

## **Kevin Kragenbrink Chosen to Lead Tech 2020**

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(Oak Ridge, TN) The Technology 2020 Board of Directors unanimously approved today the appointment of Kevin Kragenbrink as its interim Executive Director. The top position at Tech 2020 became open in September when [CEO](#) John Morris resigned to co-found ClearPath Ventures in Knoxville. Kragenbrink, the Co-Founder and CEO of Estrada Strategies, Inc., will work closely with the Board and staff over a six-month period to identify ways that Tech 2020 can best contribute to the region's evolving entrepreneurial ecosystem.

"Tech 2020 has played a leadership role in the region for the past 20 years, primarily focused on technology commercialization and access to capital strategies," said Tom Rogers, Board Chairman and a former CEO of the organization. "We are delighted that Kevin has agreed to serve in this important position. Kevin served on Tech 2020's Business Mentor Group for four years, and was the recipient of the Tech Council's Navigator Award for Community Service in 2008. He's worked with the organization and with entrepreneurs in our region, and will bring some fresh insight and strong management skills to the position."

Kragenbrink chose to locate in East Tennessee after beginning his career in California, where he founded and led nine start-up ventures, including The Wordsmith, a small independent publishing company. He also worked as the Director of New Business Initiatives and as the Director of the Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship at Cal State, San Bernadino. He holds a Ph.D. in History from Auburn University, and an M.A. from Pepperdine University and a B.A. from Pacific Christian College..

"We were all very impressed with Kevin during our search process," explained Chair-Elect Teri Brahams. "Kevin has started several businesses himself, and has coached dozens of others through Estrada Strategies. His successful consulting career positions him very well to take on the challenge of helping Tech 2020 assess its priorities and roles moving forward in the region."

"I'm excited about the opportunity to serve the entrepreneurial and commercialization community in East Tennessee," said Kragenbrink. "Tech 2020 has played an important role in the community supporting the connection of technology development and commercial ventures, and I believe the organization has the potential to play an even greater role in the future."

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For more information contact Tom Rogers at [rogerstc@ornl.gov](mailto:rogerstc@ornl.gov).