudox NA, a private label manufacturer and supplier of radiant heat and building products and materials to retailers like Home Depot and wholesalers like Wolseley-Ferguson. Chagal started his entrepreneurial career at FastWeb, a technology startup, as the senior vice president of sales and business development. FastWeb became the destination site and search engine for college bound students looking for scholarships, and the prominent one-to-one marketing and customer acquisition platform for companies targeting the youth market.*

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## **JOSHUA FAIRBANK, MBA '06**

**Areas of Focus:** Biotech and therapeutics

**Program Involvement:** Student lunch and learns

*Joshua Fairbank is the President of Orchard Capital Management where he sits on the investment committees for the small cap value and the alternative asset strategies. In 2004, Fairbank cofounded and led the investment team at Orchard Ventures, a biotech VC fund. He is the cofounder of several companies including Akebia (NASDAQ:AKBA) and Nymirum. Akebia is developing an anemia drug that mimics the body's physiological response to high altitude, and Nymirum is a computational genetics firm that harnesses AI and big data to work on multiple unsolved diseases including cancers, neurodegenerative diseases, and infectious diseases. Fairbank has negotiated several drug discovery partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies and worked to obtain significant non-dilutive funding.*



## **MELISSA HARRIS, MBA '16 (XP-85)**

**Areas of Focus:** Entrepreneurial marketing and communications

**Program Involvement:** College New Venture Challenge, Global New Venture Challenge, and student seminars

*Melissa Harris, MBA '16, is founder and CEO of M. Harris & Co., a Chicago-based marketing consultancy. She is a Pulitzer Prize-nominated business columnist and accomplished journalist who spent 15+ years at the Chicago Tribune, the Baltimore Sun, and the Orlando Sentinel. Prior to launching her company, she served as vice president of marketing at Origin Investments, a real estate private equity firm with about a half-billion dollars in assets. She has been named among the 50 most influential people in Chicago tech on Twitter by both Built In Chicago and Chicago Inno. She and her colleague won a Clio Award for her work on Cards Against Humanity Saves America.*



## **ALEX HODGKIN, MBA '14**

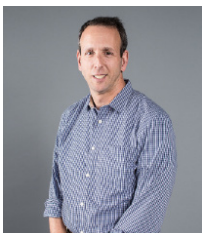
**Areas of Focus:** Entrepreneurship through acquisition and financial services

**Program Involvement:** ETA Conference, Alumni ETA Symposium Series, and student and alumni seminars

*Alex Hodgkin, MBA '14, has spent the bulk of his career in investment banking and entrepreneurship. He has worked at Salomon Smith Barney and Headwaters MB. He is the cofounder and CEO of Intrinsic, a financial services firm providing valuation opinions and transaction advisory services to venture- and private equity-backed companies and high net worth individuals. Hodgkin has been instrumental in creating the entrepreneurship through acquisition program and community at the University of Chicago.*

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## **DOUG MONIESON, MBA '89**

**Areas of Focus:** Fintech and general entrepreneurship

**Program Involvement:** College New Venture Challenge and student lunch and learns

*Doug Monieson, MBA '89, is chairman emeritus of Hyde Park Angels (HPA), one of the largest and most active angel groups in the Midwest. He is currently executive chairman of the board of UICO, a rugged touch screen company founded at Chicago Booth and one of the first investments made by HPA. Monieson is also on the board of directors of Fishidy, a fishing app that was recently acquired by Ray Marine, a division of Flir. He also led the successful exit of Gradebeam, a SAAS business for the construction industry, which was purchased by Textura (TXTR) in 2011.*



## **ELLEN RUDNICK, MBA '73**

**Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship and Senior Advisor**

**Areas of Focus:** UChicago alumni

**Program Involvement:** New Venture Challenge, Alumni New Venture Challenge, and alumni programs

*Ellen Rudnick, MBA '73, is a successful start up executive, having served as chairman of Pacific Biometrics and CEO of Health Care Knowledge Resources. She has held positions as corporate vice president at Baxter Healthcare and president of Baxter Management Services Division, which she founded. Her current board experience includes Liberty Mutual Insurance, Patterson Companies (NASDAQ: PDCO), Health Management Systems (NASDAQ: HMSY), and First Midwest Bancorp (NASDAQ: FMBI). She was previously a venture partner for Inroads Capital. She was formerly the inaugural executive director of the Polsky Center.*



## **MARK TEBBE**

**Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship**

**Areas of Focus:** Entrepreneurship and technology

**Program Involvement:** New Venture Challenge, Social New Venture Challenge, College New Venture Challenge, and student lunch and learns

*Mark Tebbe is the founder of several startups, including two NASDAQ-listed companies: Lante and Answers Corp. In addition to serving as an EIR at the Polsky Center and an adjunct professor of entrepreneurship, he is an operating executive at Lake Capital and involved in the Chicago entrepreneurial and tech ecosystem.*

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## **CHUCK VALLURUPALLI, MBA '05**

**Areas of Focus:** Entrepreneurship and technology

**Program Involvement:** College New Venture Challenge, Entrepreneurial Internship Program, and student lunch and learns

*Chuck Vallurupalli, MBA '05, is a software engineer, entrepreneur, and business executive. He has founded, led, and contributed to the success of several early-stage, growth, and public companies. He has worked with over 150 startups and several more entrepreneurs as a mentor, entrepreneur-in-residence, and investor. He has also helped several corporations on their innovation agendas.*