

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

The Value of a Board for Early Stage Companies

Host: Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP

TechNexus | Civic Opera House

20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606



**Panelist**  
Jeremie Bacon Co-founder and CEO Synap Software Labs



**Panelist**  
Jim Gagnard Board Member Agentis Energy Vertex Predikto APL nextED & A3



**Panelist**  
Devin Matthews Founder and Partner ParkerGale Capital



**Moderator**  
Fred Hoch Founder and General Partner TechNexus Venture

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendar!

Date	Time	Event	Location
Wednesday, November 08, 2017	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	Civic Opera House Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr
Wednesday, December 06, 2017	5:00 - 8:00 pm	Holiday Party	BMO Harris Bank
Wednesday, January 24, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	To Be Determined
Wednesday, February 21, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	To Be Determined
Wednesday, March 21, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	To Be Determined
Wednesday, April 25, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	University Club Synergy Law Group
Wednesday, May 23, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	Grant Thornton
Wednesday, June 20, 2018	5:00 - 7:30 pm	Monthly Meeting	To Be Determined

**PRIVATE DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION™ SPONSORS**

<b>Gold</b>				
<b>Silver</b>				
<b>Bronze</b>				
				
				
				



Wednesday, November 8, 2017

## The Value of a Board for Early Stage Companies

Host: Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP

TechNexus | Civic Opera House

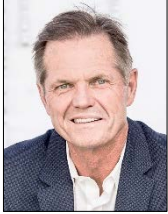
20 N. Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606

### Speaker Bios



**Panelist** | Jeremie Bacon, Co-founder and CEO, Synap Software Labs

Jeremie is an entrepreneur, SaaS executive, and investor. He has been building and advising companies since the early 2000s. When not at work, he can be found hanging out with his wife and four children, reading, or eating piles of donuts to power his ultramarathons and endurance races.



**Panelist** | Jim Gagnard, Board Member Agentis Energy, Vertex Analytics, Predikto, APL nextED, and A3 Solutions

Jim Gagnard has over 30 years of executive management experience leading enterprise software companies. He has lead several companies from early product development to revenue growth and profitability. As a result of his commitment to software innovation he has worked closely with the venture capital community and strategic investors to raise over \$80 million for his companies. Until March 2011, Jim was Chairman and CEO of SmartSignal Corporation which was acquired by GE in January 2011. The SmartSignal Advanced Analytics product suite is a key component of the Internet of Things and is used by power generation companies, oil and gas companies, and other industries to detect, diagnose, predict, and mitigate equipment failure.



**Panelist** | Devin Matthews, Founder, and Partner, ParkerGale Capital

Devin has twenty years of experience investing in technology companies and helping management teams build their companies. Prior to founding ParkerGale, Devin was a Managing Partner and a member of the investment committee at Chicago Growth Partners where he ran their technology group. He also spent five years at Baird Venture Partners where he was the Managing Partner and chair of the investment committee. Early in his career, Devin worked at Great Hill Partners and William Blair Capital Partners. He studied Art History at SUNY Binghamton and received his MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth. Devin supports Chicago's visual arts community as a Board member of threewalls.



**Moderator** | Fred Hoch, Founder and General Partner, TechNexus Venture Collaborative

Ever wonder about disruption in the technology industry and how a company can grow by taking advantage of it? Fred has worked with thousands of companies to strategically address the ongoing transformation and challenges of the industry. Fred Hoch is the Founder and General Partner of Chicago's TechNexus Venture Collaborative, a venture development and innovation services firm building a new, collaborative model for leading corporations to engage and extract value from the global entrepreneurial ecosystem. TechNexus also operates an incubator from its headquarters in Chicago, where more than 400 ventures have grown. Fred is also Executive Chairman of the Illinois Technology Association – a business services organization with more than 500-member companies with a focus on scaling great tech companies. Serving as a platform for strategic development, ITA has driven success of the Chicago tech industry by helping its member companies grow, build and elevate their business.