

Inaugural lecture
Adjunct Professor Tommy Ahlers

HOW TO USE
THE **UNIVERSITIES**
AS A FOUNDATION
FOR BUILDING
NEW DEEP TECH
STARTUPS





HOW TO USE THE UNIVERSITIES AS A FOUNDATION FOR BUILDING **NEW DEEP TECH STARTUPS** THAT WILL SAVE THE PLANET AND MASSIVELY IMPROVE THE DANISH ECONOMY

DTU Entrepreneurship is pleased to invite all interested parties to celebrate our new Adjunct Professor, Tommy Ahlers.

His inaugural lecture will take place on:

Thursday 4 May 2023 from 15:00 to 16:00

at DTU, Building 101A, "Glassalen", DK-2800 Kongens Lyngby.

Tommy's lecture is followed by a reception from 16:00 to 17:00.

The lecture will also be live streamed.

Seats are limited, so please sign up at your earliest convenience.

Read more and sign up here:

<https://dtu.events/inaugurallecturetommayahlers>

We look forward to celebrating Tommy and seeing all of you.

Best regards

DTU Entrepreneurship

Jes Broeng

Director, Professor

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Summary of lecture

We have a moral responsibility to address both the climate crisis and loss of biodiversity. However, effective action requires us to develop new technologies and scale them. While some existing technologies are available at scale, they cannot provide a complete solution in the short or long term.

Fortunately, Danish and European universities possess the research, ideas, and talent needed to create new products, materials, and energy sources. However, to turn these academic successes into commercial successes, we must change our cultural mindset, adopt a more structured approach and be willing to take more technical risks.

While we are accustomed to taking risks in the commercial realm, we now need to take technical risks with a sense of urgency. With commitments from both companies and politicians, there is pent-up demand in the market that can significantly lower the associated commercial risks.

The need to overhaul all value chains in all industries over the next 10-20 years makes the green economy the most significant business opportunity of our generation. By leveraging deep tech innovation, we can create a more sustainable future and massively improve the Danish economy. This requires us to start more companies, think bigger, and keep them in Denmark throughout their growth journey.

Tommy Ahlers

Tommy Ahlers is a Danish entrepreneur and investor.

2022-now: Founder and partner, Look Up Ventures

2019-2021: Member of the Danish Parliament

2018-2019: Danish Minister for Higher Education and Science

2015-2018: Investor and various board positions

2010-2015: CEO, Podio

2009-2010: Head of LBS, Vodafone and CEO, Wayfinder Systems

2004-2009: Founder and CEO, Zyb.com

2001-2004: Consultant and Project Manager, McKinsey

2001: Qualified as a lawyer