



# Speaker profiles

## Global Leadership Summer School 2023



**W. Paul Bowers**

*W. Paul Bowers is the former Chairman, President, and CEO of Georgia Power, the largest subsidiary of Southern Company. Prior to holding these positions, he was CFO of Southern Company, and was rated by Institutional Investors magazine as one of the industry's "Top Three CFOs in America." His experience of serving both as CEO and CFO equip him with a unique perspective on leadership.*

*He currently serves on the board of AFLAC (an insurance company) as the lead non-management director, and as an independent director on the board of Exelon (an energy provider). He also serves on the boards of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Brand Safeway (a private construction and civil engineering firm), and as curator for the Georgia Historical Society. He is a past member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Energy Policy Council, the Nuclear Electric Insurance Ltd. (past chairman) and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.*

*For his professional achievements and his commitment to the well-being of the citizens of Georgia, Bowers has received the American Jewish Committee's National Human Relations Award and the Council for Quality Growth's Four Pillar Award, and has been inducted into the Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame. In 2018, he was inducted as a Georgia Trustee by the governor of Georgia for exemplifying the highest standard of selflessness in his life and career.*



**Madeline Hewitson**

*Madeline Hewitson is an early career researcher and holds a doctorate in art history from the University of York. Her research focuses on nineteenth-century British Orientalist visual culture and representations of the Holy Lands. Her current research project, supported by a Paul Mellon Centre Research Continuity Grant, investigates the unique role of the Old Testament in Victorian visual culture. She completed her BA, MA and PhD in the History of Art department at the University of York. During her MA she had a yearlong placement at the Hepworth Wakefield as part of a studentship. Her doctoral thesis, supervised by Professor Jason Edwards, explored the Near Eastern travels of Victorian artist and President of the Royal Academy Frederic Leighton.*

*Madeline is also interested in public engagement and has organised several international conferences with partners such as York Art Gallery and Watts Gallery-Artists' Village. She also lectures for the heritage tourism group Travel Editions.*



**Isabella Mead**

*Isabella Mead is an experienced storyteller and creative writer with high energy and a passion for literature, art, and participative learning. Her career highlights include Head of Learning within cultural sectors, particularly The Story Museum in Oxford and the Roald Dahl Museum. She is a nationally recognised teacher training professional with 16 years' experience in teaching and training in Rwanda, Poland, and across the UK. She holds a First with Distinction for a BA in English Literature and History of Art, and Masters in History of Art fully funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Board, both from the University of York. Currently, she is the Head of Learning at the Story Museum in Oxford.*



**Kate Simpson**

*Dr Kate Simpson originally joined Wasafiri to set up and grow our Africa office (then in Rwanda) and has since moved into roles as Commercial Director, Managing Director and now Director of the Systemcraft Institute. As a consultant and Director of the Systemcraft Institute, Kate is focused on creating collective solutions to complex problems. She provides thought leadership and practice innovation on our 'Systemcraft' approach for generating change in complex adaptive systems. She brings an expertise in organisational and people development and has highly developed facilitation, coaching, and consultancy skills. Across her career, she has worked with clients from the public, private and not-for-profit sectors – including Swiss Re, Barclays, World Economic Forum, DFID, Sony, FAO and HelpAge International amongst others. Her career has encompassed international development, environmental management, academia and corporate organisational development. Through this work she has woven together a commitment to creating cross-sector collaborations for social change; she is an expert in asking “what if...” and helping clients to try new ways of doing and thinking. She holds a PhD in Social Geography from Newcastle University and is an accredited Executive Coach, ultra-runner, and occasional blogger.*



**Jack Roper**

*Jack Roper is Group Head of Sustainability at Legal & General. His role is to ensure that the Group's Sustainability strategy is focused on areas of material concern to Legal & General and its stakeholders. He looks after employee volunteering and engagement approaches, as well as developing third sector and charitable partnerships to create positive social and environmental impact in the communities where Legal & General works.*



**Ed Parsons**

*Ed Parsons is Geospatial Technologist at Google. In this role, he maintains links with Governments, Universities, Research and Standards Organisations which are involved in the development of Geospatial Technology.*

*He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Open Geospatial Consortium and was co-chair of the W3C/OGC Spatial Data on the Web Working Group. He also represents Google at the EMTEL committee of ETSI developing geospatial solutions for emergency telecommunications. He is a Visiting Professor at University College London and has been an industry advisor to a number of international universities.*

*Previously, he was the first Chief Technology Officer in the 200-year-old history of Ordnance Survey, and was instrumental in moving the focus of the organisation from mapping to Geographical Information.*



**Mark Younger**

*Mark is a WHT Visiting Fellow at Oxford and advises several health and climate tech spinouts and startups. He has been working in tech software and services innovation for the past 15 years at Apple and Samsung. He has also led and supported a number of impact-driven ventures across Latin America, South Asia, and Africa.*

*Mark has an MBA from Harvard Business School and an MPA from Harvard Kennedy School, where he was a Reynolds Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship and a George Fellow. He completed his undergraduate work at Duke University in electrical and computer engineering.*



**Ollie Cook**

Ollie Cook is a World Champion and former Olympic rower who competed in the 2020 Tokyo Games. Currently, he is responsible for the design and delivery of the graduate training programme of the Oxford SDG Impact Lab. Ollie represented Team GB as a junior and at U23 level before becoming part of the senior squad in 2012. He won gold in the men's coxed pair at the 2016 World Rowing Championships.

In 2017, Ollie and his brother, Jamie, were part of the winning Blue Boat crew in the 2017 men's Boat Race before Ollie returned to full time training with the GB Rowing Team. He rowed in the bow seat of the men's eight at World Cup III in Lucerne and also the World Rowing Championships in Sarasota-Bradenton. In 2018, Ollie finished second at the GB Rowing Team Senior, U23 and FISU Trials in an impressive performance with teenage partner and World Junior champion Felix Drinkall.

He is a trustee of the Harry Birrell Scholarship Trust, a charity that raises money to pay for disadvantaged children in Grahamstown, South Africa to go to school. In 2011 Ollie was part of the Row Zambezi Expedition. It was the first time anyone had rowed the 1,000km of the Upper Zambezi, starting from near its source on the Angolan/Zambian border and rowing to the Victoria Falls in Zambia. The expedition raised over £25,000 for Village Water.

While studying international relations and history at the London School of Economics, Ollie founded the LSE Ambassadors for Sport programme which aims to support and fund students at LSE who compete – or aspire to – at an international level in their sport. He was also entered into the LSE Mr University competition: “Lacking any identifiable talent, I dressed up as a woman and did the Call On Me dance routine – I somehow won.”

After the Rio Olympiad Ollie undertook a masters in Global History at the University of Oxford where he won an academic distinction alongside studying Arabic and training for the Boat Race. His ideal job is as a travel writer and, after the 2013 World Rowing Championships in Chungju, he travelled to North Korea. He describes it as “the most astonishing and surreal place I have been to but they were some of the most welcoming and interesting people I have ever met. I even saw someone in a single scull training on the Taedong River through Pyongyang!”



**Professor Alexander Betts**

Professor Alexander Betts is a Leopold Muller Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs, the Director of the Refugee Economies Programme, William Golding Senior Fellow in Politics at Brasenose College, and Associate Head (Doctoral and Research Training) of the Social Science Division, at the University of Oxford. He served as Director of the Refugee Studies Centre between 2014 and 2017. His research focuses mainly on the political economy of refugee assistance, with a focus on Africa. He is co-author, with Paul Collier, of *Refuge: Transforming a Broken Refugee System* (Penguin Allen Lane and Oxford University Press, 2017), which was named by the Economist as one of the 'Best Books of 2017'. His other books include *Survival Migration: Failed Governance and the Crisis of Displacement* (Cornell University Press, 2013), *Protection by Persuasion: International Cooperation in the Refugee Regime* (Cornell University Press, 2009), *Mobilising the Diaspora: How Refugees Challenge Authoritarianism* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), *Global Migration Governance* (Oxford University Press, 2012), *Refugee Economies: Forced Displacement and Development* (Oxford University Press, 2016), and *Refugees in International Relations* (Oxford University Press, 2011).

He is a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, was named by Foreign Policy magazine in the top 100 global thinkers of 2016, and his TED talks have been viewed by over 3 million people. He has previously worked for UNHCR and has served as a Councillor on the World Refugee Council. His writings have appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, and the Guardian. He currently leads the IKEA Foundation-funded Refugee Economies Programme, which undertakes participatory research on the economic lives of refugees in Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia. He received his MPhil (with distinction) and DPhil from the University of Oxford.