

## Curriculum Vitae

### Raluca Pauna

**My motto:** “Where the sun shines, there too is shadow. Be illumined by the light of knowledge no less than by its shadow”. (Patton, 2002, p. 429)

### Latest Achievements

**I am a technical innovator with two of my technical innovations chosen in the final of SA Innovation Competitions:**

- Facilitator and lecturer at UP designing the course content by integrating Theory of Change and Design Thinking Theory for MOOCS (massive open online courses) and innovations strategies.
- Finalist in GIC competition in 2012 with MobiPad /ICT application
- SAB innovation competition (2013) Foundation) with Anti- Crime button/ ICT
- SASOL ChemCity competition 2013 with Anti- Crime button
- MBIS innovation/ICT for SMMEs in 2009 acknowledged by IDC program rewarded 50% grant for development
- All the above innovation projects are provisionally patented with CIPC

### EDUCATION and PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

#### Recent achievements:

- IBM mentor for TECH4AFRICA innovation competition finalists and Global Entrepreneurship Project –GEP- at San Francisco Innovation Smart Camp 2014
- Mentor for Stanford University Technological Entrepreneurship Course online 2013.
- Director SA Institute of Inventors and Innovators (III) from 2011.
- Research in innovation management at WBS and currently doing the postgraduate thesis in Investment in Skills Development in ICT innovative firms based in South Africa
- Certification obtained in 11 postgraduate courses in innovation management at WBS
- Innovations officer for Resilient Innovation Lab at University of Pretoria, part of Resilient Africa Network under USAID, HESN, Stanford University, CSIS and Tulane University
- Attending in 2014 ChangeLabs/Stanford University postgraduate courses in innovations strategies using Design Thinking and Theory of Change

#### Major degree and certifications:

- ChangeLabs/Stanford University postgraduate courses in innovation strategies
- Master of Science, (5 years full time plus thesis ) of *electrical engineer (automatic systems )* , University of Technology, Bucharest, RO, 1980
- Certificate for Maintenance and service for Hardware parts, IIRUC, Bucharest,1983
- Certificate in Project Management of Data Processing Systems and Telecommunications at Academy of Leadership, Bucharest, EU , 1985
- Certificate in Africa Human Rights Course, UP, South Africa, 2004
- Diploma in Competitive Intelligence one year course,2006, Information Systems, UP, South Africa
- Certificate in trading doing “Successful Services Exporting” workshop provided by International Trade Centre, Geneva

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

- Senior technical and entrepreneurial executive with more than 23 years of experience in managing technical departments, managing research and innovation projects at design and implementation levels.
- Results-oriented achiever involved in identifying technological innovation that will accelerate economic growth.
- Assessing and auditing technical innovation projects in ICT, alternative and saving energy, bioscience, social and community based innovation
- Java developer, web and database designer, cloud service and computer architecture, PC boards designer, mobile platforms and cloud services, big data analysis.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Romania:

System Engineer at Government Ministerial Departments from 1981 to 1990  
 Chief of Computer Department of Research Institute of Fine Mechanics and Instruments, Bucharest, from 1990 to 1993

### International Experience

#### Western and Eastern Europe:

Member of Leadership Thinking Tank, Brussels, EU 2005-2007

#### Japan:

**TECHNONET AFRICA**, Japan network for supporting Africa entrepreneurs working as a link coordinator for entrepreneurs

#### South Africa:

At present I am an external **technical innovation consultant** working part time for Support Program for Industrial Innovation (SPII) at IDC from 2000. The tasks that were accomplished:

- Producing due diligence and audit reports for around 300 applicants involved in industrial innovation projects (mainly electric/electronic and IT).
- Mentoring and coaching the SPII applicants (~300) for developing and implementing their innovation projects from idea to diffusion
- Mentoring more than 200 innovators, members and applicants enrolled at The Institute of Innovators and Inventors for developing their ideas to the market.
- These innovators were guided with patience and care during the full cycle of innovation

#### USA:

IBM International mentor for GEP from 2013

#### Skills, Knowledge and Experience:

- I continually applied analytical and problem solving skills during the monthly Panel of specialists of The Institute of Inventors and Innovators in assessing, advising and developing the

innovations presented by the candidates. Also the tasks performed since 2000 for Support Program for Industrial Innovation (“SPII”), part of Industrial Development Corporation (“IDC”), imply assessment, due diligence and checking of the innovative proposed projects and their output on monthly basis. These tasks imply multidisciplinary knowledge, multitasking and deep analytical skills vis- a- vis a large diversity of candidates.

- During finalising WBS postgraduate requirements the undersigned graduated a number of eleven post graduate courses in Innovation Management discipline, like: National Systems of Innovations, The Organization Theory and Innovation Management, Design in Innovation, Strategic Foresight in Innovation, Managing Innovation and Organizational Strategy, Innovation Policies, Innovation and Energy Systems, Innovation and Bioscience, Technical Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice, Research Methodology (2 parts).
  - My thesis title is *Skills Development in ICT innovative firms based in South Africa*. The thesis is at the final stage and it will be submitted end of March 2014.
  - Dr Louise Whittaker is the supervisor.
- I attended to a large number of audits during their cycle of development part of SPII/IDC projects and I personally designed and assisted the innovators to produce the prototypes. Also I innovated myself and finalise the prototype for the anti- crime unit innovation that was **provisionally patented** together with a second innovation called MobiPad dispenser at Gauteng Innovation Competition 2012.
- I developed the link between Soweto Innovation Labs, III and Internet Society Gauteng assisting on regular basis young entrepreneurs and students with their projects. On 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2013, during SABC 1 Raise Mzansi social innovation series, I introduced my innovation together with Soweto community representative and Soweto radio station manager, Mr Zanecebo Mchunu.
- I am an active link with VCs and shareholders who can contribute with funds to the qualified projects like: Business Partners, KPMG, IBM CSI, DTI and IDC, SAB, FNB, DBSA, etc.
- I have knowledge of the teaching environment because I was teaching mathematics and IT in high schools full time over a period of 5 years (Glenvista High School and Bishop Bavin High School, Gauteng).
- I am capable to manage multiple projects and to maximise the use of time by optimising the resources available and planning in advance using Mind Mapping and other time management tools.
- I wrote many technical reports for SPII innovation projects and furthermore I wrote a technical report requested by the Free State Premier (2011) for the province broadband infrastructure with a total budget projection of R500 million.
- I worked for a while with World Bank representative during the implementation of social innovation projects in Diepsloot, Gauteng.
- I am a consultant for JCSE (software department at WITS) for the development of entrepreneurship skills with ISP support among young graduates.
- I have an attempt to public a research article 939621 titled "In Situ Made Hydrogen for Use on Demand," in collaboration with Florian Cioroianu, Marin Radu and John Morris, winners of Geneva Gold medal for innovation in 2010 in Physics Research International Journal. I am waiting for the publication approval and feedback.

### Major Projects:

- The Institute of Innovators on line portal
- MBIS ICT application for SMMEs
- MobiPad system, an online supply chain management for women using a mobile platform
- Anti-Crime terminal using a mobile platform
- Production of hydrogen in situ processor
- Mobile blood tester using spectrographic technologies

- Human genome information system
- Management of innovation and business planning for more than 300 technical innovation projects at SPII: measurement instruments, insurance and ERP applications, new products with new electronic design for better green and clean environments (MEMIR, EASY TAP, fire security ZYTEQ, etc.).
- Mentor for Africa Innovation Competition for UN with one innovation in the final
- Part of the panel of mentors and adjudicators for TECH4Africa 2013
- Part of the Panel of adjudicators of The Institute of Innovators' monthly event.
- Judge for the Innovation Competition part of Innovation Summit Conference 2014
- Main judge for South Africa participants to TechCon at San Francisco, November 2014

**Languages: English, French, Romanian**

**Aspirations: To contribute to global innovation advancements for a better life for all**