

## **SUZANNE BERGMEISTER**

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### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE**

*Entrepreneur-in-Residence*

*Assistant Director, Forcht Center for Entrepreneurship*

**Louisville, KY**

*July 2005 – present*

*January 2017 - present*

- Teaching duties include
  - Entrepreneurship MBA Program: Lean LaunchPad I & II, Venture Strategic Analysis, Venture Finance, Venture Accelerator I, II & III
  - ENTR 600 – Intro to Entrepreneurship - open to all graduate students at UofL
  - New Ventures and Social Entrepreneurship - electives open to all MBA students
  - Executive MBA Entrepreneurship
  - Global MBA Entrepreneurship
  - Franchise Certificate Program (online): Buying and Growing Your Franchise
- Mentor and advise undergraduate and MBA student business plan competition teams
  - Two MBA Global Championship teams (2011 and 2015)
  - Multiple winners of IdeaStateU and other national competitions
- Faculty Advisor for four Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) - Cardinal Venture Club, Entrepreneurship Club, Business Mavericks, and Social Ventures Club
- Host and coordinate 26 judges for the annual Cardinal Challenge New Venture Competition
- Plan and organize annual MBA field trip to regional entrepreneurial city; coordinate full day of speakers
- Coordinate monthly Venture Connectors luncheon attendance for UofL MBA students

#### **SUNFLOWER BUSINESS VENTURES, Inc**

*Founder & President*

**Louisville, KY**

*March 2004 – present*

- Entrepreneurial business consulting company specializing in start-ups and funding strategies
- Manage Sunflower Seed Funds I & II – investment funds for “not-yet-accredited” and accredited investors

#### **METACYTE BUSINESS LAB**

*Director of Business Strategy*

**Louisville, KY**

*April 2004 – June 2007*

- Created commercialization strategies for MetaCyte’s (UofL’s life science incubator) portfolio companies; raised over \$2 million in funding for MetaCyte start-up companies

#### **CHRYSALIS VENTURES, LLC**

*Investment Associate*

**Louisville, KY**

*July 2002 – June 2004*

- Evaluated over 600 investment opportunities for \$143 million Chrysalis Ventures II Venture Fund
- Focused diligence on healthcare technology and education & training vertical industries

#### **BLUE CHIP VENTURE COMPANY**

*Investment Associate*

**Cincinnati, OH**

*August 2000 – July 2002*

- Worked with active portfolio companies (total of 51) – acquisition target identification and due diligence, financial modeling, valuation, syndicate/follow-on financing

#### **FORT WASHINGTON INVESTMENT ADVISORS**

*Private Equity Associate*

**Cincinnati, OH**

*June 1998 – August 2000*

- Managed the formation of Fort Washington’s \$240 million private equity fund-of-funds

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**

### **UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RESERVES (Colonel - retired)**

<i>Admission Liaison Officer, US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO</i>	<i>1991-2015</i>
<i>AF Academy Admissions Advisory Panel, National Training Director, Colorado Springs, CO</i>	<i>2009 - 2013</i>
<i>Commander - Kentucky Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer Force, Louisville, KY</i>	<i>2006 - 2010</i>
<i>Instructor - USAF Test Pilot School, Edwards AFB, CA</i>	<i>1997 - 2003</i>
<i>Project Manager - Special Operations Combined Test Force, Edwards AFB, CA</i>	<i>1990 - 1997</i>
<i>Resource Manager, Pentagon, Washington, DC</i>	<i>1995 - 1996</i>
<i>Project Manager/Engineering Branch Manager, Edwards AFB, CA</i>	<i>1989 - 1995</i>
<i>Lead Avionics Flight Test Engineer- B-2 Bomber, Edwards AFB, CA</i>	<i>1985 - 1989</i>

## **EDUCATION**

### **CORNELL UNIVERSITY, Johnson Graduate School of Management, Ithaca, NY**

*Master of Business Administration, Concentration in Finance, May 1998*

### **CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, Fresno, CA**

*Master of Science, Electrical Engineering, May 1990*

### **RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, College of Engineering, New Brunswick, NJ**

*Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering, May 1984*

## **AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

- University of Louisville Graduate Teaching Award (2014 and 2019)
- Network of Entrepreneurial Women (NEW) Elgin Award (2017)
- Entrepreneurial Leadership Award – Greater Louisville Inc./Enterprise Corp (2016)
- Business First Salute to Veterans Honoree (2014)
- Leadership Louisville's 100 Wise Women keynote speaker (2014)
- YMCA Safe Place Volunteer of the Year (2012)
- Bingham Fellows (2007 and 2016); Leadership Louisville (2005); Focus Louisville (2003)
- Kentucky Air Force Admissions Liaison Officer of the Year (2005)
- Edwards Flight Test Center Representative to Pentagon (1996)
- Edwards Air Force Base Reservist of the Year (1993)
- Distinguished Graduate – US Air Force Officers Training School (1984)

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- Director, USA Cares, national organization helping post-911 veterans and families (2017 - present)
- Board Advisor, Greater Louisville Inc.'s Enterprise Corp (2012- 2019)
- Director, Community Foundation of Louisville (2011 - present), Executive Committee
- Director, Algood Food, Inc – KY peanut butter, jams & jellies manufacturing company (2010 - present)
- Founding Member of NEW – the Network of Entrepreneurial Women (2011)
- Director, Venture Connectors (2006-2017); President (2012-2014); Chair (2014 - 2017)
- Chair, Vogt Invention and Innovation Awards Committee (2010 – 2013), now on Advisory Committee
- Launch-It Business Coach, Lean Launch-Pad Start-up Training for Entrepreneurs (2010-present)
- Mentor, Y-NOW Children of Prisoners Program (2006 - 2016)

## **INTERESTS/HOBBIES**

- Reading, running (four marathons), yoga, cooking, gardening, entertaining, crocheting
- Watching NFL & NHL games, Jeopardy, This is Us, Game of Thrones
- Volunteering to speak at grade schools, high schools, colleges and business/community groups