

Research and Business Opportunities for the Czech Republic in Chicago



Consulate General of the Czech Republic
in Chicago



CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC



SEMINAR

PROGRAM

Welcome by Mr. Bořek Lizec, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago

Opening Remarks by Hon. Ivan Pilný, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic

Opening Remarks by Mr. Bořivoj Minář, Vice President, Czech Chamber of Commerce

Introduction of the Delegation of the Czech Chamber of Commerce by Mr. Miroslav Veselka, Senior Manager, Czech Chamber of Commerce

Panel Presentations

Chicago Tech Ecosystem – Relevant Institutions in Innovation
by Mr. David Baker, Vice President, Illinois Institute of Technology

University of Chicago’s Institutional Network in IT Innovation, including Chicago Innovation Exchange”

by Mr. Ian Foster, Director, Computation Institute, Senior Scientist, Argonne National Laboratory and Professor, University of Chicago,
and Ms. Stephanie Avalos-Bock, Senior Program Manager, Chicago Innovation Exchange

National Center for Supercomputing Applications at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and High Performance Computing as an Accelerator to Industrial Innovation
by Mr. Merle Giles, Director, NCSA Private Sector Program & Economic Impact, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

How to Attract Chicago Venture Capital to Czech Projects in Innovation
by Mr. William E. Wolf, Partner, KDWC Ventures

Mitas Tires North America – A Successful Czech Investment in the U.S.
by Mr. Vladimír Dušánek, Vice President for Finance & Controlling/ CFO-Treasurer, Mitas Tires North America, Inc.

Discussion moderated by Mr. Michal Cenek



Hon. Ivan Pilný, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic



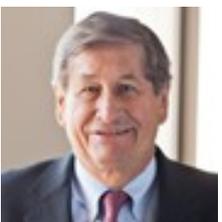
Hon. Martin Kolovratník, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic



Hon. Anna Putnová, Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic



Hon. Jiří Valenta, Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic



Mr. Edward J. Dellin, Senior Vice President Private Client Advisors, William Blair, and Chair of the Prague Committee of Chicago Sister Cities International



Ms. Kateřina Sternbergová, Division Head, Americas Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic



Mr. Jan Kubata, Director, CzechTrade Chicago

SPECIAL GUESTS

PANELISTS



David E. Baker is Vice President for External Affairs of the Illinois Institute of Technology since March 1995. He is responsible for the University's governmental relations, marketing and communications, and trustee relations. Since 2001 he has worked to create the University Technology Park at IIT of which he served as founding Executive Director from 2006 to 2016. He managed all university strategic plans from 1993 through 2009. He helped to create the Perspectives Charter Schools/IIT Math & Science Academy. Prior to joining the University, Mr. Baker served as President of The Illinois Coalition, whose mission is to strengthen the Illinois economy through science and technology. From 1980 to 1989, Mr. Baker served as the Executive Vice President of the Illinois State Chamber of Commerce, the state's largest business advocacy organization. Mr. Baker served as the 2012-2013 President of the Association of University Research Parks, and is also on the boards of Perspectives Charter Schools and Lincoln Park Village. He served as Chair of the Heidelberg Club International of Chicago from 2008 to 2015.

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Ian Foster is a Professor of Computer Science at the University of Chicago and a Senior Scientist and Distinguished Fellow at Argonne National Laboratory. Originally from New Zealand, he has lived in Chicago for longer than he likes to admit. Ian has a long record of research contributions in high-performance computing, distributed systems, and data-driven discovery. He has also led US and international projects that have produced widely used software systems and scientific computing infrastructures. He has published hundreds of scientific papers and six books on these and other topics. Ian is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Association for Computing Machinery, and the British Computer Society. His awards include the British Computer Society's Lovelace Medal and the IEEE Tsutomu Kanai award.

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Steph Avalos-Bock, as Senior Program Manager, leads the Chicago Innovation Exchange's quickly growing mentorship program and directs its educational programming and speaker series, in addition to working with and mentoring companies in the CIE's Incubator. She works with 50 mentors that serve over 2,100 CIE members and actively recruits and onboards new mentors. Since opening in October 2014, the CIE has hosted over 700 events and workshops for thousands of attendees and visitors. Prior to the CIE, Steph was a consultant to Fortune 500 companies working to develop mobile and digital strategy and applications, and founded a 3D printer company.

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Merle Giles is Director of Private Sector Programs and Economic Impact at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. NCSA's PSP is the nation's leading industry-facing supercomputing service. Giles is a tireless advocate of HPC's role as an accelerator to industrial innovation and was recognized by HPCwire as a 'Person to Watch' in 2015. In 2012 he received an HPCwire Editor's Choice award for Best Government-Industry

Partnership. In recent years his Private Sector Program has partnered with nearly 60% of the manufacturers in the FORTUNE100®, as well as with biotech, chemical, tech, oil and gas, and agriculture companies. He and his PSP partners were central influencers of two national digital manufacturing consortia: National Digital Engineering and Manufacturing Consortium and Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute, one of the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation institutes. Giles is a co-founder of the International Industrial Supercomputing Workshop. He is a steering committee member of IDC's HPC User Forum and the Council on Competitiveness HPC Advisory Committee. He is co-editor of 'Industrial Applications of High-Performance Computing: Best Global Practices'.

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William E. Wolf founded BW Capital, an alternative asset management firm in 2011. He began his career in 1982 as an investment banker at Salomon Brothers Inc. and in 1987 at William Blair & Company. In 1990 Mr. Wolf joined Henry Crown and Company to oversee a portfolio of privately owned businesses. Mr. Wolf currently serves on the Board of Directors of e-Zassi LLC, Lifespan Brands LLC,

Mindcrest Inc., OfficeLuv Inc., PlayNetwork Inc., SpiderOak Inc., Spring

Marketplace and WellRight LLC. In the fall of 2015, he team with Dick Kiphart, one of the city's most active investors in tech startups, and Terry Diamond to raise at least \$125 million for investments in start-up companies. Together they founded KDWC Ventures.

Mr. Wolf is a Trustee of Columbia College Chicago and the Chicago Child Care Society.

Mr. Wolf received an A.B. degree, Magna Cum Laude, from Hamilton College and an M.B.A. from the University of Chicago.

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Vladimir Dušánek is Vice President for Finance and Controlling / CFO-Treasurer of Mitas Tires North America, a unique Czech investment in a production facility in the U.S. (brownfield investment). As Director of the U.S. Project of the Czech company MITAS a.s., he is fully responsible for planning and all investment activities for the Mitas tire production plant in Charles City, Iowa U.S.A. He is a member of the White House Business Council (for Iowa, Floyd County, U.S.A.) as well as the Czech Internal

Auditors Association. He is an official court assessment expert in the areas of business, management and economic planning. He also serves as visiting lecturer, mainly at the VSB –Technical University of Ostrava.

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Michal Cenek is an experienced professional with a successful track record in strategic growth and planning, business development and marketing, market research and business intelligence in the professional services industry. Michal has been employed by some of the largest law firms in the world, starting his career at White & Case where he led all business development functions working directly with practice chairs in Prague, Czech Republic and Bratislava, Slovakia. In

his Baker & McKenzie role, he relocated to the worldwide headquarters in Chicago to lead a global expansion of the firm into Qatar, Turkey, South Africa, Morocco, Peru and the United Arab Emirates. Michal and his team were responsible for creating strategies for growing business as well executing all marketing and business development activities in countries without Baker & McKenzie's physical presence. He has been recognized for innovation in the legal industry by Financial Times Innovative Lawyer and achieved the top ranking from Mergermarket for the highest number of deals in emerging markets among law firms.

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Bořek Lizec is a Czech career diplomat, currently serving as the Consul General in Chicago. He joined the foreign service in 1999. Prior to this position he was the Deputy Director of the Public Diplomacy Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also served as the Spokesman and General Assembly Coordinator at the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York during the Czech Presidency of the European Union. In 2005 he was assigned the task

of opening the Consulate General in Chicago and later stayed in the city as Deputy Consul General till 2008. Mr. Lizec specialized during his graduate studies in international trade (in the Czech Republic) and later also political science (Austria and United States). His main academic interest lies in the transatlantic relationship and implications of European integration for its future development. This was reflected also in his doctoral thesis titled "Transatlantic Team versus Transatlantic Partnership - European and Transatlantic Institutional Architectures Through the Lenses of Two Alternative Visions" (2005), which included chapters on the creation of the transatlantic free trade area.

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Mr. Bořivoj Minář, Czech Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Miroslav Veselka, Czech Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Irena Bartoňová Pálková, Czech Cleaning Association / Czech Chamber of Com.

Mr. Miroslav Řihák, ANECT

Mr. Petr Bartoš, Česká spořitelna

Mr. Tomáš Pubrdle, Czech Export Bank

Mr. Jiří Matzner, Empira One

Mr. Milan Grohman, Instar ITS Ostrava

Ms. Denisa Stránská, InStar Technologies

Mr. Roman Hvězda, Institute of Physics of the Czech Academy of Sciences

Mr. Martin Palkovič, Technical University of Ostrava

Mr. Patrik Komárek, Manetech

Mr. Řehoř Vykoupil, Mautilus

Mr. Svatoslav Novák, Micos

Mr. Jiří Hollan, Congress Centre Prague

Mr. Václav Dejčmar, RSJ Private Equity

Mr. Jakub Horák, RSJ Private Equity

Mr. Petr Praus, Technical University of Ostrava

Mr. Tomáš Hruška, Engineering Test Institute

Mr. Martin Klimpl, Becker & Poliakoff



