



John Spence bio:

“Making the very complex...awesomely simple” is no mere catch phrase, it is truly John Spence’s mission in life. At the age of just 26, John was named CEO of an international Rockefeller foundation, overseeing projects in 20 countries and reporting directly to the Chairman of the Board, Winthrop P. Rockefeller III. Three years later Inc. Magazine’s “Zinc Online” recognized him as one of America’s up and coming young business leaders. John has twice been named by Trust Across America as one of the Top 100 Business Thought Leaders in America and has been recognized by that organization on their global list of the top 100 Thought Leaders in the area of “Trustworthy Business Behavior.”

Other recipients of this award include: Sir Richard Branson – CEO of the Virgin Group, Howard Schultz – CEO of Starbucks,

Tony Hsieh – CEO of Zappos, acclaimed business consultant Ram Charan, internationally renowned author Thomas L. Friedman, and business authors Patrick Lencioni, Tom Peters, Rosabeth M. Kanter and Jim Kouzes. John has also been selected as a leading small business influencer in America along with Malcolm Gladwell, Seth Godin and Apple.

Since 1994, John has presented workshops, speeches and executive coaching to more than 300 organizations worldwide including; Microsoft, IBM, GE, Abbott, Merrill Lynch, AT&T, Verizon, Qualcomm, State Farm, and dozens of private companies, government offices and not-for-profits. John is also the author of “Excellence by Design – the six key characteristics of outstanding leaders” and “Awesomely Simple – essential business strategies for turning ideas into action” and has been a guest lecturer at over 90 colleges and universities across the United States including Harvard, Cornell, Stanford and the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and as a special instructor for the Entrepreneurial Masters Program at MIT. John currently serves as the Director of Best Practice Innovation for the Best Practice Institute and as an advisor/board member to several companies.

John has served as “Executive in Residence” for the University of Central Florida’s Technology Incubator; as a Special Advisor to the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University; as a lead instructor for the University of North Florida’s Executive Education division; on the Board of Directors for the University of Florida’s Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation; as an advisor to the University of Florida’s Leadership Development Institute and as a senior instructor at the Cornell University Leadership Development School.

His work as a business advisor and executive educator has taken him on assignments to Hong Kong, Japan, Germany, Austria, Mexico, Latin America, the Bahamas and Canada.

In April 2014 John was the recipient of the Leadership 500 Excellence Awards for 2014 for outstanding achievements in leadership development and programs at the 2014 Global Leadership Excellence Forum held in Vail, Colorado.