



LEAP Program

 **Leaders** |  **Empower** |  **AI Performance**

AI-Enabled Leaders Shaping Future-Ready
Intelligent Organizations



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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AI mastery is a strategic imperative for CEOs and CXOs. This program delivers practical strategies to turn AI into measurable business advantage.

In partnership with Amazon Web Services participants gain frameworks to align AI, improve efficiency, and deliver sustainable ROI.

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Limited to senior executives, this high-trust cohort lets you pressure-test strategies, exchange insights beyond traditional playbooks, and build an enduring global network of influential peers driving next-era performance.



The program is organized and hosted by Duke Kunshan University only.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE: The Boardroom Transformation

A three-month executive program of three intensive two-day modules, blending academic rigor with a strategic-level AI mindset, practical application and a sharp Board-level focus.



2026.9.17-9.19

MODULE 1: LEADERSHIP IN THE AI ERA

Focus: Transforming leadership from intuition-based to AI-augmented decision-making.

Day 1: Leading through AI Transformation

- Building resilience and personal leadership for high stakes organizational pivots.
- Focusing on executive stamina and leading senior teams through radical disruption.

Day 2: Leading the AI-enabled Team

- Managing human AI teaming through clear accountability and calibrated trust.
- Improving team performance through aligned metrics, iterative feedback, and AI as a collaborative partner.



2026.10.15-10.17

MODULE 2: BUILDING AI-NATIVE ORGANIZATION

Focus: Assessing your organization's AI readiness and identifying key gaps in adoption.

Day 3: Strategically Transforming in an AI-Driven World

- Mapping out transformation challenges and understanding how the moving parts come together.
- Discovering the most common transformation challenges and how to overcome them.
- Rethinking systems, processes, and roles to become AI native.

Day 4: Developing a Playbook to Transform

- Adopting horizontal management: Agile, data-driven workflows replacing slow committees – less overhead, faster speed-to-market.
- Embedding AI: Positioning (strategic fit) and Practice (AI-native habits that stick)
- Innovation Culture: Internal accelerators and intrapreneurial culture – lessons from Apple and Intel China



MODULE 3: TRUSTWORTHY AI AND COMMERCIAL APPLICATION

Focus: Responsible AI governance driving market impact via AI marketing and analytics.

Day 5: AI and Compliance

- Using ISO 42001 to turn ethics into auditable controls – assign ownership, run regular model audits, and document fairness/safety/transparency.
- Creating an AI risk committee, mandate bias and privacy checks before launch, and conduct workforce impact assessments for every automation project.

Day 6: AI and Marketing

- Using AI-driven micro-moment thinking over traffic thinking for real-time precision targeting.
- Deploying GEO and agent workflows to mitigate risks and secure sustainable market share.
- A focused workshop that turns theory into a boardroom ready execution roadmap.
- Synthesis: Finalizing the "Boardroom Blueprint" and brand strategy.

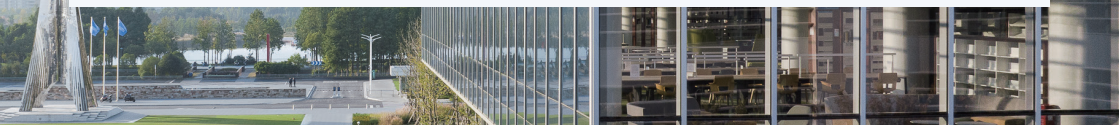
Integrated Case Threads through the Modules:

Dami & Xiaomi: A three-part case tracing the journey from manual processes to a fully integrated AI organization, reviewed against 2025 outcomes.

Amazon Web Services: A two-part case examining AI implementation within Amazon Web Services' own technology group, covering restructuring and trade-offs.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE FOR EACH RESIDENTIAL MODULE

ARRIVAL DAY	DAY 1	DAY 2
	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Core Program	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Core Program
	LUNCH	LUNCH
PM Arrival on Campus	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Core Program	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Core Program
Pre-dinner Speech Mind Expansion Topics / CEO Speech & Panel	4:00 PM - 6:30 PM Core Program	Departure
Welcome Dinner + Cocktails Mixer	Group Dinner + Networking	



FACULTY & CONTRIBUTORS



John Quelch

Executive Vice Chancellor, American President, and Distinguished Professor of Social Science, Duke Kunshan University, John deButts Professor of Practice, Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

Shalom Saar

Visiting Professor of Leadership and Innovation, Duke Kunshan University Harvard University Ph.D., Expert in Leadership and Organizational Behavior, helping organizations build high-performance cultures and equips leaders with the mindset, clarity, and communication skills required for transformative initiatives.



Robin Speculand

Implementation specialist who is the founder and Chief Executive of Bridges Business Consultancy Int. He works with C-suite leaders and boards to help organizations close the gap between strategy and performance in an AI-driven world.



Shawn Liu

Duke Kunshan University Network Faculty. Former Vice President of Global HR Strategy and Transformation at Boehringer Ingelheim Germany. Long-term consultant for Fortune Global 500 clients including Walmart, China Resources, Boeing, and Roche.



Danffer Ni

General Manager, Growth Enterprises & Emerging Business, Amazon Web Services. Senior executive with deep experience helping multinational enterprises adopt cloud and AI technologies. He advises leadership teams on landing generative-AI innovation, enterprise deployment patterns, and cross-industry transformation.



Vanessa Hasse

Assistant Professor, International Business, Ivey Business School. Dr. Hasse has been recognized internationally as a management educator for her innovations in designing transformative learning experiences, including the development and teaching of impactful business case studies.



Cathy Wang

Over 20 years of experience in security compliance and standardization, with deep expertise in data security, privacy protection, cloud security, and AI governance. Established AI governance frameworks for dozens of well-known enterprises. Held core roles at BSI, Huawei, Alibaba Cloud, and Tencent, including T4 expert and head of Tencent's cloud security compliance system.



INDUSTRY ANCHORS

Knut Hilles

SAIC Volkswagen CIO and a leading practitioner of enterprise AI implementation.



Steven Gao

Former head of Tesla Shanghai's Manufacturing AI team and founder of IndustrialMind.ai.



alongside a broader faculty and network of industry anchors

FEES

RMB 138,000 excluding VAT. (Fees include tuition, accommodation, meals and refreshments throughout program days, wellness labs and full access to DKU campus facilities. Personal travel costs to/from the campus are not included.)

PROGRAM INQUIRY

LEAP Program Office

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Scan QR Code to Apply

About Duke Kunshan University

Duke Kunshan University is a world-class liberal arts university based in Kunshan, China, that offers a range of high-quality, innovative academic programs for students from around the world. It was established in September 2013 as a U.S.-China partnership between Duke University and Wuhan University. DKU's unique model combines the best elements of Chinese and American higher education whilst building upon Duke's educational philosophy and Wuhan University's rich intellectual traditions.

