MARK W. FIRTH hello@mark.wf +44 (0) 7482 315084

Oxford biomedical scientist that learnt to code and jumped into the tech startup world. Quickly became an operational leader in early-stage, working closely with founders and helping them launch and grow their businesses. Smart generalist with technical, creative and analytical skills. Intellectually curious, highly organised and detail-oriented; excels at process improvement and efficiency. Resourceful, driven, creative problem solver and excellent people manager with experience working in international teams and across multiple operational functions.

## **CROSS-FUNCTIONAL STARTUP OPERATIONS LEADER**

Mgmt Accounting

Startup Legals

People / HR

Agile Project Mgmt

Strategy

Events / Marketing

Scalable Processes

Office Mgmt

Delivery Operations

#### **EXPERIENCE**



mark.wf

Startup consultancy providing strategic and operational support

**Startup Consultant** 

Feb 2018 - present

Remote

- Successfully acquired clients by understanding problem areas, pitching solutions and negotiating contracts
- Expanded into multiple verticals by quickly learning and adapting to customer needs
- Increased Instagram following by over 1000% by expanding knowledge in photography and digital marketing and applying various growth strategies



The Family

Pan-European startup network, service provider and shareholder

Head of Events (London)

Nov 2018 - Apr 2019

London, UK

- Worked closely with C-level entrepreneurs to create educational and entertaining content for 13 events
- Organised a biotech enterprise innovation conference featuring 10 senior life sciences speakers
- Sourced over 1000 emails and managed a targeted cold email campaign to advertise the conference



### **Invisible Technologies**

Worldwide on-demand virtual assistant platform and service

**Director of Operations (Contract)** 

May 2018 - Aug 2018

Remote

- Successfully managed a global team of 50 people (5 direct reports) across numerous time zones by employing strong management skill
- Increased operational efficiency from 40% to 70% and client billable time to 1400+ hours of direct labour a
  month by introducing and promoting new revenue streams and understanding key problem areas and
  improving load balancing across teams
- Improved client experience as measured by qualitative feedback by supervising quality and providing constructive feedback to operators



**DWYL** 

Web app development agency and coworking space

Co-founder & COO

Jan 2017 - Dec 2017

London, UK

- Significantly strengthened brand position with minimal cost (£250) by enforcing trade mark rights to acquire highly valuable 4-letter .com and .co.uk domains as well as social media marketing handles
- Improved efficiency of financial administration by 300% by creating and implementing an automated contractor invoicing system
- Delighted clients and successfully managed numerous projects by employing strong communication and project management skills



#### **Hack Partners**

RailTech innovation accelerator, hackathon and consultancy

**Founding Partner** 

Jul 2016 - Jan 2017

London, UK

- Promoted to partner status after 3 months due to competence, diligence, zealousness and significant contributions to the business
- Contributed to pivoting the business model in a new direction by evaluating customer feedback and working closely with the founders
- Bolstered the closure of several major partnership deals collectively worth over £100,000 by communicating and working with senior stakeholders across the industry

**Head of Operations** 

Apr 2016 - Jan 2017

London, UK

- Managed accelerator programme featuring 11 tech startups, organised a 300-person conference and 120-person hackathon featuring senior stakeholders from across industry by employing strong project management skill
- Successfully acquired Tier 2 license and joined Tier 5 intern scheme allowing the sponsorship of 2
  international candidates without professional legal advice by thoroughly researching guidance and
  executing the process with detail
- Managed creation of a legal procurement framework for startup-TOC software and hardware trials by assessing the contract landscape and working closely with a law firm



#### **Entrepreneur First**

Deep tech company builder and venture capital fund

**Operations Manager** 

Sep 2015 - Mar 2016

London, UK

- Diligently managed investment operations for 33 startups on the programme by using strong organisational skills
- Successfully managed over 30 visa applications including Tier 1 Entrepreneur and Tier 1 Exceptional Talent by utilising strong project management skills and detail-oriented nature
- Organised and ran several high-profile events including a 300-person Demo Day attended by top investors by using strong organisation and event management skills



# University of Oxford Department of Widening Access

Widening access academic summer school programme

**UNIQ Operations Manager** 

Jul 2013 - Aug 2015

Oxford, UK

**UNIQ Academic Mentor** 

Jul 2012 - Jul 2013

Oxford, UK

- Managed college sites with teams of 4 staff and 50 residential students by using strong management skills
- Successfully resolved a number of sensitive incidents requiring pastoral care by using empathetic communication and knowledge of child safeguarding
- Increased competitive applications from state school students to the university by encouragement, mentoring students about the university's application processes and the academic content of the courses



#### Medopad

Mobile health platform for medical professionals

**Operations Intern** 

Sep 2014 - Oct 2014

London, UK

- Acquired valuable insight into the challenges that startups face in the digital health sector
- Gained exposure to multiple areas of the business and as a result improved generalist skill set and problem-solving skills
- Created an internal customer support interface by working closely with developers and utilising project management skills

#### **EDUCATION**



**Smartly School of Business** 

Elite online remote MBA programme (6% acc. rate)

MBA (Hons)

Feb 2018 - Nov 2018

Remote

2 projects and 8 concentrations:

Accounting project Marketing project

- Accounting
- Markets & Economies
- Data & Decisions
- **Leading Organisations**

Marketing & Pricing

- Finance
- Supply Chain & Operations
- Strategy & Innovation



**Udacity Google Scholarship** 

Mobile Web Specialist Scholar

Mobile Web Specialist Nanodegree Challenge (5% acc. rate)

Oct 2017 - Feb 2018

Remote

Offline First • Service Workers • Caching • ES2015 • Destructuring • Promises • Proxies

Ranked #1 academic institution for biomedical sciences in 2011



**Founders & Coders** 

Highly-selective 8-week web development course

Full Stack JavaScript Web Dev

Jan 2015 - Mar 2015

London, UK

HTML • CSS • JavaScript • Git • GitHub • Jekyll • Markdown • APIs • Node • Hapi • D3



**University of Oxford** St Edmund Hall

MA (Hons) **Cell and Systems Biology**  Oct 2011 - Jun 2015

Oxford, UK

Major: Cardiovascular, Renal and Respiratory Biology **Minor:** Cellular Physiology and Pharmacology

Project: Varying enzymatic digestion to improve pancreatic islet isolation yield and clinical outcomes for type-1 diabetes

OUSU OVOD UNISBIT TOUGHT MACK	Oxford University Student Union	Student representation for communication with the university	
	MedSci Division Representative	Oct 2013 – Jun 2014	Oxford, UK
œ	Oxford Entrepreneurs	Events and programmes supporting entrepreneurship in Oxford	
	<b>Executive Committee</b>	Oct 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
OXFORD UNIVERSITY SPORT	Oxford University Sport	University sports society and dodgeball club (OUDbC)	
	Founder & President (OUDbC)	Mar 2013 - May 2014	Oxford, UK
	Finance Executive	Mar 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
O.U.S. B.M.S.	OUSBMS	Learned community of Oxford biomedical scientists	
	Founder & President	Jan 2013 - Mar 2014	Oxford, UK
Course	Lean Launch Programme	Feb 2014	Oxford Launchpad
Course	Startup Immersion	Jan 2014	The Shed
Course	Building a Business	May 2013	Saïd Business School
Course	Bridge to Business	Sep 2012	St Edmund Hall