CHINA CROSSROADS

Wednesday, November 18th, 2026, 19:30 – 21:00

How to Develop Winning Teams: Lessons from Business and Sports

Alan MacCharles

Senior Director of Executive Education
Duke Kunshan University
Former Partner at Deloitte China

Zarko Krkeljas

Athletic Director and High-Performance Specialist
Duke Kunshan University

昆山杜克大学 DUKE KUNSHAN UNIVERSITY

上海英国商会 BritCham Shanghai

Supported by:
Duke Kunshan University
Britcham Shanghai

BritCham Shanghai | 699 Nanjing Xi Lu 21F #2107
200rmb admission with drink | FREE for members
Scan to RSVP or email editor@shanghai-review.org

What does it take to develop a winning leadership team? This talk will explore how leaders build trust, establish shared goals and turn individual strengths into collective performance. The discussion will draw practical lessons from business and sport, examining the role of simulations, experiential learning and structured reflection in helping teams make decisions under pressure, navigate conflict and translate learning into stronger performance at work.

Alan MacCharles leads the Lifelong Learning and Executive Education Program at Duke Kunshan University (DKU). Prior to joining DKU, he had a career spanning almost 28 years with Deloitte, the last 18 of which where in China where he was Strategy and M&A partner. He is also an active advisor on the role of geopolitics and instability in business and has been an active speaker with Fortune 500 CEOs on the topic. He is the co-author with Mark Schaub of Unlocking International Joint Ventures. Over his career, he has been involved in dozens of joint venture formations, hundreds of commercial due diligence projects, and numerous strategy engagements.

Zarko Krkeljas is a sports and education professional currently leading the Athletics Department at Duke Kunshan University, China. As a sport scientist, Dr. Krkeljas has worked with elite sports teams and high performers across the USA, Africa, Europe, and Asia, and his research has been published in international peer-reviewed journals. He brings this unique, cross-disciplinary perspective to leadership and performance in his work with some of the world's leading corporations through DKU's Executive Education programs.

***China Crossroads** hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at **editor@shanghai-review.org**.*