

Dr. Ravi Kiran Sethi

An operator with a doctorate. Twenty years in operating roles, from the engine room to Group COO, and a PhD on how entrepreneurship is actually learnt.

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EDUCATION

2026	PhD, Business Administration · LIUTEBM University, Lusaka Thesis: entrepreneurial skill-building in adolescence, ages 13 to 16. Defended April 2026. Mixed-method study across 400 students and 30 teachers; instrument reliability Cronbach's $\alpha = 0.977$; all four hypotheses significant at $p < .001$. Produced the ADEPT model for entrepreneurship education.
2014–15	MBA / PGPX · Myra School of Business, Mysore
1999–2003	BS, Marine Engineering · Tolani Maritime Institute / BITS Pilani

TEACHING AND CURRICULUM

2026	Instructor · Hindu University of America Designed and delivered a nine-session training programme for the university's own team, including a structured playbook and session-by-session materials.
2021–	Founder and curriculum author · Start Young CEO Thirty-three courses written and delivered for learners aged 9 to 15: twenty-four on entrepreneurship, nine on applied AI. Structured as ten-minute lessons on a fixed concept, example, practice and reflection cycle, with a defined assessment scheme.
2007	Shipboard training design · Eurasia Ship Management Built crew training and shipboard ERP onboarding for seagoing officers.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

2026	Doctoral thesis · LIUTEBM University, Lusaka Curriculum, teacher capability, mentorship and financial literacy as structural determinants of entrepreneurial skill in adolescence. Key findings: fear of failure is the dominant barrier and outweighs technical skill gaps; learners from family-business backgrounds show higher confidence; digital fluency is rarely directed at commercial application; a confidence gap persists by gender and between urban and rural cohorts.
2025	Entrepreneurship Education in Schools: The Need of the Hour International Journal of Research and Innovation in Applied Science, Vol. 10, Issue 7, August 2025, pp. 1047–1056. DOI 10.51584/IJRIAS.2025.100700095. With Dr. Deepchand Dhankher.
2025	A Literature Review on the Development of Entrepreneurial Management Skills among Adolescent Youth International Journal of Scientific Research in Engineering and Management, Vol. 9, July 2025. ISSN 2584-3930.
2025	Empowering Students Through Entrepreneurship: The Role of Schools and Educators International Journal of Innovative Research in Technology, Vol. 12, Issue 2, July 2025. ISSN 2349-6002. With Dr. Deepchand Dhankher. Reports the 400-student quantitative study behind the thesis.
Model	The ADEPT model Awareness Building · Dynamic Learning · Ecosystem Engagement · Policy & Infrastructure · Tracking & Evaluation. A five-part framework for delivering entrepreneurship as practice rather than theory, with a defined measurement scheme.

AREAS OF TEACHING

Entrepreneurship education

Venture building and early-stage operations

Applied AI for business

Brand strategy and go-to-market

Operating strategy and scaling

Ship management

Maritime commerce and dry bulk

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021–	Group Chief Operating Officer · YC Ventures, Dubai Operating cadence across the venture portfolio: operating plans and OKRs, brand architecture, technology selection, org design and governance. Concurrent roles below. - Chief Executive Officer, SEAKNOTIQ Ship Management - Chief Growth & Strategy Officer, Aequor Shipping (dry bulk) - Founder, Start Young CEO
2021–22	Chief Executive Officer, Marine · LATC, Nigeria Owned-vessel operations. Delivered a trouble-free dry dock with no schedule slip and clean vessel redeliveries to the builder. Rolled out an ERP across the operation.
2018–21	Chief Operating Officer and Head of Marine · Zomay Marine, Port Harcourt, Nigeria Fourteen vessels, five owned and nine chartered, on ExxonMobil and Total contracts. Raised fleet utilisation from 40% to over 80% within one year.
2015–18	Independent consultant · Nuovida Maritime technology systems for owners and managers, education technology, launch marketing for a national telecom launch in India, and enterprise conversational AI for banking and telecom clients in 2018.
2012–14	Business and Operations Head · Folks N Spoons, Singapore Founded and ran a fine-dining restaurant and single malt bar. Full ownership of the P&L, sourcing, hiring and service operations.
2010–12	Vice President, Business Development, Asia & Middle East · Heidenreich Innovations (Q88.com) Grew the account base past 250 clients. Co-designed the Officer Matrix vetting automation directly with the vetting teams at ExxonMobil, Chevron, BP, ADNOC and Petronas.
2007–10	Regional Manager, India, UAE and Singapore · Teledata Marine & OceanManager Regional P&L for maritime ERP across three markets.
2006–07	Dry-bulk ship broker · Interocean Joined in operations and post-fixtures; promoted to broker within three months.
2003–06	Marine Engineer Officer · Anglo Eastern Ship Management Bulk carriers, container ships and oil tankers, worldwide trading.

CERTIFICATIONS

2019	Entrepreneurship · Harvard Online	2019	Global Trends · Wharton Online
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FACULTY QUALIFICATION NOTE

Under AACSB Standard 3, a doctorate combined with current senior professional practice qualifies as Scholarly Practitioner or Practice Academic. Under the UGC Professor of Practice guidelines (2022), fifteen years of senior professional experience satisfies eligibility with the PhD and NET requirements waived; AICTE applies an equivalent route with wider allowances. UAE CAA requirements for teaching and supervising postgraduate students are met by a doctoral qualification, subject to a Ministry of Education certificate of equivalency.