MIT Industrial Liaison Program Faculty Knowledgebase Report

June 9, 2020 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

11:00am - 12:00pm

MIT Startup Exchange
Rebecca Xiong

Program Director, MIT Startup Exchange

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Dr. Rebecca Xiong joined Corporate Relations as Program Director, Startup Exchange in October 2018.

Dr. Xiong comes to Corporate Relations with more than 15 years of experience in the MIT Startup Ecosystem, having co-founded and worked at multiple MIT startups. Most recently, as Co-founder and Chief Scientist at SocMetrics, she leads product management, data science, and machine learning for SocMetric's personalization and marketing campaign products. Before SocMetrics, Xiong co-founded Going.com. Going.com connected people via local events to enhance their offline social life, and through Rebecca's leadership grew to 1M members, tens of millions of monthly pageviews, and finally its acquisition by AOL. Before these two entrepreneurial endeavors, Xiong held positions as Product Marketing Manager (DataPower, acquired by IBM), Senior Program Manager (Performaworks, acquired by Workscape), and Team Lead (Akamai Technologies). She also has research experience at Microsoft, Silicon Graphics, and Xerox Palo Alto Research Center.

Dr. Xiong earned her B.S. in Computer Science at the University of California at Berkeley, and her Ph.D. in Computer Science at the Media Lab at MIT with her thesis "Visualizing Information Spaces to Enhance Social Interaction." She was a National Science Foundation (NSF) Fellowship Recipient. She holds multiple patents and is very involved in the community, as the Lead Organizer of the Cambridge Parent Summit.

Ben Calhoun
Cofounder & Co-CTO, Everactive

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Ben Calhoun received his BS degree in electrical engineering from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, in 2000. He received the MS degree and PhD degree in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, in 2002 and 2006, respectively. In January 2006, he joined the faculty at the University of Virginia in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, where he is now a Professor. His research has emphasized energy efficient and sub-threshold integrated circuit design for self-powered, battery-less wireless sensing systems. Dr. Calhoun has over 200 peer reviewed publications and 22 issued US patents. He co-founded and is co-CTO at Everactive, Inc., which is selling self-powered, energy harvesting wireless sensing solutions in the industrial IoT market. He is a senior member of the IEEE.

Christian Umbach
Cofounder & CEO, Xapix

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Christian Umbach is Cofounder and Chief Executive Officer of API and data integration platform xapix.io, which empowers enterprises to exchange data - driving new digital business models and artificial intelligence around IoT data from mobility to logistics and manufacturing. He is a also a Graduate Fellow in System Design and Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has spent his career at the intersection of transportation, information technology and digital management. Formerly, Umbach held the following positions and made key achievements: Developer Advocate, UBER Technologies; Research Assistant, MIT Sloan's Initiative on the Digital Economy on corporate innovation, where he led a team at MIT to build the next generation of digital transport products for Hyperloop Transport Technologies; Executive Assistant to the Board for Finance, Human

12:00pm - 1:00pm   Coming Back Stronger: Managing the People Side of Covid
                          George Westerman
                          Senior Lecturer, MIT Sloan School of Management
                          Founder, Global Opportunity Forum, MIT Office of Open Learning

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George Westerman is a Senior Lecturer at the MIT Sloan School of Management and Founder of the Global Opportunity Forum (http://gof.mit.edu).

George's work bridges the fields of executive leadership and technology strategy. During more than 20 years with MIT Sloan School of Management, he has written three award-winning books, including *Leading Digital: Turning Technology Into Business Transformation*. As a pioneering researcher on digital transformation, George has published papers in *Harvard Business Review*, *Sloan Management Review*, and other top journals. He is now focused on helping employers, educators, and other groups to rethink the process of workforce learning around the world through the GOF and several research collaborations.

George is cochair of the MIT Sloan CIO Leadership Awards, a member of the Digital Strategy Roundtable for the US Library of Congress, and member of the Board of Directors for Workcred. He works frequently with senior management teams and industry groups around the world. Prior to earning a Doctorate from Harvard Business School, he gained more than 13 years of experience in product development and technology leadership roles.

View full bio

The Covid crisis accelerated many changes already underway with digital transformation. It also introduced huge amounts of uncertainty for managers and workers. In this talk we'll discuss how leaders can help the company, and its employees, to emerge successfully from the crisis.   We'll share research-driven insights on how you can build a more digital-ready culture that responds quickly to fast-changing conditions, how a transformative model of Learning and Development is ideally suited for the current reality, and how today's challenges can position you to drive digital transformation more powerfully than ever before.