Women Leaders in...

BLOCKCHAIN

Feature: Phaedra Boinodiris on Blockchain and it's Role in the 4th Industrial

Founder & Editor
Mary Kurek

With sadness I report that Richard Overton, oldest US veteran whom we featured on the cover of our last issue passed away this month. Sympathies to his family and many friends. This 11th issue brings to your attention some of the most incredible women contributing to the blockchain space around the globe. This isn't intended to be an exclusive compilation, but, we couldn't ignore what these game changers are doing with their work. and the connections that are already in works within this group. Thanks, Xiaochen Zhang for serving as Guest Editor.

Mary Kurek

GAME CHANGER UPDATES:

Congrats to Elizabeth Roth Benson, Brandon Schielack, and Patricia Monthe for acquiring business contracts/agreements with our partners, Living Learning and Working, Inc.

Happy for JoAnn Castillo for securing a partnership with the International Red Cross

Congrats also to Okey Enyia on his new book: "Indisputable: The Story of a Favored Son" https://enyiastrategies.com

Special Announcement:

We are partnering with the *United Nations SDGs Network* to promote our youth development model. We will also be inviting members of the The Network's Leadership Council to share content with us here in The Introducer when it relates to our subject.

THE INTRODUCER
MAGAZINE

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www.frontrunnersleague.com

> *"I am deeply grateful for Mary Kurek's connection to the US Chamber of Commerce after being showcased in the Introducer. Their efforts in Re-skilling the Workforce deeply aligns with how I foresee Blockchain enabling micro-credentialing in education. In turn, I have already connected the USCOC with others in EdTech that can help them attain their vision. Thank you, Mary for your efforts!"*
>
> Phaedra Boinodiris
> Blockchain Strategist, IBM

> *"We are meeting frontrunners where they are and enabling them to see where they can go. We contribute to solutions keeping in mind that we desire to cultivate innovation that leads to social impact and beyond. Living, Learning, and Working is so pleased to be partnering with Mary and the League. We've already been making some major connections for and between members. More to come."*
>
> Robert Branch
> Exec. Dir., Public Relations, Living, Learning, & Working (Partner-The Frontrunners League)
> 2018 Global T1D Diabetes Innovation Challenge Co-Winner of The People's Choice Award
> VP R & D, EconoTeque

> *"I had the great opportunity to be introduced to Mary Kurek about 7 months ago. In that time, I realized her passion and uncanny ability to connect people with like minds and goals. she's connected me with several people with the possibility of creating and moving forward with several innovative projects. It's an honor and privilege to be one of the first members of the Frontrunners League. Kudos to Mary for creating a site for innovation and collaboration!!"*
>
> Darryl Hughes
> CEO/Creative Director
> Hughes Who Technologies

"The Frontrunners League keeps connecting me with the world's most interesting and accomplished innovators. Each connection is high quality and vetted to suit the evolution of my startup. Quality to me means the professional is well connected, a high achiever and applies their strengths to work that pushes industry boundaries. They could be an excellent advisor or play a key role."

Krister Gustafsson
UX/CX Designer, envisioning transformative cross-channel worlds.
Portfolio: www.kristergustafsson.me
Magic Garden R&D Incubator: www.magicgarden.life/demonstration

"The Frontrunners League is a highly-efficient positive feedback loop. When you have determined members forging meaningful connections, you end up with exponential outcomes. And that's exactly what we're experiencing here: a group of relentless individuals with the unwavering support and scale of the larger community."

Tim Fitzpatrick
CEO/IKONA (Immersive reality content for the enterprise healthcare industry)
https://ikona.health/

Linked in   **Sign in**

Patricia Monthe
CEO Tech for Universal Health Coverage (F… **+ Follow**
4d

Identified as Change Maker in the USA, Thx to **Mary Kurek**, Later listed among the Dutch Change Makers, thx to **StartupDelta** & Today Among the Change Makers of Cameroon - My Birth Country, Thx to @CameroonAchievers….. The impact is just beginning **https://lnkd.in/gDCdpQh Brenda Achere Abdou Razak Moukaila MEDx eHealthCenter B.V. #dutch #Changemakers #Cameroon #237 #Impacting**

90 Likes • 8 Comments

Hitting the Bullseye on Networking

with Mary Kurek
CEO, Mary Kurek Impact Connections

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XIAOCHEN ZHANG

President, FinTech4Good

2018 Game Changer, The Introducer Magazine (Finance & Operations)

On January 7, 2017, we organized the *Global Blockchain4SDGs Roundtable* in Washington DC to bring together institutions and global leaders to scale up blockchain for sustainable development solutions around the world. At the event, we recognized women were largely underrepresented in this wave of technology innovation. *Forbes* asked: Crypto Is Booming. But Where Are the Women? The world has seen more and more female leaders who are dedicated to driving changes in this industry. But their leadership, achievements and impacts are far under being fully communicated to the global community.

FinTech4Good strongly believes the disruptive potential of blockchain in supporting the achievement of gender equality and women empowerment (SDG 5). We have worked with many women blockchain leaders in the past to feature their inspiring stories and accelerating their blockchain innovations around the world. I am very excited to work with Mary and *The Introducer* to capture and feature stories of female role models like these in this issue to raise awareness, spur inspiration and celebrate success to mainstream women leadership in blockchain industry.

Moving forward, investors will be increasingly informed of viable business models, as well as products and teams that are backing the business, instead of relying only on white papers and marketing games as before. The rise of *Security Token Offering* (STO) will make it possible for more digital asset owners and blockchain start-ups to conduct fully complied fundraising in many jurisdictions. We will see more and more impactful blockchain solutions to be developed at scale in the next few years. We have no doubt that women will be forefront runners to drive the change. We look forward to serving as a catalyst supporting and celebrating their success in the future.

FinTech4Good
Incubation | Acceleration | Investment

Global Cognitive Legal Co-Leader (IBM) *United States*

THE INTRODUCER
Game Changers

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Ms. Hoffman serves as the Global Co-Leader of *the IBM Cognitive Legal Practice* and is a member of the *IBM Global Center of Competency*. She was certified as an IBM Thought Leader in 2015 and has two patents pending for Detecting Clusters and Relationships in Large Data Sets (END920160377US1) and Method and System for Pattern Based Home Network Configuration (END820160894). She also co-authored the book "eDiscovery Plain & Simple" (ISBN-13:97814394079), is the Co-Founder of Women in eDiscovery (Founded in 2007) and the Co-Founder of Diversity in Blockchain (Founded in 2017). In 2017, Ms. Hoffman-Childress became an Advisory Board Member for **Integra Ledger** and became a pioneering member of the **Global Legal Blockchain Consortium** and the *MIT Legal Forum for AI & Blockchain*. Recently, she spoke at the **United Nations** at the *Blockchain for Impact Summit* and *GlobalMinded* on the subject "Blockchain, Financial Fuel for Sustainable Development." In September 2018, she was appointed to the **U.S. Commodity Future Trading Commission's** *Distributed Ledger Technology and Market Infrastructure Subcommittee* for the 2018 - 2019 term.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Co-Founded and Co-Leader of the IBM Cognitive Legal Practice and Co-Founder of Diversity in Blockchain

Published patent for Detecting Clusters and Relationships in Large Data Sets (20180096047)

Co-founded and serves on the Board of Directors of the **Community Hope Center of Osceola County**. Has helped over 27,000 homeless families since its inception.

LOOKING AHEAD

Currently working on a project which will provide easily accessible education on the topics of Blockchain and AI with a focus of making it plain and simple, so all can learn these important emerging technologies. Committed to her mission at Diversity in Blockchain to create equal, open and inclusive opportunities in the blockchain industry. Her mission is to empower everyone from all walks of life to engage with blockchain technology in order to ensure equal participation and distribution.

SHAWNNA'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

Fintech leaders who have insights to share with the **U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission's** *Distributed Ledger Technology and Market Infrastructure Subcommittee*.

Networking with diversity and inclusion leaders.

Corporate Counsel who are interested in legal technology advancements, including artificial intelligence and blockchain.

Liliana Reasor

CEO, SupraFin *United Kingdom*

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Liliana is the CEO and Founder of **SupraFin,** the first robo-advisor for cryptocurrencies with the mission of helping address global financial inclusion. She created **SupraFin** because she believes that FinTech startups can transform finance for the benefit of the masses and she has the expertise required to make **SupraFin** successful. She noticed that **SupraFin** could leverage emerging technologies like Blockchain through cryptocurrencies combined with AI to help power financial inclusion by bypassing legacy business and IT models. She is considered a Blockchain and FinTech thought leader and has been a speaker in many Blockchain and FinTech conferences globally. She has more than 20 years of experience in areas of finance and FinTech, including tech equity investment analysis, mergers/acquisitions, corporate lending, credit trading, credit portfolio management, and risk and portfolio management software sales, and business development. She has worked at tier-one financial institutions, including **JP Morgan, Bank of America, Deutsche Bank, Morgan Stanley,** and **Moody's Analytics**. She has an MBA from **UCLA Anderson,** a M.S. in Computational Finance from **Carnegie Mellon University**, and a B.S. in Petroleum Engineering from **National University of Peru**.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Valedictorian at Petroleum Engineering at **National University of Engineering (UNI) in Peru**. Awarded the Top Finance student award and the J. Fred Weston award (M&A award) at **UCLA Anderson**. Graduated top 1% in the M.S. in Computational Finance from **Carnegie Mellon University**.
- Long and successful career in the finance industry at tier-one financial institutions.
- Founded **SupraFin,** the first robo-advisor for cryptocurrencies that levers the Blockchain and AI with the goal of powering financial inclusion.

LOOKING AHEAD

Liliana and her team at **SupraFin** have already created the static prototype for the **SupraFin** platform and formed alliances with Blockchain companies to access customers in Asia and the US. They are collaborating with **Carnegie Mellon University's** Blockchain Initiative and are part of the **University of California** Founders Network. **SupraFin** is currently raising capital from angel investors, plans to launch the **SupraFin** platform in 2019, and will do a global crowdsale of **SupraFin's** cryptocurrency to reach consumers globally in 2019.

LILIANA'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- Angel/fund investors looking to invest in FinTech (including blockchain / cryptocurrency) ventures
- Impact investors looking for disruptive FinTech ventures with a global impact
- FinTech (including blockchain / cryptocurrency) leaders looking to improve the financial services industry to create a positive impact

Dr. Jane Thomason

Global Adviser on Digital Transformation, Abt Associates
CEO Blockchain Quantum Impact *Australia*

THE INTRODUCER Game Changers

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Dr. Jane Thomason is a passionate advocate for Blockchain for social impact and the education empowerment of women and women in blockchain. In 2018 she was awarded Top 10 Digital Frontier Women and **UN** Decade of Women Quantum Impact Champion. She is a Global Adviser on Digital Transformation at **Abt Associates**, an Ambassador for the **British Blockchain Industry Association**, and is Section Chief Co-Editor at *Blockchain for Good: for Frontiers in Blockchain*. Jane mentors several Blockchain start-ups with social impact use cases in emerging economies. She is a regular social impact hackathon judge and mentor. She started her own international development management company which merged with **Abt Associates** in 2013. She remained for 4 years to scale that business resigning as CEO in March 2018 to pursue her mission to accelerate the uptake of blockchain and frontier technologies for social impact – the mission for which she is a known thought leader. She leverages her networks in international development, public health, global partnerships, technology, research, and entrepreneurship to educate, inspire, and connect people on how blockchain and frontier technologies can transform emerging economies.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Founded an international development company in 1999, built it to $50 million revenue, merged with **Abt Associates** and continued leading growth to achieve triple revenue and diversifying into new sectors to $250 million with 650 staff.

In 2018 she spoke at **The World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, WHO Partnership for Maternal Neonatal, Adolescent and Child Health, USAID, DFAT,** and multiple conferences. Recognized in **Forbes Magazine** (2018) as Blockchain's Leading Social Development Evangelist.

Led the development of a Blockchain social impact hackathon series, conducting 4 hackathons in London on financial inclusion, basic services, global hunger, and gender equity in Nigeria.

LOOKING AHEAD

Establish a global think tank on frontier technologies for social impact. Leverage global networks and capital to establish a global collaboration on Blockchain and frontier technologies for Women, Children, and Adolescents in emerging economies in Asia and Africa. An accelerator program and fund for the exponentiation of technologies which reduce poverty, enable economic opportunity and facilitate and enable the transformational impact of technology at scale.

JANE'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

Funders, philanthropists, impact funds and VCs who are interested in funding early stage start-ups for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Start-ups with world changing ideas for reducing poverty and inequality

Global partners who are interested in being part of a hyper-co-collaboration for social impact in emerging economies

"For the first time in human history, we have the technological tools that will enable us to connect the bottom billion unbanked to the global economy, to provide digital identity to stateless people...to direct benefits to women and girls. We must harness these digital tools and our collective ambition to create a connected and distributed token economy to transform lives of disadvantaged women and girls across the globe and achieve Quantum Impact."

- Dr. Jane Thomason

Chrissa McFarlane

Founder & CEO of Patientory, Inc. *United States*

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Chrissa McFarlane, Founder and CEO of **Patientory, Inc.**, headquartered in Atlanta, is an entrepreneur passionate about making a difference in healthcare on a global scale and has achieved unprecedented success in a highly compressed timeframe. She is among the youngest female CEOs in the Healthcare IT industry and was named a Finalist for the *Medtech Insight Award for Entrepreneur of the Year 2018.* McFarlane recognized that consumers, providers, and related healthcare organizations urgently needed secure, scalable, cost-effective population health management solutions that empower patients and improve care coordination while ensuring data security. **Patientory** was her solution. It interconnects with any EHR system and enables doctors, care providers, and consumers to communicate on a single, easy-to-use platform. PTOY is a digital utility currency offered by **Patientory** that provides users access to the platform to store and secure health information.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Raised $7.2 million in just three days last year through cryptocurrency crowdfunding
- First and only blockchain healthcare company to present at Arab Health Event
- Top 5 digital health solution in the world for empowering patients, alongside multi-million-dollar revenue companies

LOOKING AHEAD

Healthcare is embracing a wave of technology and cultural changes. **Patientory's** vision is to provide solutions that will enable doctors, care providers and consumers to communicate on a single easy-to-use platform that interconnects with most EHR systems, while also enabling a wider array of payment types. **Patientory** is continuing to lead advancements in artificial intelligence, blockchain, and is working with the industry's uptake of (IoT) to better serve healthcare consumers, providers, payers and BioTech while creating a more accessible, efficient, effective continuum of care throughout a patient's life, and wherever they may travel.

CHRISSA'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- **Global Healthcare Leaders in technology**
- **Women Entrepreneurs**

Founder and Publisher, *Blockchain in Healthcare Today & Telehealth and Medicine Today,* Converge2Xcelerate Health-tech Modernization Conference *United States*

THE INTRODUCER
Game Changers

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Tory Cenaj is the Founder of **Partners in Digital Health**, a forward-reaching communications and publishing company. She is the Publisher of the open-access peer review journals *Blockchain in Healthcare Today*, and *Telehealth and Medicine Today*. In addition, the annual *Innovation Ignition Competition* and *Converge2Xcelerate* conferences are components of the **Partners in Digital Health** portfolio. Tory has extensive experience in all facets of healthcare publishing and communications. As Director of Marketing of **Advanstar Healthcare** and head of digital media, she pioneered ground-breaking industry communications and advertising campaigns, launched new editorial departments, and the group's digital portfolio. She garnered experience in clinical trials management and outsourcing, publication planning, continuing medical education, and events, setting the stage for launching her own medical communications company, **PharmEd Communications**. Tory's experience includes serving as clinical operations director at the **Foundation for Depression and Manic Depression**. She led the organization's operations, clinical studies management and grant proposals. She has led traditional and digital publishing, integrated marketing, communications, medical education campaigns, and international licensing in Europe, Asia, Middle East, and Latin America. Her passion is harnessing break though innovations and identifying their role in the health communications and technology landscape.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Publisher of *Blockchain and Healthcare Today*, the 1st international peer review journal for blockchain and intersecting technologies in healthcare

- Curator of the *Converge2Xcelerate Annual Healthcare Technology Innovation and Modernization Conference*

- Publisher of *Telehealth and Medicine Today* peer review journal - the 1st journal to be featured on the new *Orvium.io* open-source decentralized platform

LOOKING AHEAD

Partners in Digital Health is committed to building preeminent sources of trusted knowledge to grow the newest technology and innovation sectors in healthcare. The portfolio continuously pushes the boundaries of the scholarly publication ecosystem practices and methods to drive innovation. The journals and annual conference bring leading academics, pragmatic innovators, and practitioners around the world together, in the pursuit of trust in transparency, credibility, and truth.

TORY'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- Academics at the leading edge of innovation in blockchain technology in healthcare, and all intersecting technologies impacting healthcare
- Pioneers, startups, and market makers in the health-tech sector bringing democratization and equity to patients and efficiency to health systems
- Biopharma executives on the leading edge of discovery bringing efficiency and innovations to drug discovery, research, business models, and patient outcomes

GAME CHANGERS
in action

ICOs Advisor and Community Manager *Italy*

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

THE INTRODUCER
Game Changers

Caterina is an Advisor and Community Manager for ICOs, alternative crowdfunding systems linked to cryptocurrencies for the financing of Blockchain startups. She is the founder of **Blockchain Ladies,** an international community created to connect all women engaged in the sector, as well as supporters, such as professionals, hackers, developers, cryptotraders, entrepreneurs, and investors. She is also the founder of **NEURALIA - Global Research Connections**-**NEURALIA** is the first Blockchain-based crowdsourcing project that innovatively enables people to formulate the problems and generate solutions affecting global human health, starting from neuroscience and moving to healthcare in general. **NEURALIA** allows citizen-scientists to collaborate about science research topics, contributing through a double mechanism - answering research questionnaires and sharing innovative theories to start new projects in the basic research. Caterina has been involved in communication for 12 years, particularly in the field of science and technology as she has been a researcher for 6 years.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- In 2017, she was speaker at TEDx Napoli with the speech: - "Chains" that will give us back freedom: Blockchain Power
- In 2018, she was included by Forbes in the 23rd place among the 100 Founders in Europe to follow on social networks
- Journals that wrote about her: Indian Express, Warsaw Business Journal, Fintech Finance, Forbes, and Forbes Italy
- Keynote speaker: Blockchain, cryptocurrencies, and ICO in international conferences/events (India, Italy, Warsaw, Zurich, Dubai, Belgrade...)

LOOKING AHEAD

As a Digital Health Expert and Blockchain Evangelist, Caterina is focused especially on the "Healthcare and Biomedical Research" side. Her personal commitment is to bring Blockchain into each potential field of action. In particular, she promotes the use of this technology for the creation of new models of government and the accessibility to cryptocurrencies for their introduction into the daily routine.

CATERINA'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- Strong women who are trying to change the world through Blockchain
- People who are realizing Blockchain's potential for social impact
- Professionals who are implementing Blockchain projects as the answer to a better healthcare industry

Strategic Business Development Director, Biomaterials & Diagnostics, Precision for Medicine & UN Blockchain for Impact Global Health Committee *United States*

THE INTRODUCER
Game Changers

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Karen's journey as a disruptor began when her son was diagnosed with Autism in 2000. Her son was nonverbal until 4-years-old and was labeled as "an institutional candidate" by his preschool. Around this time, he suddenly said a full sentence to a dog. She and her husband sold their beach house and bought a ranch, stocked it with 22 animals and the talking commenced. She involved her son in every therapy and clinical trial she could find but talking to the animals worked for him. He was mainstreamed into regular education classes in 2nd grade and is now in his 3rd semester of junior college with a B average. Meanwhile, Karen started a nonprofit on the ranch for other kids and moved from sales (**Autodesk** software based on the blockchain) to Biotechnology-Agility Clinical CRO. **Precision for Medicine** acquired **Agility Clinical** in 2017 and she has since moved over to **Precision for Medicine** global inside sales across all vertices. **Precision for Medicine** is a global clinical research organization using new tech and a biomarker informed approach to personalized therapy. They are a trusted expert in diagnostic and therapeutic development offering an end-to-end transformational solution. Karen day-traded as a hobby and understood crypto, blockchain, and fintech. She was invited by the *United Nations Blockchain for Impact Summit* in mid-2018 and sits on the *U.N. BFI Global Health Committee*.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Overcoming Autism
- Biotechnology Consultant promoting **Precision Medicine** for Rare and Orphan disease states and patients
- **United Nations** Blockchain for Impact Global Health Steering Committee

LOOKING AHEAD

Healthcare transforming into a system where blockchain is the platform, then add on genetic data (as standard of care), EHR data, wearable data, digital health data, etc., and mix in AI and quantum with a digital ID passport incorporating biometrics. Achieving worldwide portability and interoperability, Karen says, is "the icing on the cake".

KAREN'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- DLT leaders with global impact organizations.
- Pharma and Biotech Chief Medical Officer /Clin. Ops./Senior Scientists worldwide
- Healthcare Technology/ Data Sovereignty/ DLT/Blockchain thought leaders

Principal Explorationist, Equinor, Start-up Strategist at H2H- IOT Enterprise Platform, Executive Producer Quaestor.ico, DLT/block chain POC *Norway*

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Game Changers

WHY THIS FOCUS OF IMPACT

Marisol's biggest strength is her multidisciplinary background combined with an entrepreneurial mindset, corporate business structure, and the talent to connect the dots between people and innovative business models with assertive vision. The belief that supports her work is this personal statement: *"only decentralization will enable and democratize enterprises, social impact businesses, and block chain or any other DLT architecture or technology that solves security, trust, IoT connectivity, and cryptographical provenance."* Marisol believes it is important that those aware of digital technology create playgrounds where our data is not an asset but something that is functional, timeless, flexible to explore, and easy to retrieve with provenance assurance.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2015-leader of Ideation of New Energy Solutions for **Statoil-Norway**. Founded organization to integrate clean tech, distributed power with block chain technology, and became active in exploring how digital innovation could suit business with better tools moving towards the rise of M2M economy.

2017-founded the **Chamber of Commerce Norway- Colombia** and became Latin America Innovation and digital Judge at *Energy Forum* 2017. Joined the elite group of evangelists of **IOTA DLT**.

2018-one of the 50 global experts for *Experti* knowledge platform Block chain, co-founded a real time IoT data start-up, **H2H Group**, and became executive producer at **Quaestor.ico** -crypto enterprise entertainment

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Equinor**: Energy related projects in the digital age
- Creating Woman digital CEOs- co-create block chain business while bringing feminine creativity
- Corp. strategist **H2H Group**: decentralized real-time data integrator platform enabling peer-to-peer transaction/IoT connectivity using most suitable tools from block chain/DLT DAG. Use case-GPS and cargo tracking for supply chain
- Exec. Prod., **Quaestor. ICO** - Strategy for enterprise ecosystems of digital archetypes identity in a crypto economy

MARISOL'S NETWORKING INTERESTS

- Corp. leaders with access to supply chain real-time data streams optimization
- Social impact digital leaders within governments and large corporations
- Catalyzers/investors supporting digital co creation human2machine

**... PARTNERSHIPS, MONEY, AND DISRUPTIVE INNOVATIONS...
THE FRONTRUNNERS LEAGUE's 2018**

IN 2018, OUR FRONTRUNNERS LEAGUE MEMBERS CREATED AI MEDICAL CHATBOTS, FORMED PARTNERSHIPS WITH AN INTERNATIONAL BRANCH OF THE RED CROSS AND THE WORLD HEALTH ORG, AND SECURED MAJOR FUNDING FOR AWARD-WINNING INNOVATIONS. AND, THAT ISN'T ALL...

Here at **Mary Kurek ImpactConnections**, we have a lot going on, what with producing **The Introducer Magazine,** managing **The Frontrunners League**, and working on business development with our partners. But, because the League is what drives us, we wanted to fill you in on an incredible 2018.

Last year was pivotal for many League members and we haven't even celebrated our 1-year anniversary, as yet. Thanks to Advisory Board members, Robert Branch, Antwain Thomas, Wendy Steele, Robert Brown, other game changers, and our Communications Director, Annie Moon, we've grown to just over 100 members and acquired an amazing partnership with the global social impact consortium, **Living Learning and Working, Inc.** (LLW)

This past year, 3 of our League members have secured contracts with LLW with business development deals and/or potentials in the pipeline. From League Board Member and LLW business development colleague, Robert Branch:

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..."We've have had members partner with **NASA, The Coca-Cola Company, World Wildlife Fund, Earthwatch Environmental, United Nations, Reef Check Foundation, and Google**, and have obtained several business contracts with city, federal, and Fortune 500 & 100 companies.

The Frontrunners League of Social Impact Innovation is working with LLW to come together to network and collaborate on projects LLW is undertaking. Several business relationships have been established with hospitals, schools, and corporations around the world. We are tapping into our pool of engineers and scientists with experience in renewable energy to meet this specific demand in the U.S. and underdeveloped nations of the world. Cancer has been a villain for a long time, but in the era of the digital age, there is hope that it may succumb to even a smarter/greater adversary; precision medicine. Our League members are using precision medicine, which is perhaps the most exciting new area in cancer treatment, potentially being more effective and with fewer side effects than conventional treatments. Using 3D printers, they are looking at printing electrochemical sensors that can detect specific mutant nucleic acids from cancers to make it easier to find out which treatments are most suitable for a particular patient's cancer and to possibly help with initial diagnosis and treatment monitoring. Also, our members are leading the front in education. Recently, we have expanded our reach beyond North America and into South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, and Australia. We are humbled and yet determined to leverage our global reach to create a paradigm shift in innovation and we are confident that with our meticulous focus, our collaborative efforts, and unified consensus amongst our partners across the globe, we are in a better position to see the UN Sustainable Development Goals become a reality."

READ THE REST OF THE POSTING WITH BULLETS ON 2018 WINS AND HOW YOU CAN CONNECT WITH THE LEAGUE HERE.

We stand on the brink of a technological revolution that will challenge our ideas on what it means to be human. This revolution is expected to impact all disciplines, industries, and economies, involving all stakeholders, from the public and private sectors to academia and civil society.

The first industrial revolution used water and steam power to mechanize production. The second used electric power to create mass production. The third used electronics and information technology to automate production. Now a fourth industrial revolution is building on the third, the digital revolution that has been disrupting almost every industry in every country and creating massive change in a non-linear way, at unprecedented speed.

There are three critical dependencies that will shape the Fourth Industrial Revolution - 1. Reassessing the role and importance of trust and transparency, 2. Reinventing the relationship between business, government and academia and 3. Re-skilling the workforce. Blockchain and AI have a central role in all three of these.

Reassessing the role and importance of trust and transparency.

We are currently experiencing a crisis of trust in our society. We have a fundamental lack of trust in many of our institutions.
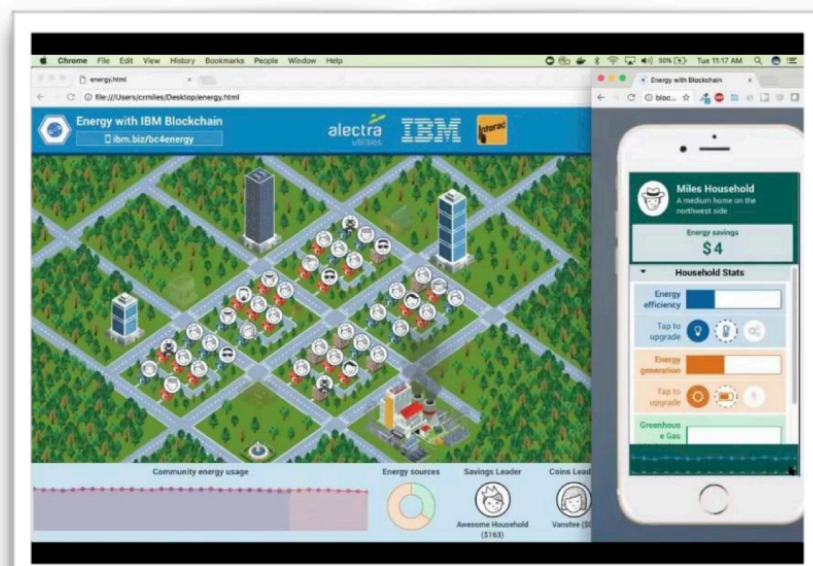
Thanks to technology, companies can now monitor business activities in minute detail, from verbatim logs in a call center to real-time GPS tracking of component supplies, but how can that verifiability, that trust, that transparency, be shared with the rest of society?

In this report published by Sprout Media, 9 put of 10 consumers will stop purchasing from brands that lack transparency. It will be imperative for companies to differentiate themselves by offering verifiable trust to consumers. Many fully predict that this same expectation of transparency that we will have from industry will also carry over to government institutions as well.

 The way that blockchain technology distributes and tracks money and information will enable a more transparent business landscape, building that consumer trust. Startups and large companies alike are investing in blockchain because they want to use its secure technology and record for transactions to provide more value to their customers. In turn, customers feel empowered because they can ensure that they are buying services and products from entities that can verify their claims.

Take for example the World Wildlife Fund's project that is using Blockchain to ensure that tuna from southeast Asia is sourced ethically. I don't want to but tuna from suppliers that used slave labor in their fisheries. Via Blockchain, I can ensure that supplier transparency. Now begin to expand this idea out. If my government promises to give money to aid a certain group, we can now track that funding. If I give money to my favorite charity, I should be able to track where that money goes.

I predict that the best interface to be able to gauge the efficacy of blockchain networks AND serve to continue to incentivize network members will be game-like interfaces.

IBM/Interac/Alectra mobile game app for sustainable energy Blockchain network

Imagine a city sim that shows you how well your Blockchain network is performing to transform access to quality healthcare in that region, or to renewable energy sources.

AI can be used to mine patterns of data that also provide us insights. To date, there have been challenges associated with the level of Bias in an AI. (See this great TED talk on the subject.) We can use Blockchain as a means to ALSO enforce the transparency of how AI is trained. Just as we are credentialing individuals for the subjects that we learn, we can do the same with AI. In this way we canestablish a trust with our AIs as well. This is where using Design Thinking can come into play. As we are
designing AIs to solve problems, ensuring transparency of how they reached the results they did is imperative. (See EveryDay Ethics.)

ACTION: Begin to use the Design Principals outlined in EveryDay Ethics with your tech teams so that you can begin to seed a culture that insists on Ethical considerations when designing products.

Reinventing the relationship between business, government and academia.

Our society can no longer afford to have these three pillars be so very, very siloed. Our worlds are moving far, far too quickly. These three must be interconnected. When government is ill informed about advances that businesses are making in innovations, society can suffer due to lack of regulations protecting people's rights, data and privacy. When academia is not teaching subjects that are critical for businesses to thrive we have a hiring crises. When there is a lack of connection between these three entities, we all suffer. There are pilots that bring us hope.

P-Tech is a collaborative effort between businesses and academia trying to rethink our approach towards education in high school. So far, P-TECH schools have opened their doors to students in eight US states, Taiwan, Morocco, and Australia. P-TECH students not only work toward the common goal of simultaneously earning a high school diploma and STEM associate degree, but these students are each assigned to an industry mentor. Project based schools like this where tech companies are helping shape the curriculum and provide mentorship and sponsorship of students is critical to the 4th industrial revolution.

Steering Committees like the one that was just formed in Congress last Fall on the subject of AI in Government are a critical way in which both Businesses and Academia can influence how Government approaches and regulates AI.

ACTION: Investigate how you too can seed P-Tech or P-Tech-like programs in your community that form bridges between school systems and local businesses. Join Government Steering Committees that seek Business input on how technologies like AI and Blockchain are used in the public sector.

Re-skilling the Workforce.

Lastly, many of us working in high tech companies have a great vantage point of the technological tsunami that is coming our way. Many believe that the rising tide of robotics, automation, and artificial intelligence is going to displace many of the jobs that are available today, just as it will also introduce completely new jobs that require new skill-sets.   (See the YouTube video Humans need not apply.) IBM's CEO, Ginni Rometty is already referring to this critical need of preparing for 'new collar jobs'.

In this last US election, in how many presidential debates did you witness coherent solutions about the need to re-train workers and prepare students for new skills? Not many, right? The US is now actively de-centralizing education and giving more power to the states to drive changes in curriculum. These states in turn are turning to industry for ideas and forming consortia for introducing topics like data science as early as elementary schools.

Consider how technology could be used to innovate on the process of education and the culture of education. Consider how technology could be used to incubate a democratized and agile ecosystem for Edtech. This ecosystem could serve everyone from coal miners struggling to become re-trained in solar energy to elementary school students in urban cities learning the basic tenants of topics like design thinking, quantum computing, and cyber defense. This ecosystem would reside on a skills ledger built on blockchain.

A Skills Ledger Built on Blockchain

A skills ledger is an infrastructure that can track certification and badging from an online learning environment. It can have a value that changes over time as new concepts enter the market. Certifications can be safely traced to individuals so that should they learn something in one non-traditional learning environment, the user could glean credit from traditional learning environments. For example, say that a soldier in the army were to learn about cyber-defense. They take extensive classes and they now wish to leave the army in order to join corporate America. With a system like this, what that soldier learned can be tracked and certified as they enter into the business world. There would be social wrappers around the modules, teacher enablement, and online communities. There would be analytic tools, dashboards and AI-powered bots that would recommend modules for you based on your strengths and needs. There would be self-paced, personalized learning pathways.

Consider the implications of this to traditional places of learning, with teachers that already feel dis-empowered and over-burdened. Teachers might point parents and students to online systems like this in order to augment what they are trying to teach. Our AI-enabled applications could sit on this ledger to recommend further modules to students based on their skill-sets and interests, pointing them towards curriculum where there is hot demand for particular skills. This would not be curriculum solely tailored for STEM alone, but would indeed include all of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics).

This platform by itself is not a panacea. Considerations like certification of the content, pricing and other factors need consideration. Without engaging and well scripted Edtech applications residing in this ecosystem, it may as well be a desert with tumbleweeds. The key to having this idea thrive is fostering an **open ecosystem**. Technology companies should use platforms like this to post curriculum that we think is important to fill new collar jobs (like quantum computing, IoT, cyber-defense, design thinking, systems thinking, cognitive, cloud, etc.) in both traditional and non-traditional learning spaces. Platforms like this can help incubate and incentivize Edtech companies so they can find a ready made distribution channel.

This system does not have implications for education alone. Healthcare and energy workers could also use this as a system to manage certifications as well. This approach could transform the accessibility of education and make it truly AGILE. It is a solution for our times. The democratization of learning has never been more direly needed than now.

> **ACTION:** *Begin thinking about how you might pull together and incentivize various stakeholders within your region to form a Blockchain-enabled micro-credentialing system between K-12 institutions, community colleges, universities and recruiters. Click on the links below to see how others are innovating in this space. You will not be alone in your quest as there are many that feel very passionately about this very subject and truly see it as a way in which we can prepare our educational institutions for what is to come.*

EU Commission Report On Blockchain in Education

ReImagining the Higher Education Ecosystem

US Dept of Ed Eyes 2030

Project GreenLight

Rymedi

Hu-manity.co

Phaedra Boinodiris *is a member of IBM's Academy of Technology where effectively she is an INTRA-preneur, kicking off internal startups that range from IBM's first Serious Games and Advanced Simulation program to IBM's first K-12 program- influencing curriculum in traditional and non-traditional learning spaces through entrepreneurship and social impact. She is keenly and wholeheartedly invested in Tech for Good and Ethics.*

Boinodiris happily mentors startups around the world as well as business school students at her alma-mater UNC-Chapel Hill where she is an active Adam's Coach.
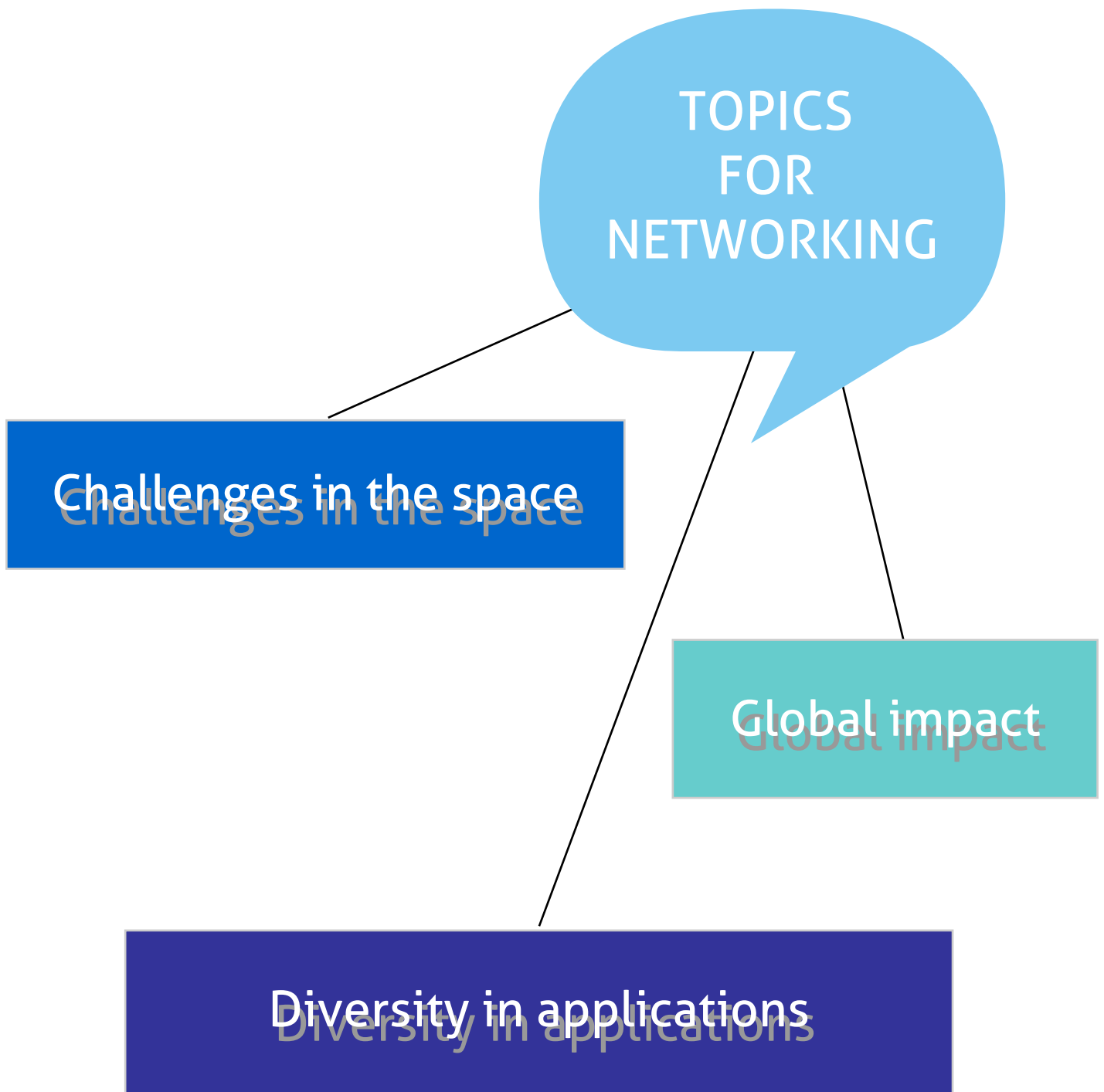
She is also the author of Serious Games for Business, published in 2014 by Megan-Kiffer press. Boinodiris' earlier work in serious games are being used in over 1000 schools worldwide to teach students the fundamentals of business optimization. Boinodiris was honored by Women in Games International as one of the top 100 women in the games industry. Prior to working at IBM, she was a serial entrepreneur for 14 years where she co-founded WomenGamers.Com, a popular women's gaming portal. There she subsequently started the first scholarship for women to pursue degrees in game design and development in the US.

Listen to her story on NPR [here](#).

Here's a little teaser for the blog posting we produce on the connections we see between those featured in this issue and game changers from this and other issues.
Please visit
https://www.marykurek.com/media

Sunday, Jan. 20, 2019 after 3 pm eastern when we release our most popular posting on who needs to connect and why.

Chrissa McFarlane and Todd Gray (Issue # 7) might have a good chat. Todd's ompany, autonomous_ID produced Bio_Sole ® ("self-contained biometric credentialing system designed to meet the security, mobility, and privacy needs of identity and access-control automation) is an award-winning healthcare product. Chrissa and Todd should talk about Chrissa's Patientory focused on health data. Same goes for Chrissa and Patricia Monthe (Issue # 7) whose Medx eHealth Center provides as complete a telehealth experience as can be had (including payment options for self as patient or someone else), aiming particularly at those countries where higher-level healthcare can't be found. From The Netherlands, Patricia is been growing her business quickly over the last year - perhaps a collaboration?

Karen Keeley and Caterina Ferrara should connect for a couple of reasons: #1 both are into research in the biomedical space. #2 blockchain is a high priority in their leadership work (Caterina founded Ladies in Blockchain and Karen serves on the UN Blockchain for Impact Global Health Steering Committee.) MORE TO COME JAN. 20th.

Please visit *The Introducer Newsstand* for back issues and tons of networking opportunities.

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Jan - Feb 2019
Game Cl

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