

## **'BEyond: Excellence in Entrepreneurship': speakers**

### **- BARON HERMAN DAEMS**

Herman Daems is Chairman of the Board of BNP Paribas Fortis ([www.bnpparibasfortis.com](http://www.bnpparibasfortis.com)), and Chairman of the Board of KU Leuven ([www.kuleuven.be](http://www.kuleuven.be)), one of Europe's oldest universities.

From July 1999 till the end of 2014 Herman Daems was Chairman of the Board of Barco (a publicly listed technology group on Euronext, [www.barco.com](http://www.barco.com)) and Chairman of the Board of Gimv from May 1999 till June 2011 (a publicly listed PE and VC firm on Euronext, [www.Gimv.com](http://www.Gimv.com)). Daems made a career in academia, policy-making and consulting. He is an emeritus professor at the Faculty of Economics and Management of K.U. Leuven, Belgium. He was chairman of EVCA, the European Association of Private Equity and Venture Capital in 2004-2005, member of the executive committee of EVCA between 2002 and 2006 and Chairman of IPEV from 2005 till 2012. He has chaired the Belgian Corporate Governance Committee which sets, as provided by law, the governance code for boards of listed companies in Belgium. Professor Daems is a member of the executive committee of the VBO/FEB, the Belgian employers association and holds several board positions. He received the hereditary title of Baron from his Majesty the King of Belgium in April 2014.

Herman Daems is former Chairman of the Board of Pulse Foundation and inspirator of the BEyond program. He will speak about the importance of universities as a thriving force of innovation and what a mentor can bring to company.

### **- JIM STOLZE**

Jim Stolze is an European thought leader on digital transformation and entrepreneurship. After founding several tech companies he is now Chief Strategy Officer of Singularity University in the Netherlands.

Jim Stolze is an author of the books "How to survive your Inbox" and "Uitverkocht", which was nominated management book of the year. He was also (lead) blogger and is known from his research and publication on "the Virtual Happiness Project" and "the Lifestackers Movement".

Jim Stolze is an active leader in the TEDx community.

Together with the European Commission he created a program called "Ideas from Europe" (2015). On this platform aspiring entrepreneurs from 28 member states joined together to see how their business ideas could have a positive impact on society.

In 2016 Jim Stolze was asked to create a festival of match making between startups, investors, corporates and developers. As a result Startup Fest Europe took place between 24 - 28 May.

For BEyond, Jim Stolze - Singularity University NL, will talk about: "The Future is Exponential"  
Singularity University has identified 12 technologies that are developing at an exponential rate. This means that their price-performance is doubling roughly every eighteen months. This unexpected growth brings tremendous opportunities, as well as threats. The true test for any organization is whether you are being disrupted or if your organization is actually embracing these technologies and methodologies to be future proof.

- **RODOLPHE DE HEMPTINNE**

Rodolphe is Co-Founder of Third Bridge, and CEO of its Intelligence division. He is responsible for executing Third Bridge Intelligence's strategy and growth plan.

Before founding Third Bridge, Rodolphe's career included consultancy work at Bain & Company in Boston, Johannesburg and London, and five years' management experience with Shell Corporation in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Rodolphe has an MBA from Wharton, the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a Fulbright Scholar. A true polyglot, he is fluent in French, Dutch, English, Spanish and German.

He has four children and, quite coincidentally, a passion for climbing mountains in increasingly remote locations.

Today, Rodolphe de Hemptinne will share his experience. Third Bridge was created in 2007 and developed under the direction of Rodolphe and his partner, to become a global player with offices around the world and more than 700 employees.

- **P. PAUL CELEN**

Paul Celen was active during the last 16 years as an entrepreneur. He works now as an independent Business Consultant in Austria and specialised in interim management as well as the coaching of other entrepreneurs, start-ups, scale ups for any occasion where growth and business development comes into play.

He worked for incubators, investors, individual companies. He is specialised in the integration of ICT-technology for existing fields like IOT, e-health, AI, Speech technology, Pharma, Retail, Art, Multimedia, etc..

Previous to starting his consultancy work, Paul was the founder of Supplitel AG, the first independent ASP for Voice Portal applications (1999 -2001). He also worked as COO at Phillips Speech Processing, where he was responsible for all the global operating activities and as Managing Director at ICL-Fujitsu in five European countries, focusing on turning around loss-making businesses.

He boasts therefore more than 20 years of experience in general management, marketing, sales and business development experience within the IT, medical, chemical and industrial markets.

In his speech, Paul Celen will give an overview of different tools for international business development and will help the scale-ups choose an approach that fits their business.

**Paul Bosmans**, CEO at Pulse Foundation, opens the afternoon with his welcome speech. The afternoon will be animated by **Pasquale Mazzuca**, Managing Director at TalentWorks Group.