

2021
Virtual
MENTORSHIP LUNCHEON

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SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2021 — 11:00AM-1:00PM CDT
ZOOM (LINK TO BE DISTRIBUTED)

19 MENTORS · BEYOND A SCHOLARSHIP

2021 MENTORS



NICHOLAS W. ALEXOS
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Univar Solutions Inc.

Nicholas W. Alexos has been an Executive Vice President of Univar Solutions Inc. and its Chief Financial Officer since January, 2020 and was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of DENTSPLY SIRONA Inc., both multi-national public companies. He previously was a Managing Director and founder of Madison Dearborn Partners, L.P. since 1988 and led transactions in the healthcare, consumer and industrial teams. He began his career in 1985 at The First National Bank of Chicago where he eventually became a Vice President in Corporate Finance. He has been a Director of VWR International LLC, Walgreens Infusion Service, Sirona Dental Systems, Team Health Inc., Performance Health and various other companies. He also has served on numerous charitable and non-profit organizations including the Children's Inner City Educational Fund, Lake Forest Country Day School, Metro Squash, University of Chicago Booth School of Business Council and Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago and has recently been appointed to the Harvard School of Dental Medicine Advisory Board and the board of The Hellenic Initiative. Mr. Alexos received an M.B.A. from University of Chicago Booth School of Business and a B.B.A. from Loyola University, is married and has three teenage children, and attends St. Peter and Paul church in Glenview, Illinois.



ANGIE KOSTOPOULOS ANDREWS
Composite Technical Specialist, Federal Aviation Administration

Angie is the Composite Technical Specialist for the Federal Aviation Administration and works with the aviation industry, advising and supporting the certification of aircraft designs and subsequent modifications to small airplanes, rotorcraft and transport aircraft. An active member of the "FAA Strategic Composite plan" supported by the Aviation industry, educational institutions, and other government institutions to develop guidance, training, and standards for composite aircraft installations. Angie also works with the FAA Certification Procedures Branch, and Design Certification Section at FAA headquarters in Washington DC, authoring policy related to engineering certification procedures. In 1996, Angie certified the first composite aircraft designed and manufactured by Cirrus Design Corporation, which was equipped with a full airframe ballistic parachute system that can be deployed during emergency conditions for the survival of the crew and passengers. The design became the first of its kind to be certified by the FAA and remains the only aircraft ballistic parachute used as standard equipment by aviation. Angie, also advised and supported the certification of the first Honda jet. She continues to support subsequent model certifications for Honda and other Jet aviation companies. Prior to joining the FAA Angie worked at The Boeing Company in Seattle Washington as a structural engineer in the 737/757/777 wing group where she assisted in establishing design objectives and requirements, evaluating structural discrepancies on wing parts and issued corrective action where appropriate.



STEPHANIE CHIGAS
Mezzo-Soprano, Metropolitan Opera

Possessing a thrilling versatility that is equally at home on opera, concert and recital stages, Greek-American mezzo soprano Stephanie Chigas' voice has been hailed as "...rich and full of the promise of things to come." Ms. Chigas has performed with great success such roles as Carmen in LA TRAGÉDIE DE CARMEN, Lucretia in THE RAPE OF LUCRETIA, the title role in Bizet's in CARMEN, Nicklausse in LES CONTES D'HOFFMANN, Dorabella in Mozart's COSÌ FAN TUTTE and Hansel in HANSEL UND GRETEL. For her performances as Carmen, Joseph McLellen of the Washington Post wrote, "Top honors on opening night went to Stephanie Chigas, who had the best voice and explored Carmen's earthy, almost animal sensuality with a power beyond any prima donna I have seen in the role." Ms. Chigas will be beginning her 12th year with The Metropolitan Opera for the 2021-2022 season. Some of her solo credits at the Metropolitan Opera include featured roles in: Manon, La Rondine, Der Rosenkavalier, Dialogue of the Carmelites, and Manon Lescaut. She has also performed with the Santa Fe Opera, Glimmerglass Opera, Boston Lyric Opera and New York City Opera. As a concert soloist, she has performed at Carnegie Hall, Boston's Symphony Hall, and with the New York Philharmonic at Lincoln Center. Ms. Chigas is the winner of the 2005 George London Foundation Competition and was a Grand National semi-finalist for the Metropolitan Opera Grand National Council Auditions as well as the second-place winner in the New England Region. She has also received awards from the Gerda Lissner Foundation, Dimitri Mitropoulos International Competition for Singing and the Greek Women's University Club. In 2000, she was the featured performer for the American Hellenic Institute and performed musical selections composed by Mikis Theodorakis for the composer himself as the Institute honored him with a lifetime achievement award. Ms. Chigas holds two Grammy Awards, Best Opera Recording Grammy Award for Metropolitan Opera's The Tempest (2014) and Der Ring des Niebelungen (2013) for her participation in the ensembles of these recordings. Ms. Chigas has earned undergraduate and graduate music degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Boston University, respectively.



CONSTANTINOS DASKALKIS
Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Constantinos (or Costis) Daskalakis is a Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, a member of the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory (CSAIL), and an affiliate of the Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems (LIDS) and the Operations Research Center (ORC). He is also an investigator in the MIT Institute for Foundations of Data Science (MIFODS).

Daskalakis completed his undergraduate studies in Greece, at the National Technical University of Athens, and obtained a PhD in Computer Science at UC Berkeley. He was a postdoctoral researcher in Microsoft Research-New England in 2008-2009, and has been with the MIT faculty since 2009. Daskalakis works on computation theory and its interface with game theory, economics, probability theory, statistics and machine learning. He has resolved long-standing open problems about the computational complexity of the Nash equilibrium, the mathematical structure and computational complexity of multi-item auctions, and the behavior of machine-learning methods such as the expectation-maximization algorithm. He has obtained computationally and statistically efficient methods for statistical hypothesis testing and learning in high-dimensional settings, as well as results characterizing the structure and concentration properties of high-dimensional distributions.

Daskalakis along with Goldberg and Papadimitriou, who was his PhD advisor, were honored by the Game Theory Society with the Kalai Prize for their work on the Computational Complexity of Nash equilibrium. Their same work was honored with the 2011 SIAM Outstanding Paper Prize. Daskalakis was also the recipient of the 2018 Nevanlinna Prize from the International Mathematical Union, the 2018 Simons Investigator Award, the 2018 ACM Grace Murray Hopper Award, the 2008 ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award, and the 2019 Bodossaki Foundation Distinguished Young Scientists Award. Other awards and honors include the 2007 Microsoft Graduate Research Fellowship, the 2009 NSF Career Award, the 2010 Sloan Foundation Fellowship, the 2011 MIT Ruth and Joel Spira Award for Distinguished Teaching, 2012 Microsoft Research Faculty Fellowship, the 2017 Google Faculty Award, and the 2019 MIT EECS Frank Quick Faculty Research Innovation Fellowship. His work also received the 2006, 2012 and 2013 Best Student Paper Award at the ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, and the 2013 Best Paper Award at the ACM Conference on Economics and Computation. Daskalakis sits in the Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing Scientific Advisory Board, and is an advisory editor for Games and Economic Behavior.



EFTHYMIOS N. DELIARGYRIS, MD
MD, FACC, FESC, FSCAI Chief Medical Officer, CytoSorbents Corporation

Dr. Efthymios “Makis” Deliargyris is a triple board-certified physician (internal medicine, cardiology and interventional cardiology) working in the life sciences industry to bring life-saving innovations to clinical practice. He is currently Chief Medical Officer of CytoSorbents (NASDAQ: CTSO) and previously held leadership roles at PLX Pharma (NASDAQ: PLXP) and The Medicines Company (NASDAQ: MDCO). Prior to joining industry, Dr. Deliargyris served as Chief, Cardiology and Interventional Cardiology at Athens Medical Center and as Assistant Professor of Cardiology and Director of Intravascular Ultrasound at Wake Forest University. He has over 100 publications in top journals and has received numerous awards, including the prestigious SCAI Award for best interventional cardiology research in the US. He has founded multiple start-ups including AngioMechanix, intravascular devices; the Greek American Medical College, a non-profit association for US board-certified physicians in Greece; Science and Strategy Consulting Group, a biotech consulting firm; and Esaxion, a transatlantic innovation transfer platform. Dr. Deliargyris received his Medical Degree from the Kapodistrian University in Athens and completed internal medicine residency at Tufts University School of Medicine where he also served as Chief Resident. He completed cardiology and interventional cardiology fellowships at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill where he also served as Chief Fellow. Dr. Deliargyris is an elected Fellow of the American College of Cardiology (FACC), European Society of Cardiology (FESC) and Society for Cardiac Angiography and Interventions (FSCAI). He is married to Karen Ekberg and they have 2 children: Katerina, an environmental science major and acapella star at Duke and Niko, a high school sophomore and aspiring footballer.



TASSOS GIANAKAKOS
Biotechnology CEO and Entrepreneur

Tassos is a driven executive and entrepreneur with a proven track-record of successfully starting and growing innovative, science-based companies in the biopharmaceutical industry. He’s a values-based leader who has built and developed extraordinary teams to take on the world’s most challenging health problems. Tassos has a passion for identifying and growing amazing leaders, bringing them together to create disruptive change in the field of medicine and improving health outcomes for society.

Since starting in vaccine research at Merck & Co. over 20 years ago, he has been instrumental in starting-up multiple biotechnology companies focused on creating game-changing therapies. Most recently, he was CEO of MyoKardia, a mission-driven company focused on changing the lives of people with serious cardiovascular disease through bold and innovative science. MyoKardia pioneered a precision medicine approach to discovering and development novel therapies for heart conditions, and was acquired by BMS in October of 2021 for \$13.5 billion.

Tassos and his wife Katina grew up in Chicago and currently live with their three boys in the Bay Area. He grew up in the St. Demetrios Chicago Church and has been on the Holy Cross Belmont Parish Council since 2014. Tassos has an engineering and economics degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a graduate degree in biotechnology from Northwestern University, and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He is a regular speaker at biotechnology industry events and as an alumni adviser to MIT, Northwestern and Harvard Business School.



KRISTINA HEADRICK
Founder of Yia Mas, Copywriter, Wellness Practitioner

Kristina Maria Headrick is the founder of Yia Mas, a workshop series and lifestyle brand that synthesizes her Greek upbringing and ongoing research of Hellenic dance, philosophies, herbal remedies, and culture. Kristina's unbounded curiosity and an appreciation for self-inquiry led her to pursue alternative ways of presenting Greek folk remedies and ancient traditions. Yia Mas has been featured nationally in Well + Good, The Pappas Post, and The National Herald, and the Yia Mas store and workshops reach Hellenes and Phil-Hellenes around the globe. Kristina is passionate about inspiring wellness through well-researched, creative content and workshop experiences. Her work bridges the gap between our increasingly digital realities and tactile experiences.

Kristina's ongoing research and certifications include a 200-hour yoga teacher training, 100-hour meditation teacher training with Nalanda Institute of Contemplative Science, 75-hour training with Katonah Yoga, and the mentorship program at Sky Ting Yoga in NYC. She also has a background in copywriting and digital marketing, and her clients include such well-known companies as Noom and Korres. She balances digital work with teaching movement and meditation in studios and corporate settings in NYC, Athens, and on retreats in Greece. She holds a degree in history from the University of Virginia.



JOHN KOUDOUNIS
President and Chief Executive Officer, Calamos Investments

John Koudounis joined Calamos Investments as Chief Executive Officer in 2016. He became the firm's first designated CEO hired by Founder John Calamos, Sr., as part of Calamos' succession plan. Serving as a driving force behind improving strategic initiatives, Mr. Koudounis plays a critical role in delivering innovative solutions to business development and expanding product breadth for the firm's global base of clients. Under his leadership, firm profitability and AUM growth have increased substantially.

Mr. Koudounis has 33 years of financial services experience including executive leadership in the global securities business and a deep background in global capital markets. Most recently, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Mizuho Securities USA, Inc. (MSUSA), a subsidiary of Mizuho Financial Group, one of the world's largest full-service financial institutions. During his tenure at Mizuho Securities, he built the firm into a full-service investment bank, expanding its debt and equity capital markets teams. Because of his leadership, the firm also grew in profitability, number of clients, and product diversification, allowing Mizuho to be considered globally as a top tier investment bank. Prior to joining MSUSA in 2008, he was Managing Director and Head of Fixed Income for ABN AMRO Americas where he played a critical role in that firm's successful growth.

Mr. Koudounis, often sought after for his thought leadership, serves as a speaker at conferences worldwide and appears frequently on financial news programs including CNN, Fox Business, CNBC, Bloomberg TV, TD Ameritrade Network, Yahoo Finance Live, and others.

In addition to his executive career, Mr. Koudounis upholds a dedication to philanthropy through various board positions and community outreach. He is the Founder of the Chicago CEO COVID-19 Coalition, an organization he created in 2020 during the pandemic to provide COVID-19 relief and recovery for the city and bring Chicago's business leaders together in a time of need. This initiative focused on four critical areas in COVID recovery: food, shelter/homelessness, counseling services, and PPE. The Coalition distributed over \$1.5 million in proceeds from its successful telethon.

Mr. Koudounis is a member of the Leadership Council at Concordia and the prestigious Bretton Woods Committee. He is a member of the board of trustees of the National Hellenic Museum, a patron of the Prince's Trust International, and an executive advisory board member for the SEAL Future Foundation. He is a founding board member and executive committee member of The Hellenic Initiative, a non-profit, non-governmental organization with the aim of supporting Greece and Cyprus in the aftermath of the financial crisis by helping to foster entrepreneurship in both countries. He is also a member of Leadership 100 and Chairman of the Metropolis of Chicago Foundation. In October 2016 he was inducted as an Archon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Order of St. Andrew, the highest honor bestowed on a layman by the Orthodox Church. He graduated from Brown University with a degree in International Diplomacy & Foreign Affairs and Economics.



MICHAEL KRATSIOS
Fourth Chief Technology Officer of the United States, The White House

Michael is an American business executive who most recently served as the fourth Chief Technology Officer of the United States at the White House. As President's top technology advisor, Michael led National initiatives on AI, quantum computing, 5G, broadband, and autonomous systems. Michael also previously served as Acting Under Secretary of Defense. As the third highest ranking official at the Department of Defense, Michael managed the largest R&D budget for a single organization in the world, supervising all research, engineering, development, and prototyping.

Michael was named to Fortune's "40 Under 40", is a WEF Young Global Leader, was awarded the Archbishop Iakovos Leadership 100 Award for Excellence, and is a recipient of the DoD's Distinguished Public Service Medal, the Pentagon's highest honorary award. Michael was unanimously confirmed by the U.S Senate and is the youngest Under Secretary of Defense in history. Michael's writings have appeared in The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, WIRED, Bloomberg, and Fortune.

Prior to joining the White House, Michael was a Principal at Thiel Capital, where he invested in and advised technology companies. A South Carolina native, Michael graduated from Princeton University and served as a Visiting Scholar at Beijing's Tsinghua University.



ALEXANDRA MIHALAS, ESQ.
Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Employee Benefits Practice

Alexandra Mihalas is a partner in Kirkland & Ellis's employee benefits practice. Her practice focuses primarily on transactional ERISA matters for private and public companies, with a particular emphasis on acquisitions and sales by venture capital and other private equity funds, and the ERISA issues that arise in complex bankruptcy restructurings. Alexandra's transactional work has been featured in The American Lawyer, The Daily Deal, and Chicago Daily Law Bulletin publications. She is a top-rated attorney noted in Illinois Super Lawyers and the Legal 500. For many years she has served as the Co-Chair of Kirkland & Ellis's Women's Leadership Initiative planning committee, and in that capacity has served as a mentor to first-year women at Northwestern Law School through WLI's mentorship program. She is also an ongoing mentor to diverse local law students through the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity. Alexandra received her BS in Chemistry from Haverford College and her JD from Harvard Law School.



JOHN SECARAS, ESQ.
Associate, Winston & Strawn LLP, Mergers & Acquisitions Practice

John Secaras is an associate in Winston & Strawn LLP's Chicago office. He concentrates his practice on mergers and acquisitions and private equity transactions, working with privately held and publicly traded clients on buy- and sell-side deals. He also has experience working on both lender-side and borrower-side corporate finance transactions. Prior to joining Winston, John spent time as an extern at the Securities and Exchange Commission in the Office of Derivatives Policy and as a law clerk at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois.



EVONNE SEPSIS
ESC Advisors, Founder

Evonne Sepsis has spent the last 20 year in healthcare investment banking. In 2009, Ms. Sepsis founded ESC Advisors, an advisory firm working exclusively with life sciences companies. The focus of ESC is on M&A advisory work and capital raises. Before founding ESC Advisors, Ms. Sepsis was head of healthcare investment banking at Susquehanna Financial Group; and was a Managing Director at C.E. Unterberg, Towbin. Ms. Sepsis started her investment banking career at Salomon Brothers and prior to business school she worked at APM, a healthcare consulting firm. Ms. Sepsis received her MBA from Yale and her Bachelor's degree from Northwestern.



GEORGIA GIAKOURIS SPEAR, MD
Chief of Breast Imaging, NorthShore University HealthSystem
Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology, University of Chicago

Georgia Giakoumis Spear, MD, is Chief of the Department of Breast Imaging at NorthShore University HealthSystem and previously Director of the Clinical Breast MRI Program. She is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiology at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. Dr. Spear serves on the Breast Program Leadership Board at NorthShore and is fellowship trained in Breast Imaging. She has a special interest in breast imaging research and participates in multiple studies, serving as principal investigator. Dr. Spear is passionate about women's health and has been influential in creating and passing legislation in the State of Illinois to improve access to breast cancer screening to aid in early detection of breast cancer. She serves as a Radiology Advocacy Leader on the national level. Dr. Spear is a board-certified radiologist, residency and fellowship trained at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where she also served as Chief Resident. She earned her MD from the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine and was inducted in Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society.



MARKOS SPYROPOULOS
Professional Sailor, Captain & Circumnavigator

With over 25 years sailing experience and over 350,000 nm in oceanic sailing around the world, Markos is interested in commercial, performance and expedition/research sailing as well as leisure and private sailing. He is very passionate about ocean life exploration, sustainability and conservation, as well as competitive and athletic sailing. He was the first Greek to ever finish the Mini Transat off-shore race (2019) in prototype vessel category. Markos has sailed over 350,000 nautical miles across all oceans and continents and has received numerous awards, such as the Greek Rowing Championship Gold Medal in 1989 and 1990 and the Bronze Medal in the World Rowing Championship in 1985 and was also honored by Melina Merkouri, Minister of Culture. He also was a member of the Greek National Rowing Team from 1985 to 1990 and an honorary crew member of Athenian Triyris Olympias. Markos is now preparing for the upcoming sailing season.



ANDREAS STAVROPOULOS
Partner, Threshold Ventures

Andreas Stavropoulos is a partner at Threshold (formerly DFJ) Ventures and a member of the firm's management committee. He currently serves on the boards of a number of private companies, including several in the enterprise infrastructure space, such as Balena, CircleCI, Diamanti, Forward Networks, and Mythic, in addition to his involvement with other enabling platform technologies.

Before joining DFJ, Andreas was with McKinsey & Company's San Francisco office, where he worked with senior management teams of corporate clients with an emphasis on information technology. Andreas is a summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Harvard College in computer science. He also holds an MS degree in computer science from Harvard University and an MBA from Harvard Business School, where he was a Baker Scholar and graduated first in his class. He currently serves on the board of Endeavor Greece, on the executive committee of the HBS Alumni Board and on the Advisory Cabinet for the Dean of the Harvard School of Engineering.



LOUIS THEROS
Vice President and Legal Counsel, Midwest Region MGM Resorts International

Louis Theros is Vice President and Legal Counsel, Midwest Region for MGM Resorts International. In this role, he is chief legal counsel at MGM Grand Detroit and MGM Northfield Park (Ohio). Pre-pandemic, these properties generated close to \$1B in revenue and employed approximately 4000 employees. He is responsible for all legal matters including litigation, contracts, corporate, regulatory compliance and advising internal "clients." He supervises departments responsible for risk management, safety, gaming regulatory and anti-money laundering compliance. Additionally, Theros was also heavily involved in legislative efforts with various stakeholders and lobbying elected officials, including being a chief industry drafter of internet gaming and sports betting legislation passed in Michigan in 2019.

Prior to moving to MGM, Theros was a litigator in private practice for twenty-six years at two of Detroit's largest law firms. He served in a variety of roles at those firms, including serving as a Vice President and Director, Hiring Partner, Pro Bono Chair and member of Diversity and Inclusion Committees. His expertise includes first chair trial and appellate responsibilities in employment and large class action lawsuits throughout Michigan and nationally. He has extensive experience in handling arbitrations arising from collective bargaining disputes and unfair labor practice complaints; and counseling clients on various traditional labor issues, including organizational campaigns and collective bargaining agreement negotiations and implementation.

Theros was elected a Fellow of the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers in 2013. He also maintains an "AV Preeminent" peer review rating from Martindale-Hubbell. Aside from practicing law, Theros is also the elected Mayor of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, having served in this role since November 2017. Prior to his election as Mayor, he served on City Council for 16 years.

Theros received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, and his law degree from Vanderbilt University School of Law.



DEAN TSARWHAS, MD
Medical Director, North Region Cancer Center, Northwestern Medicine

Dean Tsarwhas, MD is a board certified Medical Oncologist with Northwestern Medicine and is the Cancer Center Medical Director at Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital. Dr. Tsarwhas completed his BS/MD degree at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine 6-yr program and went on to complete his Internship, Residency, and Chief Medical Residency at The University of Michigan. He completed his fellowship in Medical Oncology at Dana-Farber Cancer Center, Harvard Medical School. Dr. Tsarwhas was in private practice for 23 years with North Shore Oncology Hematology Associates in Libertyville, IL before joining Northwestern Medicine in 2016. Dr. Tsarwhas has held many leadership positions within Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital including Medical Staff Chief. In addition to being the Cancer Center Director at Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital, Dr. Tsarwhas serves as the Cancer Service line director for the North and Northwest Regions of Northwestern Medicine. Dr. Tsarwhas has served on Healthcare mission trips including to Tanzania with OCMC. Dr. Tsarwhas and his wife Amy live in Lake Forest and have three children.



KIKI VALE
Founder, Kefi L!fe
Holistic Health Coach, Writer, Broadcaster

Kiki Vale is a Greek American retail business woman, holistic health coach, writer, broadcaster & public speaker. As founder of the Kefi L!fe Brand™, Kiki has turned her passion for whole person well-being and the Greek lifestyle into a wellness brand. Kefi L!fe is rooted in the Greek ethos that the relationship between mind, body and soul must be in sync in order to have a life where all is well- Ola Kala! Kiki works to maintain whole person synergy as a wife, mother and professional by practicing the tenets of a Kefi Lifestyle. Follow Kiki's top ranked podcast KefiL!fe on your favorite listening app.



STELLENE VOLANDES
Editor in Chief, Town & Country Magazine