

**CHAD E. FOSTER****INTRODUCTION**

Our speaker today was the first blind executive to graduate from the Harvard Business School leadership program, develop software Oracle said was impossible, and was the executive leading the 200-person team that closed the largest-ever software acquisition—a \$34 billion transaction. He has spoken internationally to leaders from organizations that include Bank of America, Google, GE, and Microsoft. Becoming an expert snow skier and Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu competitor after he lost his sight, Chad challenges traditional ideas of peak performance and change, while showing us how to take advantage of our disadvantages. His tough minded matter-of-fact attitude has helped him develop what he calls BLIND AMBITION, which includes the five pillars that enable leaders to break free from the circumstances that are preventing them, their teams, and their organizations from reaching their full potential. Please give a warm welcome for Chad Foster.