Speakers & Moderators

Bruce Aust, Vice Chairman, Nasdaq

Bruce E. Aust is Vice Chairman of Nasdaq. In this role, Mr. Aust works closely with Nasdaq's Global Listing Services unit to assist clients and prospects worldwide. Mr. Aust also serves as President of the Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center, located in San Francisco, and played an integral role in the creation and launch of the Center, which opened in 2015. The Entrepreneurial Center is a new non-profit organization funded by the Nasdaq Educational Foundation designed to engage emerging entrepreneurs through events, hands-on mentorship and education. Previously, Mr. Aust served as Executive Vice President, Global Listing Services, a role in which he oversaw Nasdaq's new listings and capital market business as well as global business development and relationship management with the companies listed on Nasdaq's 16 listing markets worldwide.

During Mr. Aust's tenure, Nasdaq attracted some of the country's highest-profile IPOs, including Google, GoPro, Dunkin Donuts, Carlyle, JD.com, Markit, Splunk, Tesla, and Facebook, as well as NYSE company switches including American Airlines, Marriott, Mattel, Vodafone, DreamWorks, Texas Instruments, Viacom, Office Depot and Kraft Foods Group. In addition, Mr. Aust served as Executive Director and Vice President of the Listing Services, a role in which he maintained oversight of all listed companies in the western region, representing 60 percent of the market cap on Nasdaq. He assisted more than 200 companies in going public and worked closely with CEOs and executives of some of the most well-known companies listed on Nasdaq.

Throughout his career with the firm, he has been instrumental in managing Nasdaq's international investor programs, providing listed companies with exposure to institutional investors in Europe and Asia. Prior to joining Nasdaq in 1998, Mr. Aust spent 12 years at Fidelity Investments in a variety of sales, trading, and management positions in Dallas, Boston, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. He is the recipient of the University of Southern Mississippi College of Business Distinguished Alumni Award and The Digital Leadership award from Computers for Youth. In addition, Mr. Aust is a Technet Executive Committee member.

Follow Bruce Aust on Twitter: @Bruce_Aust

GAME YOUR RAISE

Jim Burns, CFO, Accela

Jim Burns is Chief Financial Officer at Accela where he is responsible for the leadership of the company's finance, investor and strategic development efforts.

Before joining the executive team at Accela, Burns served as CFO at IoT and smart city leader Silver Spring Networks (SSNI), where he oversaw finance, investor relations, strategic initiatives, corporate development, manufacturing and IT. Previous to SSNI, Burns held leadership positions at Hewlett Packard for two decades, including CFO of HP's $60 billion Enterprise Business, COO of HP's $26 billion Services Business, as well as Vice President of HP's Global Investor Relations.

Burns was named Bay Area 2016 small-cap CFO of the Year by the San Francisco Business Times. He currently sits on the Advisory Board for the Leavey School of Business and Ignatian Center at his alma mater, Santa Clara University, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Commerce.

David Castagnetti, Co-Founder, Mehlman Castagnetti Rosen & Thomas

David Castagnetti is a co-founder of Mehlman Castagnetti and a legislative and political strategist who has played a critical role in shaping some of the most significant policy issues of the past two decades. He has been recognized as one of Washington's top lobbyists by BusinessWeek, Washingtonian Magazine, The Hill and CQ, David's policy expertise and political chops are well-known. His forte is translating complex policies into straightforward issues, then navigating the political, legislative, and regulatory challenges that dictate outcomes. It is this combination that has made David a trusted advisor to Members of Congress, Fortune 100 CEOs, and executives across Washington's business community.

David's career has placed him at the highest levels of politics, business, and Congress. Prior to joining Mehlman Castagnetti, David was asked by Secretary of State John Kerry, then the Democratic nominee for President, to serve as the Presidential campaign's top liaison to Congress. In that role, David earned plaudits from Members of the House and Senate for his briefings on campaign strategy and messaging, deft handling of political requests, and sensitive management of surrogates and speaking roles at the Democratic Convention.

David was also a partner at Bergner, Bockorny, Castagnetti & Hawkins, where he worked with technology leaders and innovative startups across Silicon Valley to develop and implement effective strategies to drive exports and maintain America's lead in information technology. He also provided expert regulatory and political guidance during several mergers and acquisitions: Hewlett-Packard in its successful merger with Compaq, NewsCorp in its merger with DirecTV, and Traveler's Insurance in its well-regarded partnership with St. Paul Insurance Company.

While on Capitol Hill, David earned a reputation for integrity and collaboration. As Chief of Staff to Senator Max Baucus (D-MT), he advised the Senator on trade, tax, transportation, technology, and matters related to the Finance and Environment and Public Works Committees. He also served as Chief of Staff to Congressman Norman Y. Mineta (D-CA) when Mr. Mineta was Chairman of the House Transportation Committee. A decade later, David led the successful efforts to win confirmation for Mr. Mineta as Secretary of Commerce for President Clinton and as Secretary of Transportation for President George W. Bush. David is also one of the few people to have served in senior positions for Members on both the Senate Finance Committee and House Commerce Committee, as he began his career in the office of Congressman Ed Markey (D-MA).

Stacey Cunningham, Chief Operating Officer, NYSE

Stacey Cunningham is Chief Operating Officer of the NYSE Group which includes the New York Stock Exchange and a diverse range of equity and equity options exchanges, all wholly owned subsidiaries of Intercontinental Exchange (NYSE: ICE). Cunningham oversees the equities, equities derivatives and exchange-traded products businesses, as well as NYSE Governance Services. In this capacity, Cunningham has responsibility for the product management, sales and strategy of NYSE’s three equity markets and two options markets.

Prior to serving as COO, Cunningham was President of NYSE Governance Services, a provider of governance, compliance, and education solutions for companies and their boards. Cunningham also served as Head of Sales & Relationship Management at NYSE, where she managed the sales team for U.S. cash equities and options markets. Before joining NYSE, Cunningham held several senior positions at Nasdaq. Cunningham began her career on the NYSE trading floor where she served as a specialist for Bank of America Securities.

Cunningham earned her B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Lehigh University.

Chris Faralli, Consultant, Russell Reynolds

Chris is a member of Russell Reynolds’ Corporate Officers Sector and Financial Officers Practice. He regularly advises clients on senior investor relations and corporate communications talent needs. Chris also focuses on recruiting senior corporate and divisional CFOs, controllers, treasurers and heads of internal audit and tax.

Chris' work spans multiple industries, but the majority of his client portfolio is focused around technology companies, financial services institutions, healthcare, and nonprofit organizations. He recently recruited investor relations leaders for a global semiconductor player, an industrial manufacturer, an international hospitality company, a diversified biotech, and a multi-national internet and entertainment company. Chris has also led CFO and other senior financial offer searches for global banking institutions, BPOs, alternative investment firms, health plans and high-growth technology companies.

Chris received his B.A. in Political Science from The University of Pennsylvania.

Amy Feng, Managing Director, Joele Frank

Amy has over 10 years of financial communications experience and a proven track record as advisor to C-suite executives and Board directors. She joined Joele Frank's San Francisco in June 2016 from Abernathy MacGregor Group, where she served for nearly nine years, most recently as an executive vice president, supporting investor relations, mergers & acquisitions, shareholder activist defense, proxy contests, corporate governance, IP litigation and regulatory investigations. Amy previously spent nearly a decade on Wall Street as a sell-side analyst covering computer software and Internet infrastructure, publishing research for Lehman Brothers and JMP Securities . Prior to Wall Street, Amy specialized in business development and strategic planning for Barnes International, a leading machinery and filtrating company, and worked as a chemist in the Aerospace and Engineered Materials sectors of AlliedSignal, now a part of Honeywell.

Amy received an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University; a PhD in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley; and a BA with distinction in Chemistry from Cornell University.

GAME YOUR RAISE

Sara Furber, Head of Listings, IEX

Sara brings tremendous experience and leadership to IEX with nearly 20 years in financial services across wealth management, investment management and investment banking. Prior to joining IEX, she was a member of Morgan Stanley's Management Committee and responsible for driving digital innovation within Wealth Management. During her tenure at Morgan Stanley, she served in a number of senior executive roles including Chief Operating Officer of Morgan Stanley Wealth Management and Chief Operating Officer of Morgan Stanley Investment Management's long-only business.

Sara started her career as an investment banker at Merrill Lynch and was Head of Investor Relations for Merrill during the credit crisis in 2007-2008 and through its merger with Bank of America. Post-merger, she served as Chief Operating Officer for Global Corporate and Investment Banking at Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

Dylan Haggart, Vice President, ValueAct Capital Management

Dylan Haggart is a Vice President with ValueAct Capital Management based in San Francisco. ValueAct Capital concentrates on acquiring significant ownership stakes in a limited number of companies that it believes are undervalued. The firm has approximately $11 billion under management with an investment portfolio consisting of ten to eighteen core company investments, as well as a small "farm team" of additional investments in development.

Dylan has been with ValueAct since 2013. Prior to joining the firm, he was an associate with TPG Capital and a research analyst with Goldman Sachs. He holds a degree in Honors Business Administration from Ivey Business School at Western University.

Tom Hudson, VP Investor Relations, Fitbit

Mr. Tom G. Hudson, CFA, is Vice President of Investor Relations at Fitbit. Previously he was Vice President of Investor Relations at Paypal after its spin-off and prior to that he led the IR efforts at eBay. Mr. Hudson was previously employed as Managing Director & Portfolio Manager by ClearBridge Investments LLC, a Portfolio Manager by Smith Barney Asset Management.

Mr. Hudson received his undergraduate degree from Boston University.

Joon Huh, VP Investor Relations, Visa

Joon Huh is Vice President of Investor Relations for Visa. Before joining Visa in 2016, he held various financial leadership positions over nine years at Yahoo, including Investor Relations and Corporate Finance. Prior to joining Yahoo, Joon spent several years in financial services at Mesirow Financial, Deloitte and Bear Stearns. He began his career as an engineer at General Electric.

Joon received his MBA from the University of Chicago, Booth School of Business and a BS in engineering from the University of Washington.

Kevin Kessel, VP Investor Relations, Flex

Kevin Kessel joined Flex in 2009 to lead its Investor Relations initiative. Previously Kevin was a Senior Equity Research Analyst and Vice President for JPMorgan and a Managing Director for Bear Stearns, where he covered the Technology Supply Chain for nearly a decade and was ranked as part of the Institutional Investor's All-America Research Team numerous times. Prior to working on Wall Street, Kevin was a consultant with Accenture in its Electronics and High Tech group with a focus on supply chain.

Kevin graduated summa cum laude from the University of California at Santa Barbara with a degree in Business Economics and an emphasis in Accounting. Kevin has been a CFA charterholder since 2003.

Chris Krueger, Senior Washington Strategist, Cowen

Chris Krueger joined Cowen Washington Research Group in August 2016 as the Washington strategist. He publishes the DC Download, a must-read daily for Wall Street portfolio managers who want a quick look at the top Washington stories and their impact on the capital markets. Mr. Krueger covers DC macro, fiscal and tax policy, and event-driven situations. He held similar positions at Guggenheim Securities, MF Global, Concept Capital, and Potomac Research Group. Earlier he worked for nearly four years on the senior staff of the House of Representatives. He has also worked on several local, state, and federal political campaigns across the country. Mr. Krueger holds a BA from the University of Vermont and an MA in international relations from King's College London. He appears frequently on CNBC and Bloomberg and is widely quoted in The Wall Street Journal, FT, New York Times, Washington Post, and POLITICO.

Material prepared by the Cowen Washington Research Group is intended as commentary on political, economic, or market conditions and is not intended as a research report as defined by applicable regulation.

GAME YOUR RAISE

Stephen Luczo, CEO, Seagate

Stephen J. Luczo serves as the Chairman of the Board and CEO. Mr. Luczo joined us in October 1993 as Senior Vice President of Corporate Development. In September 1997, Mr. Luczo was promoted to the position of President and Chief Operating Officer of our predecessor, Seagate Technology, Inc. and, in July 1998, he was promoted to Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Luczo resigned as our Chief Executive Officer effective as of July 3, 2004, but retained his position as Chairman of the Board. In January 2009, Mr Luczo was appointed President and CEO. Prior to joining us, Mr. Luczo was Senior Managing Director of the Global Technology Group of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., an investment banking firm, from February 1992 to October 1993.

Rahul Mathur, CFO, Rambus

Rahul Mathur is responsible for the overall financial direction of Rambus.

Prior to joining Rambus, Mr. Mathur served as senior vice president of finance at Cypress Semiconductor where he was responsible for financial planning and investor relations for the $2.1B provider of embedded memory, microcontroller, and analog semiconductor system solutions. Prior to that, Rahul served as vice president of finance at Spansion (later acquired by Cypress). Rahul has previously worked at numerous technology companies such as NetSuite and KLA-Tencor, and started his career as a consultant with Arthur Andersen.

Mr. Mathur holds a Bachelor of Arts in applied mathematics from Dartmouth College and an MBA from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Jack Mohr, Former Chief Investment Strategist, TheStreet.com & Former Co-Portfolio Manager of Jim Cramer's Charitable Trust

Jack Mohr is a strategist, investor and speaker. He recently served as Chief Investment Strategist of TheStreet and the Research Director of Jim Cramer's charitable trust portfolio. In that dual capacity, Mr. Mohr provided high level commentary to TheStreet's audience of over 20M monthly visitors and was responsible for the daily management of the charitable trust fund along with macro strategy, portfolio construction and stock selection. Before this he was the Research Director for Mad Money on CNBC. Prior to joining TheStreet, Mohr worked on the top-ranked *II* Hall of Fame retail team and began his career in Barclays' equity trading division.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in finance from Georgetown University where he served on the Board of Directors as Treasurer of the $17 million Georgetown University Federal Credit Union.

He has been a CNBC contributor since 2014 and featured on ABC News, Fox Business, CBS News, CNN and many other media outlets and has been cited in the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, Institutional Investor Magazine among other outlets.

Mike Mulroy, Senior Advisor, CamberView Partners (Former GC & CFO, Questcor Pharmaceuticals)

Michael H. Mulroy currently serves as a Senior Advisor of CamberView Partners, LLC, a leading provider of independent, investor-led advice to public companies on how to successfully manage investor engagement and activism situations. Mr. Mulroy supports CamberView's efforts to help companies across a range of industries prepare for and respond to short attacks. He has been involved in investor relations activities as a corporate lawyer, an investment banker and an executive officer of Questcor Pharmaceuticals, Inc., where he served as Executive Vice President – Strategic Affairs, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel. During his tenure at Questcor, Mr. Mulroy participated in the Company's defense against a multi-year short attack and the Company's sale to Mallinckrodt plc.

Mr. Mulroy is a member of the Board of Directors of BioTime, Inc., a clinical-stage biotechnology company with a focus on pluripotent cell-based technologies. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of The Pegasus School, an independent grade school in Huntington Beach, California.

Mr. Mulroy earned his J.D. from UCLA and his B.A. (Economics) from the University of Chicago.

Meghan O'Leary, Head of Investor Relations, SVB Financial Group

Meghan leads investor relations for SVB Financial Group, the parent company of Silicon Valley Bank. In this role, she oversees all aspects of SVB's relationships with investors, sell-side analysts and credit rating agencies. She was responsible for developing and driving the company's first proactive IR program, which, in its first year, garnered a nomination in IR Magazine's annual awards for "Greatest Improvement in Investor Relations." Meghan has been recognized numerous times in Institutional Investor magazine's annual "All America Executive Team" awards as a top SMID-cap bank IRO.

Prior to heading up IR at SVB, Meghan spent more than a decade in marketing and public relations, as head of public relations for Silicon Valley Bank; vice president of marketing for Brience, an early mobile content delivery startup; and vice president at Cunningham Communication — at the time Silicon Valley's leading high-tech public relations firm — where she advised clients on public relations strategy and execution, and brand positioning.

Meghan began her career as a journalist, covering technology strategy, management and implementation for CIO Magazine and, before that, for PC Week. Her articles have been cited in numerous textbooks and academic publications.

Meghan received an AB in English Literature from Smith College.

Peter Schuman, Investor Relations Consultant, Avaya

Peter Schuman, IRC, has a proven track record in financial communications. He is presently a strategic investor relations advisor at Avaya. Previously he was Sr. Director, Investor Relations at Atmel Corp until its acquisition in April 2016. Prior to Atmel he was an investor relations professional at Intel Corporation and Coherent. Peter has also worked as a Marketing Director at The Nasdaq Stock Market and as a Compliance Examiner in the Enforcement Department of the NASD.

He began his career as an auditor with Berkshire Hathaway Inc.'s General Re unit and received an MBA in Investments & International Business from Pace University and a BS in Finance from The University of Maryland.

Peter served on the advisory boards of vOOrka and IPREO as well as the NIRI Silicon Valley Chapter board for five years.

Kate Scolnick, SVP of Investor Relations and Treasury, Seagate Technology

Kate Scolnick is Senior Vice President of Investor Relations and Treasury for Seagate Technology, a leading global high-tech storage solutions company. With over 20 years of financial communications and investor relations experience, Kate's career concentration has been in information technology sector, including investor relations positions at EMC Corporation, McAfee, and Intel. Institutional Investor Magazine named Kate to their All America Executive Team rankings of best investor relations professionals in the IT Hardware sector for the past three years.

She received her B.A. from Michigan State University.

Brad Stone, Author of The Upstarts and Senior Executive Editor for Technology at Bloomberg News

Brad Stone is senior executive editor for technology at Bloomberg News and the author of The Upstarts: How Uber, Airbnb, and the Killer Companies of the New Silicon Valley are Changing the World (Little, Brown, January 2017.) He is also the author of the New York Times bestseller, The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon, which won the 2013 Business Book of the Year Award from the Financial Times and Goldman Sachs and has been translated into 26 languages. He is a twin, and the father of twins, and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area.

GAME YOUR RAISE

Michael Sullivan, VP Investor Relations, Applied Materials

Mike Sullivan has worked in Silicon Valley for more than 20 years and joined NIRI in 2002. He is Vice President of Investor Relations at Santa Clara-based Applied Materials, a leading global equipment supplier to the semiconductor, and LCD display industries.

He joined Applied from Intel where he worked in investor relations from 2001-2008. He also held corporate communications roles at Intel's Santa Clara, Munich and Swindon, U.K. offices from 1992-2001. He previously worked at communications agencies serving clients in semiconductors, computer hardware, services, software and distribution.

Mike received his MBA from Santa Clara University and BA from San Jose State University. He resides with his family in Santa Cruz and enjoys outdoor sports, recreation and music. He also enjoys motorcycling and serves on the advisory board of the RawHyde Adventures riding school.

GAME YOUR RAISE

Stephanie Wakefield, Vice President Investor Relations, Box

Stephanie leads Box’s investor relations team. Previously, Stephanie headed up Informatica’s global Investor Relations team from 2003 through 2015. With a capital markets and marketing background, Stephanie took on the IR function in late 2003, when company had a ~$200m run rate and a market cap <$1 billion and helped drive recognition for growth to a $1+ billion revenue company with a market cap exceeding $5 billion. Prior to Investor Relations, Stephanie was a product and solutions marketer for Informatica and Microstrategy.

Stephanie started her career focusing on Eurobond issuance on the Debt Capital Markets desk at Deutsche Bank Securities. She has been honored by the American Business Awards with a Stevie Award as the Communications, PR or IR Executive of the Year 2011. Stephanie is also a two-time Institutional Investor All America Executive team member (2009, 2011).

Stephanie graduated from Dartmouth College with a B.A. in Economics and in Asian Studies (Chinese). She holds an MSc in Development Finance from the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies.

Samuel Wilson, VP of Finance, MobileIron

Sam Wilson currently serves as a Vice President in Finance at MobileIron, heading up IR and Treasury. Previously, he was a consultant to public and late-stage private companies on capital markets and strategy. Sam spent over 15 years on Wall Street either as a portfolio manager or research analyst. He previously spent four years at Applied Materials in various engineering and management positions. Lastly, Sam served as a Captain in the United States Army, stationed in the United States and Europe, with training including Airborne, Ranger and Air Assault courses. Sam received a MBA from the University of California, Berkeley and a BS in electrical engineering with a minor in mathematics from Seattle University.

Sam Wolff, CFO, Birst

Sam Wolff is Birst's CFO. He was previously CFO of BlueKai, which was acquired by Oracle in early 2014. During his three years at BlueKai, Sam helped scale the organization as it pioneered the enterprise SaaS data management platform space. During his tenure, the company grew revenue by over 250%, evolved the business into a leading SaaS platform for marketing applications and expanded into international markets. Sam joined BlueKai after over six years at Yahoo! where he was VP, Finance for the Americas Sales & Marketplaces organization and was recognized as the #1 IR professional in the internet sector in the 2010 Institutional Investor All-America Executive Team rankings. Prior to Yahoo!, Sam held financial management roles at Vail Resorts Inc. and Squaw Valley USA and was a manager in both the audit and restructuring practices at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Sam holds an AB from Harvard University and an MBA from Indiana University. Sam is a past board member and treasurer of the National Investor Relations Institute, Silicon Valley Chapter and is a CPA (inactive).