m’s bio for Exponent

# Long version

Magnus is a scientist and an entrepreneur with a Ph.D. in genetics and an Executive MBA in business management. He has focused his career on different aspects of environmental sustainability, ranging from natural resource management to sustainable bioprocessing. His efforts have supported economic growth and created novel business opportunities.

Prior to joining Exponent, he worked as a Research Associate and a Manager at Harvard University. He oversaw and managed grant applications, reporting, budgets, and financial forecasts to facilitate groundbreaking research on ancient DNA and microbiology.

Magnus has worked at the intersection of academia and industry to spearhead an R&D program in northern Iceland. The goal of the work there was to increase the sustainability of fisheries and agriculture by developing microbial upstream bioprocesses that utilized organic waste for media formulation. These microbes synthesized healthy omega-3 fatty acids, which as his feasibility studies showed, could be developed as supplements for human consumption and in aquaculture. He also examined the effect of climate change on the evolution of these same microbes.

During his tenure at the Marine and Freshwater Research Institute in Reykjavik (MFRI), he advised the Government of Iceland, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), and the International Whaling Commission (IWC) on sustainable management of natural resources across the globe. After he developed a strategic plan on the utility of molecular genetics in resource management, the methods have become an indispensable part of MFRI’s management toolbox.

Alongside his scientific pursuits has been a longstanding commitment to management and entrepreneurship. He has a proven track record of self-starting both large and small-scale business incentives, including his own projects and companies. These ventures have involved funding acquisition and securing partnerships that have often required the compilation of financial statements. While heading a laboratory at the MFRI, he oversaw three large EU-funded projects on sustainable natural resource management. As a project manager for the University Hospital of Iceland, he analyzed and presented human resources and financial data for the CEO and hospital executives, along with Iceland’s Ministry of Finance.

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# Short version

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