

JOHN "JACK" DIGIOVANNA

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STRENGTHS

- **Leadership:** Created, optimized, and led distributed, multidisciplinary teams. Solution-oriented executive leader who has driven significant organizational changes.
- **Communication:** Distilled complex technical or scientific content into clear, engaging talks and pitches. Balanced consistent optimism, vision, & inclusivity to connect with diverse stakeholders.
- **Business Development:** Developed partnerships and business models to position our organization for success in engagements ranging from services, to analysis ecosystems, to monetizing data assets.
- **Data Science:** Invented a neuroprosthetic controller using reinforcement learning which co-adapted with the users. Nine years direct experience in applied ML, continuously followed the field since 2004.

RECENT EXPERIENCE

Velsera (formerly Seven Bridges)

Oct 2023 - present

Chief Science Officer

- Drove long-term strategy on data discovery and reuse for pharma, data generators, and AI analytics companies; including data enrichment and combination.
- Led entire portfolio (>\$10M) of government and non-profit business as Principal Investigator. Served as the steward of Velsera's scientific impact for patients and their families.
- Reshaped business unit to improve integration within Customer Success and Strategic Roadmap. Rescued key strategic accounts by rebuilding executive relationships.

Head of Science Strategy; SVP

Nov 2022 - Sept 2023

- Transformed Health Initiative business unit, incorporating a new commercial team and optimizing processes to evolving business needs.
- Responsible for scientific strategy across academic, non-profit, biotech, and pharmaceutical sectors.
- Drove key strategic, cross-functional initiatives on Velsera's *Senior Leadership Team*.

Seven Bridges

Nov 2021 - Oct 2022

General Manager - Public Sector; SVP

- Expanded role to full P&L responsibilities for over 1/3rd of Seven Bridges revenue. Business unit included 15 people directly reporting; 105 people matrixed in.
- Drove revenue growth, e.g. 300% increase in revenue from 2018-2021. Built robust pipeline, e.g. exceeding 2021 bookings targets by over 40%.
- Drove an agile transformation and reorg across Seven Bridges (approx 330 employees). Key outcomes: i) establishing our business unit as an incubator and innovation center; ii) increasing synergies; iii) reducing context switching; iv) continued evolution from waterfall towards agile.
- Engaged continuously with key stakeholders, e.g. serving as co-chair for NIH System Interoperability working group, which facilitates interoperability between analysis ecosystems across the NIH.

Program Director; SVP

Oct 2018 - Nov 2021

- Built and led a multi-disciplinary, distributed team of program managers, principal investigators, engineers, and community engagement managers. Empowered & supported team members.
- Set strategic direction to develop differentiating capabilities for data analysis & distribution.
- Developed opportunity pipeline through (i) triage and response to RFPs; (ii) development of strategic partnerships and relationships to shape new opportunities; (iii) active community engagement.

Lead - Diagnostics; VP

Oct 2017 - Oct 2018

- Responsible for strategy, customer success, and innovation within the Diagnostic sector.

- Refined Seven Bridges pricing model to align financial interests with current & future clients.

Director of Program Management

Nov 2016 - Oct 2017

- Closely collaborated with key stakeholders to curate the Seven Bridges Product Roadmap which guided a ≥ 200 member cross-functional team.
- Co-developed and implemented process to improve capability prioritization, product-market fit, & go-to-market plans. Aligned product launches to external pressures and opportunities.

Program Manager - Automation

Nov 2015 - Oct 2016

- Researched, understood, & prioritized the user needs. Curated this info into the Product Roadmap.

Translational Neural Engineering Lab; EPFL

2012-2015

Senior Scientist

Lausanne, Switzerland

- Innovated research directions through supervision of three PhD students. Led development of a brain-spinal interface in rats. First team to demonstrate robot control after spinal cord injury.
- Slashed clinical characterization time by modeling response to vestibular prosthetic onset, then searching over the model's parameter space. This search would have been infeasible in patients.

Neuroprosthetics Control Group; ETH Zurich

2009 - 2012

Postdoctoral Researcher

Zurich Switzerland

- Designed, executed, and analyzed experiments to test cortical activation preceding movement. Provided support for rehabilitated rats regaining control after spinal cord injury.

EDUCATION

The University of Florida PhD in Biomedical Engineering

Dec 2008

The Pennsylvania State University BS in Electrical Engineering

Dec 2002

ADVISORY BOARDS

NCI Imaging Data Commons External Advisory Board

since 2022

University of Florida Biomedical Engineering Alumni Advisory Board

since 2019

PATENT

J. DiGiovanna et al., System and method for BMI control using reinforcement learning, US Patent No. US20100137734 A1. [\[link\]](#) Priority date: 2007. Issue date: June 2015.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Complete [list](#) of >50 peer-reviewed journal or conference publications (h-index = 21) with linked full-texts.

- LD Hughes, G Tsueng, **J DiGiovanna**, et al., "Addressing barriers in FAIR data practices for biomedical data" *Scientific Data* 10(98) 2023
- JW Lau, E Lehnert,... , **J DiGiovanna**, et al., The Cancer Genomics Cloud: Collaborative, Reproducible, and Democratized A New Paradigm in Large-Scale Computational Research *Cancer Res*; 77(21) 2017

RECENT TALKS

More complete [list](#) with video links where available.

- NIH AD/ADRD Platforms FAIRness: [Session Chair - Current NIH Data Ecosystems](#) (June 2023)
- Discovery & Diagnostics Summit: [Connecting teams & data to deliver insights](#) Boston MA (May 2023)