

# Irish Impact SE Conference

## 2015 Speakers



**Mike Belinsky** is a consultant at The Bridgespan Group. Prior to Bridgespan, Mike was a founding partner of Instiglio, a nonprofit organization that works on results-based financing programs and Social Impact Bonds in international development. At Instiglio, Mike worked to unite leaders from the public, private and social sectors to improve the performance of social

programs. He also lead a team that designed the first social impact bond in India. Prior to Instiglio, Mike was a teaching assistant for "Entrepreneurship in the Private and Social Sectors," a joint class taught at Harvard Business School and Harvard Kennedy School. Mike was also an associate at Advanced Analytical Consulting Group in Boston, MA. Mike was the recipient of the War and Peace Fellowship and the Paganucci Fellowship from Dartmouth College, and was a fellow at the Hauser Center for Nonprofits at Harvard University in 2012. Michael holds an AB in economics and government from Dartmouth College and an MPP from Harvard Kennedy School, where he was managing editor of the Harvard Kennedy Review. He is an Echoing Green Fellow and a Forbes 30 under 30 social entrepreneur.



**Laura Broderick** is the Chief Operating Officer at Verb, a social enterprise based in Austin, TX. Verb runs global social innovation competitions that tap into the power of social entrepreneurs in order to tackle the world's most pressing problems. Prior to joining Verb, Laura was CMO of hibu, Inc., a \$1.5B UK based global digital and web services company. Her previous roles include SVP Brand Development for the San Diego Padres and ten years at Dell as a marketing and ecommerce executive. In her last role at Dell, Laura was an Executive Director

responsible for the company's \$4 billion online consumer business. Laura is a graduate of Duke University, where she earned a degree in English and History, and received a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

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**Paul Brown** holds the James Lee Sorenson Presidential Endowed Chair in Business for Applied Research as well as an appointment as a Professor (Lecturer) in the Entrepreneurship & Strategy Department of the David Eccles School of Business at The University of Utah. He teaches courses in impact investing, entrepreneurship, innovation, the foundations of business thought, and other topics. Previously, Paul was a managing director at Sandbox Industries in Chicago where he co-founded, raised the capital for, and co-managed the firm's \$300M healthcare venture funds. Paul was also the founder and CEO of Sandbox's

innovation consulting practice. Prior to Sandbox, he was a vice president for ten years at the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, and previous to that was a partner in the Chicago office of Kirkland & Ellis. Paul currently serves as a director or advisor for several startups, also serves as a volunteer mentor with Village Capital.



**Mary Burke** is Managing Partner of Sol Organica. She and her brother Will Burke, founded Sol Organica, a processor of fresh tropical fruit into delicious dried or purees and juices for sales into the United States, Europe and Asia all from a processing plant in Nicaragua. The mission of Sol Organica is to connect conscientious consumers throughout the world with small farmers in tropical countries through quality, sustainably-produced natural products. The company was founded in 2006 to develop a market for Nicaraguan small farmer products in export markets. Mary has over 25 years of investment banking

experience within the food industry. She has been the advisor on more than 300 recapitalizations, placements, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures representing total consideration in excess of \$15 billion. Mary is a founding partner of Lakeshore Food Advisors, LLC which is a boutique investment banking firm focused exclusively on the agribusiness and food space. Mary has a B.A. from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana and a M.B.A. from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business.

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**Tara Clerkin** is currently a Manager for Program Development at the Clinton Development Initiative. The Clinton Development Initiative develops and operates agribusiness projects that empower smallholder farmers to increase their economic potential. Tara has previously worked as an Analyst for the Hartland Asset Management Corporation and American Solar Partners and an intern for the Private Capital Group for Africa at USAID where she collaborated with a government contractor in the development of a training method for mission staff. She received a Dual MA in

Economics and International Political Economy and Development from Fordham University, and studied Finance, Peace Studies, and Irish Studies at the University of Notre Dame.



**Adam Code** is a Vice President with Creation Investments. Adam joined Creation Investments in 2009 as an Associate. Previously, he was an Analyst in the investment banking group at William Blair & Company, focusing on sell-side and buy-side M&A advisory, public equity offerings and private placements. Adam holds an MBA from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, where he majored in Finance, International Business, and Social Enterprise. He has a BA from the University of Colorado at Boulder.



**Elizabeth Coston** is the Director of Operations & Investor Relations at Impact Engine. She is responsible for oversight of the fund's processes, policies and procedures. She is also building out the Impact Engine Angel Network, including content and partnerships. Elizabeth has been active in developing the social impact community in Chicago, most recently as manager of the social innovation and impact investing programs at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management. Prior to receiving her MBA, Elizabeth worked in investment banking and wealth management at UBS and Hightower Advisors. She earned a

Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Harvard University and an MBA from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business.