Quest Group Biographies

India Open 2012

Jayma Pau, Director, Leaders’ Quest

Jayma joined Leaders’ Quest in 2007. In her role as Director, she is responsible for client relationships, business development and Quest design. She has recently joined the internal Executive Committee, which oversees strategic decision-making for LQ’s offices in London, Mumbai and Beijing.

In 2010 Jayma moved to Mumbai to set up LQ’s India office. Initially running it from her living room, Jayma went on to hire and train six people. Within a year this local team successfully designed and delivered Leaders’ Quest’s biggest programme, for 500 people. Jayma’s six month spell turned into a very happy two year stint, and she has only just returned to London.

Jayma previously worked at ITE Group, a leading trade show/events organiser. While there, she spent time in Russia, Kazakhstan, Libya and Mozambique. Other experience includes a year teaching in southwest France and a brief stint at the European Parliament, where she concluded that politics wasn’t for her...

Jayma has a BA in French from the University of Nottingham. She enjoys going to concerts, playing the piano (rather less proficiently than in her youth) and spending time with her family and close friends. She is attempting to visit a new country every year of her life.

Sasha Rodricks, Programme Coordinator, Leaders’ Quest

Sasha joined the Leaders’ Quest India team in Mumbai as a Programme Coordinator in September 2011 and is delighted to have coordinated Quests in China, India and the UK. Sasha sees her role at Leaders’ Quest as a coming together of her passion for sustainability and development issues and her innate organisational skills.

Sasha has always been passionate about contributing towards making the world a better place and it is this passion that has dictated her education and career choices. She was drawn to Leaders’ Quest and its unique focus of bringing together leaders (both in the conventional and unconventional sense) to facilitate dialogue, inspire and equip them with the tools they require to be catalysts for positive change in their communities and in the world.

She was initially drawn to the field of wildlife conservation and pursued a Master’s degree in Animal Physiology in Mumbai. However, her stint at a Fair Trade Organisation, where she managed environmental projects around India, set her on a different trajectory. This led her to pursue a further Master’s degree in International Development & Environment Analysis from Monash University, Australia. She also has a passion for teaching and has taught at university level in both Mumbai and Melbourne and has found teaching and facilitating knowledge to be one of the most
rewarding experiences. Her desire to give back to her home country in some measure drew Sasha back to Mumbai or as she refers to it – Bombay.

Richard Brubaker, Founder and Managing Director, Collective Responsibility

Like many who came to China, Rich Brubaker first arrived to seek out career opportunities as China’s economy gathered steam. In pursuing those goals he developed market entry and distribution strategies for firms who were also looking for China based opportunities.

Soon after arriving in Shanghai, Richard developed his first community enterprise HandsOn Shanghai (now HandsOn China) as a means to promote, develop and manage volunteerism in China. This endeavor soon opened him up to the human side of the economic engine that was fueling China’s growth, ultimately leading him to develop platforms that examines issues relating to sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Richard is currently the Managing Director of Collective Responsibility and a Visiting Professor of Sustainability at the China Europe International Business School (CEIBS). He is focused on building platforms that promote long term organisational capacity to address the economic, environmental, and social hurdles that China faces as the country’s economic growth accelerates.

Richard holds a Masters in International Management from the Thunderbird School of Global Management. He also served as the Vice Chairman of the Corporate Social Responsibility Committee with the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai for three consecutive years.

Nicholas Colloff, Director Private Sector, Oxfam

Nicholas was born in Stratford upon Avon, attending the same school as Shakespeare. He has only has one play left to see at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. Educated in London and Oxford in philosophy and religion, Nicholas discovered a talent for ‘starting things’ and became both the incubator and initiator of a range of social enterprises and charities in diverse fields - prisons, finance, mental health and literacy. He has lived in Indonesia, Macedonia, Russia and the USA as a result.

Having failed to find a vocation as a Dominican Friar, Nicholas joined Oxfam partly to work out how innovative one can be in a large established organisation rather than as the entrepreneur. First as country director (in Russia) and subsequently as Director of Innovation, he has discovered (partly) the answer!

When not working, Nicholas is climbing hills, retreating, reading, cooking and indulging a taste for obscure science fiction television series (on which he expects to write a PhD in his retirement).

Bill Francis, Head of Inflight Experience, British Airways

Bill has over 30 years experience in managing up to 14,000 colleagues within British Airways (BA) and a number of major High Street brands, inspiring teams through exceptional leadership, performance management and skills development.
A leader of business and process simplification across corporate cultures, with a proven track record for delivering permanent financial benefit and strategic transformational change.

Bill has strong industrial relations experience gained within the WH Smith operational supply chain, BA’s IT directorate, and more recently with BA’s Cabin Crew Unions. A strong team player who has held a number of Senior Management positions within W.H.Smith and BA, Bill currently leads the BA Cabin Crew Leadership Team and reports to the Managing Director of Brands & Customer Service.

Marta Garcia Abadia, Director, Leaders’ Quest

Marta Abadia is a Director at Leaders’ Quest, with joint responsibility for the Leaders’ Quest Foundation and for supporting the organisation’s relationship building efforts. She brings to LQ her passion and focus around creating impact for disadvantaged populations.

Prior to joining LQ, Marta worked as senior manager at Bridgespan, a market-leading not-for-profit strategy consultancy whose clients span the world of philanthropy and direct service organisations. During this time she focused primarily on the fields of education, public health and the environment.

Marta has also worked at UnLtd, the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, a UK-based endowed charity which funds and supports social entrepreneurs. In addition, she has worked in Central America supporting the reproductive health efforts of PSI international - a global NGO working on public health issues related to low-income and vulnerable populations in developing countries. Marta has also spent several years with Capital One Services, Inc., a large US credit provider. During this time, she co-managed the expansion and consolidation of the firm into some of its key European markets, co-led its UK account management operations, and run its non-mail sales channels. She also brings to the table experience as a for-profit consultant, having spent over three years with The Boston Consulting Group, where she advised a variety of clients on strategy and operations.

Marta holds a BA magna cum laude in Economics and Business Administration from the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain, as well as an MBA from Stanford’s Graduate School of Business. She lives in London with her husband, Richard, and three young daughters.

Zain Halle, Area Manager, Khulisa

Zain is 44 years old and lives in Pretoria South Africa. He works with previously disadvantaged communities, as well as children and adults in conflict with the law. Zain is passionate about people and the effect an intervention can have on those people. Through his projects, Zain strives to create change within a wider context in an individual. He believes that given the opportunity people can overcome challenges; their growth comes from within and that the most incredible gift one human being can give to another is hope. Zain strives to be a positive role model in the communities he works in and is very passionate about his job.

Zain has a Post Graduate degree in Psychology and Criminology and is hoping to complete his
Masters in Clinical Psychology one day. He is very passionate about children and would love to assist those children who have clinical disorders, which he believes brings them into conflict with authority. Zain has a 7 year old daughter who he adores and considers himself privileged to be a part her life.

Zain loves traveling, reading and conversing with people from different cultures. He is interested in how business can transform communities and is constantly trying to find innovative ways of helping people become self sustainable. Zain also works on diverse projects like enterprise development, skills development, micro farming projects, community projects which are social in nature and sports.

Nigel Underwood, Group CIO, International Airlines Group (IAG)

Nigel Underwood joined International Airlines Group (IAG) in 2011, shortly after the group was formed through the merger of British Airways & Iberia. He is part of a small group management team responsible for delivery of the joint business plan and building a common platform to provide services to the airlines in IAG and facilitate delivery of synergies for new entrants.

Prior to joining IAG, Nigel was on the Executive Boards at DHL Logistics & Exel plc as global CIO and has extensive international M&A and business / IT transformation experience. Nigel’s early career was in Organisation & Methods at Boots, followed by roles at Mars and Coca-Cola Schweppes Beverages and 4 years as global CIO for Hilton Group.

Nigel is married with 4 children & lives in the UK. He is a passionate supporter and Associate Director of Lincoln City Football Club as well as a keen athletics fan.