4:00-5:30 Tech & Innovation: Shaping Ukrainian Future

IT industry is a growth engine of Ukraine’s economy. Ukraine IT outsourcing industry is a globally recognized leader. Tech ventures working with enterprise software, ML / AI, cyber security, life-science, big data management, gaming, agribusiness and e-commerce.

Exports of Ukrainian ICT services is the third largest export sector showing constant growth. Foreign investments into the industry are increasing ($285 mln in 2018). Moreover, the number of SMEs tech companies is growing as well (4,000+ IT companies). Furthermore, from year to year the number of successful tech ventures with Ukrainian founding teams and R&D offices in Silicon Valley is increasing. Ukraine has the largest and fastest-growing engineering talent pool in Europe with 160,000 specialists in 2018 and 242,000 prognosis by 2025. The country’s universities and polytechnic institutes graduate over 100,000 new engineers annually incl. 23000+ IT graduates.

The panel aims to help building bridges between Ukraine, Stanford and Silicon Valley by:

- providing information to Silicon Valley and Stanford community on existing opportunities Ukrainian IT Industry and Innovation ecosystem;
- enhancing conversation between Ukrainian Tech ecosystem and community of Stanford and Silicon Valley;
- connecting Ukraine tech community to resources at Stanford and Silicon Valley.

Olena Boytsun
Director, Central and Eastern Europe, Luminate

Olena Boytsun leads investment and advocacy activities in Central and Eastern Europe for Luminate, a global philanthropic organization established by Pierre Omidyar, the founder of eBay. Luminate is set up to empower people and help improve lives by building stronger societies. Before Luminate was launched in 2018, it was known in the region as the impact investing firm Omidyar Network.
Since 2016 Olena established and built the post-Soviet region’s network and portfolio within Omidyar Network’s Government & Citizen initiative.

Olena is a member of the Steering Committee for Civitates fund, a philanthropic initiative for Solidarity and Democracy in Europe, and serves as a jury member at the start-up Seedstars competitions for CEE countries. Based in Ukraine, Olena leads and develops Impact Investing club with the aim to transform the financial funding system in the CEE region toward more flexible and effective capital.

Olena brings over 15 years of investment and management experience to her role, having worked and studied in Europe, Asia and US. She was awarded the State Order of the Princess Olga for her achievements promoting Ukraine internationally.

Jerry Kaplan
Stanford University

Jerry Kaplan is widely known as an Artificial Intelligence expert, serial entrepreneur, technical innovator, educator, bestselling author, and futurist. A renowned Silicon Valley veteran, Jerry Kaplan founded several storied technology companies over his 35-year career, two of which became public companies. Kaplan may be best known for his key role in defining the tablet computer industry as the founding CEO of GO Corporation in 1987. Prior to GO, Kaplan co-founded Teknowledge, Inc., one of the first Artificial Intelligence companies to commercialize Expert Systems, which went public in 1986. In 1994, Kaplan co-founded Onsale, Inc., the world's first Internet auction website, which went public in 1997. In 2004, he pioneered the emerging market for social games by starting Winster.com, where he served as CEO for eight years.

Jerry Kaplan is currently a Lecturer and Research Affiliate at CDDRL, a Visiting Lecturer in Computer Science, and a Fellow at the Center for Legal Informatics at Stanford University Law School. His research and teaching focusses on the social
and economic Impact of Artificial Intelligence. He is an inventor on more than a
dozen patents, and has published over twenty refereed papers in academic
journals and conference proceedings. Kaplan holds a PhD in Computer and
Information Science from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BA in History and
Philosophy of Science from the University of Chicago.

John Sung Kim
CEO, JetBridge
John Sung Kim is the founder of Five9 (NASDAQ: FIVN)
and DoctorBase (now part of Kareo). In 2018 John
started JetBridge - a software development agency
that helps VC-funded startups in the Bay Area scale
faster by leveraging Ukrainian tech talent.

Ivan Prymachenko
Ukrainian Emerging Leaders Program/Prometheus
Ivan Prymachenko is an educational technology
innovator and a co-founder of the largest Ukrainian
massive open online courses platform Prometheus
with 900,000 users. Structured as a non-profit
organization, Prometheus creates and publish on its
platform massive online courses from leading
Ukrainian universities, companies, international organizations, and government.
Prometheus also works on making its online courses a part of the curriculum of
Ukrainian educational facilities in the blended learning format: twenty-five
Ukrainian universities are already participating in this program.
Moderator: Nataliya Mykolska  
Stanford University, Ukrainian Emerging Leaders Program/Former Trade Representative-Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Economy and Trade

Nataliya Mykolska is the Trade Representative of Ukraine - Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade. In the government, Mykolska is responsible for developing and implementing consistent, predictable and efficient trade policy. She focuses on export strategy and promotion, building an effective system of state support for Ukrainian exports, free trade agreements, protecting Ukrainian trade interests in the World Trade Organization (WTO), dialogue with Ukrainian exporters, and removing trade barriers. Mykolska is the Vice-Chair of the International Trade Council and the Intergovernmental Committee on International Trade.

In her position, Mykolska developed and adopted the first ever Export Strategy of Ukraine: Strategic Trade Development Roadmap of Ukraine for 2017-2021. She has concluded and launched free trade agreements with Canada and Israel, and initiated additional trade preferences by the EU. Due to her efforts, Ukraine has started actively using WTO mechanisms and procedures. Moreover, the Ministry initiated WTO proceedings against Russia in response to trade aggression. Mykolska established the Export Promotion Office at the Ministry to assist Ukrainian business, help them succeed on international markets and open new markets.

She has been recognized as the No. 1 International Trade lawyer by Ukrainian Law Firms, and was recommended by the International Who’s Who of Business Lawyers and the International Who's Who of Trade & Customs Lawyers.
The panel will include a showcase of 3-4 of the most successful Ukrainian tech ventures in Silicon Valley.

Andrey Akselrod
People.ai

Andrey Akselrod is CTO of People.ai. He brings over 18 years of software development expertise, entrepreneurship, creating and managing distributed state of the art engineering teams, developing high load, scalable platforms. Prior to joining People.ai, Andrey co-founded Smartling where he served as a CTO building and running its engineering team.

People.ai

People.ai accelerates enterprises' growth through the power of AI. With the industry's only Revenue Intelligence System, People.ai frees all customer-facing teams, including sales, marketing and customer success from manual data entry tasks by automatically capturing all contact and customer activity data, dynamically updates CRM and other systems of record and provides actionable intelligence across management tools to realize the full selling capacity of the Enterprise. Some of the world's best brands are leveraging People.ai to transform their business, including Lyft, New Relic, MuleSoft, Okta, Tanium, and Zoom. Founded in 2016 and based in San Francisco, the company is backed by Y Combinator and Silicon Valley's top investors, including Andreessen Horowitz and Lightspeed Venture Partners.
Yaroslav Azhnyuk
Petcube

Yaroslav Azhnyuk is a Co-founder and CEO at Petcube, a technology company dedicated to connecting pets to the internet.

Prior to that, he was a founder of an online media about contemporary arts and culture, an NGO promoting digital literacy, and an online marketing boutique. Yaroslav got his masters in Computer Science from Applied Math faculty of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.

Yaroslav is passionate about pets, people, models of thinking, and reinventing the way people learn.

Petcube
Petcube is a worldwide leader in connected pet cameras and software. Petcube connects pets to the internet, understands them through machine learning, and provides a platform for other pet products and services. https://petcube.com/.

Anna Polishchuk
Co-Founder & Chief Design Officer at Allset

Prior to that, she was a co-founder and COO at Advice Wallet, mobile loyalty program available in 4 countries, and Settle, mobile payments for restaurants.

Allset (www.allsetnow.com) is a food pre-ordering platform available at 2,000+ restaurants in 12 major cities across the US. Allset makes everyday dining easy and wait-free by allowing restaurants to offer quick dine-in and pickup services. The company was founded in 2015 by a team of Ukrainians, is headquartered in San Francisco, California, and has a big R&D office in Kyiv, Ukraine. As of today, Allset raised a total of $8.35M from top US VCs including Andreessen Horowitz, Greycroft, and Compound.