

Deborah Maria Collier M.Sc. FRSA

Location: Windsor, Berkshire, United Kingdom

Twitter (31K+followers) @DeborahMCollier

www.deborahcollier.com Insights: www.halfgeekhalfhuman.net

OVERVIEW

A diversely skilled and experienced strategic, creative and problem-solving company director; A high-impacting senior leader with an extensive high-quality C-Suite and Director level client and supplier network, and a career history at both large global organizations, as well as Start-ups & SMEs, specializing in digital, business and skills education. A senior director with over 20-years experience at Director and CEO level; Listed 82 in Richtopia's 'Top 100 Most Influential Chief Marketing Officers in the World', founder of industry's global digital skills authority and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (An award the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce grants to individuals it judges to have made outstanding achievements to social progress and development).

KEY SKILLS

- ❑ Organizational & Business Strategy, Transformation and Leadership
- ❑ Commercial, Digital, Technology, Brand and Multi-Channel Marketing & Advertising Strategy
- ❑ Digital Transformation
- ❑ Corporate Governance & Risk
- ❑ Publishing, Production, Content, Customer Experience and Audience Engagement
- ❑ Team Leadership, Development & Collaboration
- ❑ E-Commerce Implementation & Management
- ❑ Skills Education Strategy – Digital / Classroom
- ❑ Brand, Product Development & Licensing
- ❑ Policy Development & Processes
- ❑ Operations Planning
- ❑ CRM and Customer Service Planning
- ❑ Public Speaking, Presentation, Negotiation, & Sales Skills
- ❑ Excellent Written Communications

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

LONDON LEARNING CONSORTIUM

January 2018 - Present

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Serving on the board of directors as a Non-Executive Director to this leading UK Government funded and regulated c. £5M Community Interest Company. LLC represents the most disadvantaged groups in the region and provides learning, skills and support in the form of apprenticeships and traineeships. It also encourages and works with organizations to offer apprenticeships to people of all ages. As well as strategic advice, and ensuring good governance, she has also served on the 'Quality & Curriculum Committee', 'Finance & Resources Committee' & 'Mergers & Acquisitions committee' and has delivered insight about digital learning and e-business.

DIGITAL SKILLS AUTHORITY

April 2016 - Present

FOUNDING PRESIDENT & CHIEF INFORMATION / MARKETING OFFICER

Industry's global Digital Skills Authority is an educational publishing and certification company delivering and licensing the The Certificate in Online Business Series of certifications including COB Certified CXO, COB Certified E-Commerce, E-Business & Digital Marketing Manager, COB Certified Marketing Leader, E-Business Leader and E-Commerce Leader series of programs globally, with more launching for E-Commerce teams, and new series in AI and Digital Content. Deborah is responsible for:-

- Entire business and commercial strategy, structure and leadership of the company (including corporate governance and policy development)
- Leading digital productization (e-learning subscription), distribution, licensing, partnerships, marketing, content and advertising strategy, senior leader/ board recruitment, technology, e-commerce planning and implementation
- Investor and strategic investment planning and acquisition
- Corporate restructure and group strategy
- Leading the recruitment of an industry-board (company and parent) - Tech giants, media, publishing and industry

Key Achievements

- Brand creation and development of series of industry-recognized management certifications in E-Business, e-commerce and digital marketing
- Successful rebrand of organization to Digital Skills Authority
- Lead responsive and agile change through Coronavirus – to implement secure live online examinations and new programs (ongoing)
- Digital transformation of product, multi-channel and blended learning

- Recruitment of high-profile e-commerce pioneer/leader, as our Vice President Europe & Latin America
- Attracted and in negotiation for £1million of annual license revenue within 2-weeks of partner acquisition campaign marketing
- Gained interest from a US group of 50 companies, to buy a major stake in the company, once a targeted sales history is achieved
- Established a network of Universities and professional institutes around the globe to invigilate the COB (Certificate in Online Business) exams.
- Listed in Richtopia's *'Top 100 Most Influential Chief Marketing Officers in the World'*

PORTMAN COLLIER

December 2019 - Present

Executive Producer (Film & TV Projects) Portman Collier

- Concept, development, branding, presentation of educational & entertainment magazine format TV Series (Toward Utopia)
- Strategic leadership of production as a Founding Executive Producer of large scale theatrical film (\$20-million budget) with accompanying documentary (about an astonishing true story of survival and human-kindness)
 - In collaboration with the survivor, close friends and family of the survivor, as well as highly experienced award winning film producers (including one Oscar winning executive producer), two professors and a private investigator
- Re-ignition of concept had created in 2005-2007 - animated music characters with conversion of stories into a TV Series, as Executive Producer and Screenwriter – Investigating CGI, Emerging Technologies, Partnership and Commissioners
- Provided independent strategic advice and input on stakeholder management, identification of risks and mitigation of risks to film producer
- Branding and launch of web site, interviewing public figures

INSTITUTE FOR BUSINESS ADVANCEMENT

Nov 2016 – Feb 2020

Director Strategy & Innovation

- Bringing together brilliant minds to develop strategic ideas, planning and innovations for the future

ECHO E-BUSINESS GLOBAL GROUP

May 2007 – May 2016

A group of boutique SMEs in the consulting, professional services, education and publishing sectors, (servicing blue-chip global companies, international brands and government organisations), which Deborah grew from ground zero to a NET Value £1Million.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE & MARKETING OFFICER - 2012 - 2016

Echo E-Business was a boutique E-Business and marketing consultancy, specialising in strategic planning, advice and training, servicing blue-chip clients, as well as SMEs around the globe. It had a subsidiary publishing company called Learn E-Business which offered e-learning and content subscriptions.

- ❑ Entire strategic planning and operational oversight of the group of companies
- ❑ Marketing strategy & entire responsibility for business development acquiring SME and blue-chip clients such as **Procter & Gamble, Three, Ernst & Young, Seagate, John Lewis, House of Fraser, Schneider Electric, Kenwood, Omani Government, Croatia Airlines, Royal Canin (Mars), Chapman Entertainment, Warner, Thales-Raytheon, Oman and Scottish Governments, The Dune Group, Brady Corporation, Saudi Stock Exchange, South African Post Office, Zain Telecom, international airlines, hotels, global and national banks, and more**
- ❑ Successfully completed corporate restructure to boost financial investment
- ❑ Development and evolution of business, E-Business, online selling, content and marketing strategy for the pilot of an online network and e-learning subscription web site of 100,000+ business members (IT, E-Commerce and Marketing Leaders and their teams, as well as startups)
- ❑ Oversight of online network, subscriptions, e-commerce, revenue, marketing, content, team & suppliers
- ❑ Business planning and presentation to securing finance from two banks during the recession to support project initiatives

Earlier role: CHIEF STRATEGIST/MARKETING/E-COMMERCE/MANAGING DIRECTOR – 2009 - 2012

Echo E-Business:

- ❑ Developed a Multi-Channel Merchandising Program for John Lewis, which contributed (as part of a wider strategy), to a £60.6 million increase in online sales.

- ❑ Developed numerous e-business, content, advertising and marketing strategies, including an advertising strategy for a well-known mobile phone company with £5million budget - Achieving over 200,000 handsets sales and subsequent associated service and download sales.
- ❑ E-Commerce strategy, implementation and oversight – Classroom course, event and session bookings
- ❑ Online acquisition of large international clients with limited budget through optimized spend, and e-commerce
- ❑ Gained agreement from CTO/Director level leaders to participate in a white paper with PriceWaterhouseCoopers, John Lewis, J.P. Morgan, Cancer Research UK, SecondLife.com, in which I contributed future predictions for E-Business on behalf of our company (Featured in the media e.g. Telegraph)
- ❑ Development and marketing of COB brand and bespoke courses for marketing, content strategy & customer experience, e-commerce and E-Business leaders (Manager/Director level), and executives to drive sales and optimize ROI
- ❑ Co-ordinated team of trainers to deliver high-quality digital marketing, strategic and e-commerce training, as part of a relationship building, cross-sell and up-sell strategy
- ❑ Strategic development of an online community of over 100,000 members, product and service development and positioning to attract major educational partners and investment
- ❑ Developed and nurtured a newsletter mailing list of over 200,000 subscribers through content-led marketing over a 7-year period, SEO, PPC, banner advertising, social media, PR, affiliate marketing, web writing, marketing collateral production and oversight, other advertising.

Learn E-Business Publishing:

- ❑ Identified revenue generating opportunities - events, content, products, subscriptions and advertising
- ❑ Content strategy, media productization and monetization – e.g. Internet Startups Course
- ❑ Sourced and contributed to website, subscription and product content
- ❑ Developed entire digital/online strategy and managed production of web site (significant hands-on input)

MADAM MUSIC

Sept 2004 – May 2007

A small music business gaining revenue from record label (music sales), music portal advertising revenue and branded fashion product range.

DIRECTOR - ONLINE, PRODUCTS AND MARKETING (Case studies: Visit deborahcollier.com)

- ❑ **E-Business Initiatives** - Developed a number of e-business initiatives including the resale of an ethical and legal viral music download sharing service downloadandshare.com
- ❑ **Brand Development & E-Commerce Business**- Developed the madam music brand and madammusic.com music portal with advertising, clothing and music download revenue – E-Commerce store accepting online and mobile payments (102,000 visitors month 4 using social media, PR and networking; Awarded 24/25 for Branding by New Media Age Magazine)
- ❑ **Marketing/Press/PR and Content** - Reviewed albums, wrote stories and interviewed music celebrities for the music portal – Coordinated small in-house marketing and admin team, as well as suppliers
- ❑ **Music Label** - Founded and developed a record label promoting label artist:
 - Music Production (Executive Producer)
 - Acquired Digital and Physical distribution
 - Gained sponsorship from Mazda, London College of Fashion and smaller businesses
 - Led suppliers and team to gain BBC Radio Coverage, Video aired at Fitness First, Tony & Guy, 400 UK Bars and Clubs
 - Album won a place on British Phonographic Industry (BPI)s British at Midem CD

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS

Sept 2002 – Sept 2004

CLIENT RELATIONSHIP MANAGER – Web Management Services (Case studies: Visit deborahcollier.com)

- **Strategy, Planning and Consultancy** - Helped clients (marketing directors and senior partners) to understand and identify business needs and opportunities provided by intra, extra, Internet and related new media technologies, helping develop marketing and online strategy.
- **Business Analysis** -Advised the client teams on strategies and tactical requirements to satisfy their business objectives – includes marketing, metrics and content strategy as well as technology; acted as liaison between technical and business teams.
- **Project Work stream Leader** - Variety of high-profile projects with Senior Stakeholders
- **Education and Advice**, content management system, design, branding and risk management guidelines (e.g. 30,000 page site of c. 800 contributors globally).
- **Requirements Gathering and Formulation** for business information system, business processes and policies (e.g. Portal, Content Management System, Helpdesk, Web Infrastructure, Metrics, E-risk Management)

DIRECTOR – team of 5 contractors

- IT, E-commerce Consultancy, Web Merchandiser/Store Manager Training
- Project, Supplier, Partner and Team Management – IT, E-Commerce, Web and Marketing Projects
- Partnered with Actinic, Netbanx and SecureTrading
- Developed the world's first e-commerce enabled online art gallery

M.SC IN BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEMS April 2000 - Oct 2001 – see education/qualifications**OTHER EMPLOYMENT – Junior Career****Sept 1991– April 2000**

- ❑ Sept 1995 – April 2000– My IT Career (including e-treasury installation, configuration and client training. Chase Manhattan Bank, Fidelity Investments, Fujitsu ICL for Ministry of Defense
- ❑ Sept 1991 – 1995 – Contract marketing assistant, admin, helpdesk and PA roles at BT, Sainsbury's, Westminster City Council, 2 recruitment companies, a property company and a publisher.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION

M.Sc. Business Information Systems (IT Management/Business hybrid masters degree) - Royal Holloway University of London, (As mature student in September 2000-October 2001)

❖ **Dissertation: 'How to Manage a Successful E-Business Project' – Distinction**

Secondary School: Bexley Grammar School, UK, 1984-1991: 2 A levels and 8 G.C.S.E.s, RSA Economics Distinction

Professional training: Management development program, presentation and vocal skills, influencing, negotiation and sales. c.14-years' experience delivering digital marketing, e-commerce training and certifications to leading organizations. (COB Certified Digital Marketing Manager, E-Business Manager, E-Commerce Manager Series)

Early Career Qualifications in Project Management, Professional Web Site Design, and Microsoft Technology

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- ❑ **French**– Fluent/Advanced Written and Spoken, **Greek, Italian, German, Russian** - Very Basic

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Art and design, tech gadgets & future tech, music, dancing film, travel, backgammon, science, philosophy, writing, fashion, scuba diving, the outdoors (hiking), animals, socializing and good food.

MEMBERSHIPS

Deborah is a member of MENSA (a society which "aims to identify and foster human intelligence for the benefit of humanity"). She is also a member of the Media Society and the Royal Society of Arts.