Bringing together a global community of practitioners with thought leaders and scholars to explore the implementation of novel models, programs, and initiatives that enhance economic growth and social progress in innovation ecosystems.
THE GOAL OF THE SYMPOSIUM

To learn from both successes and failures and to maximize collective impact in research and practice, exploring “what’s best” today and “what’s next” on the frontier.

The overarching emphasis will be on the models, programs, and initiatives that develop, drive, and inform innovation ecosystems and the roles multi-stakeholder leadership plays in advancing them both individually and collectively.

Home to MIT labs, makerspaces, and industry alike, the symposium is taking place in the heart of Technology Square, an innovation ecosystem it aims to foster.

Through a call for concepts soliciting novel models from around the world, the symposium tracks are defined by the submissions received and will draw from them to coalesce and disseminate best practices and new ideas.

The symposium aims to compile a resource regarding the inputs, outputs, and impacts of effective I&E models, programs, and initiatives, making available the top 30 concept papers describing novel, action-oriented programs (including their design, implementation challenges and metrics for evaluation), and identifying concrete, new focus areas for future research.
Thursday, October 12, 2017

10:30 am  Registration
Atrium @ 100 Technology Square

11:00 am  Poster Session and Lunch
Multi-stakeholder initiatives and programs from around the globe showcase how they are driving and informing innovation ecosystems in their regions.

- Bridge to Mass Challenge
- Canberra Innovation Network
- Cambridge Innovation Center
- COMPETinnova-Innovation Competition
- Ecosystem i2e @ Distro Tec
- Experiment Peru
- FIEMG Lab Novos Negocios
- Franhofer TechBridge Program
- Galway City Innovation District
- Greentown Labs
- Growth Readiness Program
- Hebei Innovation Cluster
- InnovateNC
- JEDDI
- LAJE-Innovation Platform
- MaRS: EXCITE & BAP+MDC
- MARTE.
- MIT D-Lab
- MIT IDE Inclusive Innovation Challenge
- MIT IDEAS Global Challenge
- MIT linQ Catalyst Program
- NESTA/Global Innovation Policy Accelerator
- Northeast Clean Energy Council & NECC Institute
- Quorum at the University City Science Center
- REAP Madrid Innovation Driven Ecosystem
- REAP One Lagos Skills Accelerator Program
- Ruta N
- RWTH Aachen Campus
- Sella Lab FinTech District
- Shenzhen Open Innovation Lab
- Student & Innovation House Denmark
- The Runway Startup Postdoc Program
- UIIN Professional Education Program
- University Sorbonne Paris Cite Scientific Cartography
- Village Capital Communities
- Wallonia-Brussels: The Research & Innovation Platform
12:30 pm  **Opening Remarks**  
*Ragon Institute @ 400 Technology Square*

- **Catherine Fazio**, MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy
- **Sarah Jane Maxted**, MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program

12:40 pm  **Keynote**

- **Stephen Forte**, Laudato Si’ Challenge, Fresco Capital

1:00 pm  **Plenary Panel:**  
**How Ecosystem Orchestrators Create the Conditions for Inclusive Innovation and Social Impact**

Features new initiatives that are building capacity for inclusive innovation and entrepreneurship.

- **Gary White**, Black Start Innovation
- **Barrie Grinberg**, Venture for America
- **Lee Wellington**, Urban Manufacturing Alliance
- **Steve Grossman**, Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (*chair*)
2:00 pm

**Program Evaluation & Benchmarks**

An exercise guiding participants through identifying key measures of success for their organizations and recognizing key challenges of benchmarking and measurement.

- **Yael Hochberg**, Rice University
- **Daniel Fehder**, University of Southern California

2:45 pm

**The Startup Cartography Project**

The launch of a new tool that measures entrepreneurial quality and maps innovation ecosystems.

- **Scott Stern**, MIT Sloan School of Management
- **Jorge Guzman**, National Bureau of Economic Research

3:30 pm

**Plenary Panel:**

**The Power of Place: Buildings and Cities as Canvases for Ecosystem Engagement**

Three world-leading stakeholders at the forefront of this emerging trend discuss the planning, use, and design of space within cities to foster immersion within and the support of vibrant innovation-driven ecosystems.

- **Carlos Cubillos**, Gensler
- **Erik Ubels**, OVG Real Estate
- **Salomon Salinas**, Global Connected Spaces, Accenture Digital
- **Albert Saiz**, MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning (*chair*)
4:15 pm  **Plenary Panel:**

**From Pilot Experiments to Collective Impact: Choosing Among Alternative Models for Effecting Change**

An exploration of two alternative models for effecting change within innovation ecosystems, how to square these very different approaches, and where and when each might be most usefully deployed.

- **Jan Rivkin**, Harvard Business School
- **Mark Kramer**, FSG
- **Sarah Jane Maxted**, MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (chair)

5:00 pm  **Closing Remarks**

- **Vladimir Bulović**, MIT School of Engineering, MIT Innovation Initiative

5:10 pm  **Proceed to Reception**

*Atrium @ 100 Technology Square*

5:15 pm  **Reception**
Friday, October 13, 2017

8:00 am  Breakfast
Ragon Institute @ 400 Technology Square

8:30 am  Fireside Chat

- Sheila Herrling, Case Foundation
- Catherine Fazio, MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy (chair)

9:00 am  Plenary Panel:
The Potential of Gender Balance: What’s Next in Bridging the Gender Gap

Considers how platforms, programs, and workplaces can be designed to help change culture and reshape the innovation economy to foster gender inclusion.

- Georgene Huang, Fairygodboss
- Amal Dokhan, Babson Global Center of Entrepreneurial Leadership
- Jessica Faieta, United Nations Talent Development
- Chandra Briggman, Venture Café Cambridge (chair)
9:45 am  Innovation Ecosystem Framework and Metrics

An overview of the MIT ecosystem and launch of the I-Cap and E-Cap metrics tool.

- Fiona Murray, MIT Sloan School of Management, MIT Innovation Initiative
- Phil Budden, MIT Sloan School of Management

10:15 am  Go Hack!

- Bill Aulet, Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship

10:20 am  Proceed to Tracks:

Track Session 1: Ideas to Impact
Beaver Works @ 300 Technology Square

Track Session 2: Entrepreneurship Programs
Synthetic Biology Classroom @ 500 Technology Square

Track Session 3: Ecosystem Orchestrators
Ragon Institute @ 400 Technology Square
10:45 am  **Track Breakout Sessions:**

Discuss best practices and ideate solutions to central problems.

**Ideas to Impact**

accelerating research from bench to market

- **Georgina Campbell**, Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship at MIT (*facilitator*)
- **Ilan Gur**, Cyclotron Road (*panelist*)
- **Reed Sturtevant**, The Engine (*panelist*)

**Entrepreneurship Programs**

accelerators, incubators, co-working spaces, startup support

- **Mart Laatsit**, Copenhagen Business School (*co-facilitator*)
- **Donna Levin**, MIT Sloan School of Management (*co-facilitator*)
- **Mark Vasu**, Greentown Labs (*chair*)
- **Stas Gayshan**, Cambridge Innovation Center (*panelist*)
- **Rasmus Wiinstedt Tscherning**, Creative Business Cup (*panelist*)

**Ecosystem Orchestrators**

connecting communities, marshalling resources

- **Lars Frølund**, MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy (*facilitator*)
- **Steve Tang**, Science Center Philadelphia (*chair*)
- **Bolaji Finnih**, One Lagos Skills Accelerator Program (*panelist*)
- **Angel Agudo**, Madrid Innovation Driven Ecosystem (*panelist*)
- **Naila Jahan**, Bridge to Mass Challenge (*panelist*)

11:15 am  **Symposium Challenge: Mini-Hackathon**

Ideate on “what’s next” for innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems, programs and initiatives. Teams will develop proposals and construct pitches.
12:30 pm  Working Lunch

1:15 pm  Pitch Session and Judging

Teams pitch their proposals to a panel of judges followed by a Q&A session.

Judges:

- Sheri Brodeur, MIT Corporate Relations
- Vladimir Bulović, MIT School of Engineering, MIT Innovation Initiative
- Stephen Forte, Laudato Si’ Challenge, Fresco Capital
- Ayesha Khalid, MIT Hacking Medicine
- Liz Reynolds, MIT Industrial Performance Center
- Stephanie Rowe, Joulez
- Andy Stoll, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

2:00 pm  Break / Proceed to Ragon Institute

400 Technology Square

2:30 pm  Closing Program

Introduction of judges.
Announcement of track winners followed by pitches.

3:00 pm  Closing Keynote

- Paul Smyke, World Economic Forum

3:30 pm  Symposium Ends
Bill Aulet is changing the way entrepreneurship is understood, taught and practiced around the world. He is an award-winning educator and author whose current work is built off the foundation of his 25-year successful business career first at IBM and then as a three-time serial entrepreneur. During this time, he directly raised over a hundred million dollars and, more importantly, created hundreds of millions of dollars of shareholder value through his companies.

For the past seven years, he has been responsible for leading the development of entrepreneurship education across MIT at the Trust Center. His first book, *Disciplined Entrepreneurship*, released in August 2013, has been translated into 18 languages and has been the content for three online edX courses which have been taken by hundreds of thousands of people in 199 different countries. The accompanying follow on book, *Disciplined Entrepreneurship Workbook*, was released in April 2017. He has widely published in places such as the Wall Street Journal, TechCrunch, Boston Globe, Kauffman Foundation, Huffington Post and more. He has degrees from Harvard and MIT and is a board member of MITEK Systems (NASDAQ: MITK) and XL Hybrids Inc. (Private) as well as a visiting professor at University of Strathclyde (Scotland).

Angel Agudo is a professor at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) in the department of Organization Engineering, Business Administration and Statistics, where he has been working on several research lines, digital technologies innovation and entrepreneurship. He is author of more than 50 contributions to international academic journals and conferences, and has participated in several international research projects in Europe, Latin America and the USA.

He is the research leader (data rockstar) within the Madrid team in the MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program, and he is a Visiting Scholar at Harvard in the 2017–2018 academic year. Ángel holds a PhD (cum laude) from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, a BSc in Telecommunications Engineering at Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, MSc. in Economics and Innovation Management in a Madrid interuniversity program (Complutense, Autónoma and Politécnica Universities); and three-year Certificate in Business Administration in the National Distance Education University (UNED).
Chandra Briggman is Director of Venture Café Cambridge. To this role, she brings 18 years of product and marketing experience that spans both start-ups and multiple start-up ecosystems. Chandra teaches product management at General Assembly and large enterprises—in multiple start-up ecosystems and coaches entrepreneurs for WINLab (Babson) and Founder Institute. She founded digital magazine PATRÓNNE as an online platform for professional women. As the former Director of Digital for USPS, she built the first digital division and innovation lab for the organization. She is a child advocate and certified foster care provider. She is also a proponent of human-centered and conscious innovation and is on a mission to activate the “inventor” in everyone.

Sheri Brodeur is a Director in the Office of Corporate Relations at MIT managing a broad portfolio of industrial relationships with the university and the surrounding startup ecosystem. Prior to this she spent 22 years at Hewlett-Packard Company in several roles. Her most recent position was in the HP Labs Strategy and Innovation Office. The role of this organization was to set HP Labs research strategy and extend HP’s internal research capacity by partnering with universities, governments and other companies on a global scale to much more rapidly advance the positive impact of technology on the world.

Sheri spent 15 years with HP Labs, HP’s corporate research center, managing major university alliances and programs, including a $25M program with MIT. She has been responsible for managing global higher education technology programs in the areas of Security, Digital Libraries (DSpace), Information Management, and Sustainability.

Prior to this role she spent the previous eight years at Hewlett-Packard in the sales organization moving from the position of Field Sales Engineer to Global Account Manager. In this role she was responsible for selling, supporting and delivering high end test and measurement solutions for the communications industry.

Sheri has a B.S. in Ceramic Engineering from Alfred University and an M.S. in Solid State Science from the Materials Research Laboratory at Penn State University.
Vladimir Bulović oversees a broad portfolio of efforts within the School of Engineering that support innovation and entrepreneurship. He co-directs the MIT Innovation Initiative and is the faculty leading the design and construction of MIT’s new nano-fabrication, nano-characterization, and prototyping facility. Vladimir holds the Fariborz Maseeh Chair in Emerging Technology and directs the Organic and Nanostructured Electronics laboratory, which he developed as a unique open nanotechnology facility. He is also co-directing the Eni-MIT Solar Frontiers Center, among MIT’s largest sponsored programs.

Prior to joining the School of Engineering leadership, Vladimir directed the MIT Microsystems Technology Laboratories, which during his tenure grew to support over 700 investigators and $80M of research programs from across the Institute. His research interests include studies of physical properties of organic and inorganic nanostructured films and structures and their applications in novel optoelectronic devices. His academic papers have been cited over 10,000 times, while his 60 U.S. patents and numerous patent disclosures have been licensed and utilized by both startup and multinational companies. A practicing entrepreneur, Vladimir is a founder of QD Vision, Inc. of Lexington MA, which is manufacturing quantum dot optoelectronic components; Kateeva, Inc. of Menlo Park CA, which is focused on development of printed organic electronics; and Ubiquitous Energy, Inc., which is developing nanostructured solar technologies. These startups presently employ over 200 researchers in the U.S. and a similar number of employees.

Phil Budden is Faculty Director of the MIT-UK Program and a Senior Lecturer at MIT Sloan in the TIES (Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Strategy) Group.

Phil co-teaches in the successful ‘Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program’ (REAP), an ExecEd program for regional teams from around the globe interested in accelerating ‘innovation-driven entrepreneurship’; in the related 15.364 class, known as the ‘Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Lab’ (REAL), aimed at MBAs and Sloan Fellows; and on similar topics in a variety of degree and ExecEd settings.

Phil’s approach combines academic, historical and real-world perspectives on how different stakeholders—including Entrepreneurs, Universities and ‘Risk Capital’ providers, alongside Corporate enterprises and Government policymakers—can all contribute to building successful innovation ecosystems. Phil is currently on leave from the British Government, and joins MIT having worked recently in Boston’s private sector for the Royal Bank of Scotland’s U.S. subsidiary, Citizens Bank, where he focused on financing transatlantic (especially British-American) trade and investment. His background as a diplomat makes him well-suited to the ‘global innovation’ of REAP/REAL, the interplay among the REAP teams, and the negotiations within the ‘innovation ecosystems’ (especially between Corporate and Government stakeholders).
As a Planning & Urban Design Practice Area Leader, Carlos A. Cubillos brings incredible expertise in urban design and master planning. His particular expertise is in providing design leadership to high-profile assignments that require big-picture, resource-driven solutions that can move beyond ideas into built environments.

A Gensler Principal and Design Director, Carlos has participated in projects across the globe, including the USA, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and South East Asia. Carlos holds a Master of Architecture and Master of City Planning/Urban Design, from the University of Pennsylvania, which he attended under a Fulbright Scholarship, and a Bachelor of Architecture from Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogota. He is a frequent juror for international design and planning competitions and a speaker at forums around the world related to planning and urban design. He has also served as a visiting critic at the University of Pennsylvania and taught at various universities in Colombia.

Amal Dokhan
Babson Global Center of Entrepreneurial Leadership

Amal Dokhan is the Director of Babson Global Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership (BGCEL), responsible for the strategic direction, tactical execution, and operational oversight of the center. The BGCEL focuses on expanding the practice of entrepreneurship in all levels. She has a diverse range of experience in management, teaching, training, and marketing-related roles, particularly in education.

Over the past four years, Amal has played multiple leading roles at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) and at the Entrepreneurship Center in particular. She managed the university startup accelerator, which was funded by Saudi British Bank and hosted 28 startup teams in its first edition with a variety of technologies including IoT, New Materials, Software, and Biotechnology from 13 different universities. Amal managed the program design, sponsor engagement, startup mentorship, and other related matters. Amal also taught and co-designed a course in Entrepreneurship and Technology Innovation that was offered to Master’s and post-doctoral students. She designed and taught in the executive education programs with a focus on innovation for companies and other institutions either in-house or at KAUST. Amal delivered training sessions in all signature programs designed for the needs of the customers. Prior to that she worked in the KAUST Seed Fund that worked with research startup funding and investments.
Jessica Faieta was appointed United Nations, and United Nations Development Programme Latin America and the Caribbean in May 2014. Prior to that she served as Deputy Assistant Administrator and Deputy Director for the same regional Bureau since October 2012.

Jessica has also worked as Senior County Director in Haiti, leading UNDP’s recovery and reconstruction efforts in Haiti after the January 2010 earthquake. Prior to her assignment in Haiti, she was the UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in El Salvador and Belize (2007–2010). During 2005–2006, she served in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), first as Principal Officer to the Chef de Cabinet and later as Director of the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General. Jessica was also the Deputy Director and Deputy Chief of Staff in the Office of the UNDP Administrator. She started her career with UNDP in 1991 as United Nations Volunteer programme officer in Guyana. She joined the Management Training Programme in 1993 as Policy Officer and subsequently as Special Assistant to the Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Finance and Administration. In 1997, she returned to the field as Deputy Resident Representative (DRR) in Cuba. She also served as DRR in Panama (1998–2001) and in Argentina (2001–2002). Before joining UNDP, she worked for the Canadian Embassy in Ecuador (1987–1991).

Jessica holds a Master’s degree in Business Administration and another in International Affairs, both from Columbia University. She is also a Yale University World Fellow.

Catherine Fazio is the Managing Director of the MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy at the MIT Innovation Initiative. This research and policy laboratory studies the factors shaping innovation outcomes and translates research findings into actionable insights. Catherine previously served as a partner at Kirkland & Ellis, LLP. Among other activities, she formulated the strategy and directed operations for multiple, billion-dollar arbitrations, served as lead antitrust counsel on a range of multi-national mergers and acquisitions, and counseled clients on risk mitigation strategies. Catherine was also a trial attorney for the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, where she led several significant merger investigations and worked to preserve competition in numerous industries. Catherine serves on the Boards of the Stone Barns Center for Food and Agriculture and the Atrium School in Watertown, Massachusetts. Catherine received a J.D. from Stanford University, an M.B.A. from the Sloan Fellows Program in Innovation and Global Leadership at MIT, and a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley.
Daniel Fehder is an Assistant Professor in the Management and Organizations Department at the Marshall School of Business at University of Southern California. He studies entrepreneurship, innovation, and technology strategy. Daniel has built close connections with the startup accelerator community through his research on MassChallenge and more broadly through his work on the Seed Accelerator Ranking Project. He expects to leverage the detailed administrative data gained through these connections to explore a number of broad themes in early-stage entrepreneurship. This research trajectory is currently supported by both the NSF and the Kauffman Foundation. Prior to joining the PhD program at MIT Sloan, Daniel spent four years as an entrepreneur building and then selling financial data products. In addition, he has worked with a number of entrepreneurs at MIT and beyond to launch and build their startups.

Bolaji Finnih is the founder of Technpreneur Africa, an organization focused on harnessing innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship for real economic impact across Africa. Bolaji is a graduate of the Sloan Fellows program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a fellow of the MIT Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship, a MasterCard Foundation Fellow and recipient of both the Sloan School of Management Deans' Fellowship and Sloan Fellows Program Global Scholars Scholarship awards. He is also a member of the Harvard Business Review Advisory Council. A serial entrepreneur, Bolaji has founded over seven businesses over a period of 15 years, the latest of which is Joulytics, an energy solutions company offering innovative end-to-end energy products and consulting services. A professional business coach and mentor, he is dedicated to enabling the achievement of innate entrepreneurial potential, particularly in high-growth economies.
Stephen Forte is a managing partner at Fresco Capital, a global Venture Fund. He is also the co-founder and accelerator director of the Laudato Si’ Challenge, inspired by Pope Francis. Prior, he was the Chief Strategy Officer of Telerik, a leading vendor of developer and team productivity tools acquired by Progress Software (NASDAQ: PRGS) in 2014. Stephen was the founder of Mach5, a Silicon Valley-based startup accelerator and co-founder of AcceleratorHK, Hong Kong’s first startup accelerator. Involved in several startups, he was the co-founder of Triton Works, which was acquired by UBM (London: UBM.L) in 2010 and was the Chief Technology Officer and co-founder of Corzen, Inc., which was acquired by Wanted Technologies (TXV: WAN) in 2007. Prior to Corzen, Stephen served as the CTO of Zagat Survey in New York City (acquired by Google in 2011) and also was co-founder of the New York-based software consulting firm the Aurora Development Group. Stephen has an MBA from the City University of New York. An avid mountain climber, Stephen leads a trek in the Mt. Everest region every fall to raise money for charity. After several years as an ex-pat in Hong Kong, Stephen now lives in Silicon Valley with his wife and daughter.

Stas Gayshan is a Managing Director at the Cambridge Innovation Center (CIC) and the founder of CIC Boston. Stas is currently leading the development of CIC projects in Miami, Florida, Warsaw, Poland, and beyond, connecting innovators across boundaries and borders. Stas joined CIC in early 2014. Previously, Stas was the Founder & CEO of Space with a Soul, a 20,000 square foot coworking space in Boston’s Innovation District. Stas is an entrepreneur and an attorney, and he worked in Democratic political campaigns at various levels prior to starting Space with a Soul. In his political work, Stas focused on the intersection of collaboration, technology and activism. Stas has been recognized by the Boston Globe as one of the Most Innovative People in Massachusetts Business and by CJP as one of Boston’s most influential young leaders. He holds leadership positions in several philanthropic and nonprofit organizations active in the Greater Boston area. Stas has a B.A. and J.D. from Boston College.
Barrie Grinberg is the Director of Community Partnerships at Venture for America (VFA), a fellowship program that aims to create economic opportunity in American cities by mobilizing the next generation of entrepreneurs. In her role, Barrie leads the team responsible for VFA’s startup partnerships, community engagement, regional fundraising, and in-city programming. Prior to joining VFA, Barrie was a management consultant at the Boston Consulting Group. Through her work, Barrie has learned that a team of determined, kind people with a thoughtful plan can accomplish almost anything. She has also learned the importance of knowing the names of local sports teams when working across several U.S. cities. Originally from the Boston area, Barrie is a graduate of New York University.

Steve Grossman is the CEO of the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC), a dynamic and growing team of professionals dedicated to achieving economic prosperity in America’s inner cities. Steve is focused on setting ICIC’s strategic direction, leading the organization through a period of rapid growth and extending ICIC’s national visibility and brand. He directs ICIC’s efforts to secure new partners and drive private sector engagement and investment.

Prior to joining ICIC, Steve was elected Treasurer of Massachusetts in 2010 and served in that position from 2011 until 2015. One of his principal achievements in that office was the creation of the Small Business Banking Partnership, a pioneering initiative that was responsible for moving almost $400 million of state deposits into community banks that used these funds to make more than 10,000 loans with a value of over $1.6 billion, with a principal focus on businesses owned by women, minorities, immigrants and veterans.

Prior to taking office, Steve served for 35 years as President of Grossman Marketing Group, a fourth-generation marketing communications firm started by his grandfather. Steve has been an active leader in many civic, philanthropic and political organizations. These positions include former board chair of Brandeis University, former national chairman of the Democratic National Committee, former president of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), founding board member of MassInc and life trustee of the Museum of Fine Arts. He currently chairs the advisory board of Cambridge College.
Ilan Gur is Founding Director of Cyclotron Road, a home for hard science and technology innovators to advance their ideas from concept-to-market-ready product. Ilan founded Cyclotron Road to bridge a gap he observed in energy technology innovation over the past decade. Before launching the program, he served as Program Director at the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). At ARPA-E, Ilan managed a $50 million portfolio of advanced technology projects in the areas of energy storage, solar energy, and advanced materials. He was also a cofounder of ARPA-E’s Technology-to-Market program, aimed at maximizing the commercial and societal impact of the agency’s breakthrough R&D portfolio. Prior to ARPA-E, Ilan launched two venture-backed energy startups based on advanced materials and manufacturing, including Seeo, an advanced lithium battery technology company that was successfully acquired by Bosch in 2015. Ilan holds B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. degrees in materials science and engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Jorge Guzman is a Post Doctoral Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) and a research affiliate at the MIT Lab for Innovation Science and Policy. His research focuses on using a Big Data approach to measure entrepreneurship, and understand its role in economic policy and firm strategy at a national and local level. Jorge’s research has been published in reputed journals such as Science and the NBER volumes. His current projects include the design of economic tools that enable policy makers to create effective entrepreneurship policy as well as varied set of research projects.
Professor Yael Hochberg’s research and teaching interests are focused on entrepreneurship, innovation, and the financing of entrepreneurial activity. Her research focuses on the venture capital industry, accelerators, networks and corporate governance and compensation policies. In addition to her doctorate in finance from Stanford, she holds a B.Sc. in Industrial Engineering and Management from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology and an A.M. in Economics from Stanford University. Her research has been published in top tier journals, including Science Magazine, the Journal of Finance, the Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Accounting Research, and the Journal of Financial Economics, and has been presented at numerous universities and governmental bodies around the world. She is an Associate Editor at the Journal of Banking and Finance and the Journal of Empirical Finance, and previously served as an Associate Editor at the Review of Finance. Prof. Hochberg serves as the Head of the Entrepreneurship Initiative at Rice University and as Academic Director of the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship.

Sheila Herrling joined the Case Foundation in 2014 as the Senior Vice President for Social Innovation. She leads the Foundation’s efforts to develop and implement mission-driven domestic and international initiatives, expand tech for good platforms, cultivate partnerships, promote entrepreneurial approaches to social change, and build a robust portfolio of social and impact investments. Sheila is an executive with more than 20 years of experience in international development and U.S. foreign policy, focused on aid innovation and effectiveness, monitoring and evaluation, and economic analysis.

She was previously with the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), an independent U.S. foreign assistance agency working to reduce poverty through economic growth, where she served as Vice President for Policy and Evaluation. Under Sheila’s leadership, MCC earned the ranking of #1 transparent aid agency in the world by pushing an open data policy and the use of rigorous independent evaluations of MCC programs to advance learning and share best practices. Before joining MCC, Sheila was a Senior Policy Director at the Center for Global Development (CGD), an independent, nonprofit policy research organization dedicated to reducing global poverty and inequality and making globalization work for the poor. Prior to CGD, Sheila served in senior management positions at the U.S. Department of Treasury, including Deputy Director of the Office of Development Policy and Adviser to the U.S. executive director of the African Development Bank.
Georgene Huang is obsessed with improving the workplace for women. She’s the CEO and Co-founder of Fairygodboss, a marketplace where professional women looking for jobs, career advice and the inside scoop on companies meet employers who believe in gender equality. Previously she ran the enterprise business at Dow Jones and was a Managing Director at Bloomberg Ventures. She is a graduate of Cornell and Stanford Universities.

At MassChallenge, Naila Jahan is responsible for managing Bridge to MassChallenge programs worldwide and servicing key partners, including international governments and foundations. The Bridge to MassChallenge programs support economic growth, vitality, and the development of international innovation ecosystems. Naila is passionate about entrepreneurship and innovation as vehicles for finding solutions to global problems, and this role allows her to do just that by supporting MassChallenge achieve its mission of catalyzing a global startup renaissance.

Previously, Naila developed and operated the Fund for Innovation in its inaugural year at Middlebury College. She was also an associate at the Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies (VCET), a venture capital firm and tech startup incubator. At VCET, Naila managed a co-working space, supported startups, and conducted analyses on the performance of its portfolio companies.

Naila was an advisory board member for LaunchVT, a statewide business pitch competition, from 2015 to 2016. In 2015, she received a Rising Star award from Vermont Business Magazine. Naila graduated from Middlebury College with a BA in Environmental Economics.
Ayesha N. Khalid is a practicing sinus surgeon and Clinical Instructor at Harvard Medical School with 15 years experience in the healthcare industry. As an ear, nose and throat surgeon, Ayesha pioneered groundbreaking research in sinus inflammation and clinical outcomes in sinus disease. As a healthcare innovation specialist, Ayesha completed an MBA at the MIT Sloan School of Management focused on Global Leadership and Innovation. During her tenure at Sloan, Ayesha assessed mechanisms to increase adoption of adaptive clinical trials at academic medical centers. She joined MIT Hacking Medicine and helped organize several innovation events in Boston, BIO 2014, and in Doha, Qatar. Ayesha co-founded the Hacking Medicine Institute to engage stakeholders interested in compelling conversations to accelerate paradigm shifts in healthcare service delivery.

Ayesha has worked as a strategic consultant in the private equity space digital and currently serves as Vice-President of Business Development at Doctella—a company dedicated to changing the patient experience during surgery. Ayesha completed her medical school and surgical residency at the Pennsylvania State University School of Medicine, her surgical fellowship at the Oregon Health and Sciences University in Portland, Oregon.

Mark Kramer leads FSG, a 150-person nonprofit consulting firm, to devise social impact strategies for many of the world’s largest foundations, corporations, and nonprofit organizations. Mark also serves as a Senior Fellow at Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government. He co-founded the Center for Effective Philanthropy, is a member of the Kimberly-Clark Sustainability Advisory Board, and lectures in the executive education program of Harvard Business School. Mark has published extensively on topics in philanthropy, collective impact, evaluation, and creating shared value. He has co-authored many influential articles in Harvard Business Review with Professor Michael E. Porter of Harvard Business School and in Stanford Social Innovation Review with FSG colleagues.
Sarah Jane Maxted is an industry cluster and innovation ecosystem specialist with 10 years of professional experience in research, business development and project management. She has spent significant time in the energy and environmental sector, including oil and gas, power and utilities, energy efficiency and renewable energy. She has led research and analysis and business development efforts for both public and private sector entities including Deloitte’s energy practice and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and DOE National Laboratories. She developed and ran the inaugural U.S. Department of Energy National Clean Energy Business Plan; helping 750+ start-ups form and 70 ventures that have raised over $40M in follow-on funding.

Currently, she is the Executive Director for MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program; focusing on economic growth for specific global regions through innovation-driven entrepreneurship. Most recently, she managed Harvard Business School’s Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness U.S. Cluster Mapping Project; focusing on broader industry cluster growth and regional economic development under the direction of Professor Michael Porter. Outside of formal engagements listed below, she also strategically advises and independently contracts to energy start-up companies as well as incubator/accelerators and prize/challenge initiatives globally.

Fiona Murray is the Associate Dean of Innovation at the MIT Sloan School of Management, William Porter (1967) Professor of Entrepreneurship, and an associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. She is also the co-director of MIT’s Innovation Initiative. Prof. Murray is an international expert on the transformation of investments in scientific and technical innovation into innovation-based entrepreneurship that drives jobs, wealth creation, and regional prosperity. She has a special interest in the commercialization of science from idea to impact and the mechanisms that can be effectively used to link universities with entrepreneurs, large corporations, and philanthropists in that process.

She serves on the British Prime Minister’s Council on Science and Technology and has been awarded a CBE for her services to innovation and entrepreneurship in the UK.
Jan W. Rivkin is the C. Roland Christensen Professor of Business Administration at Harvard Business School (HBS), where he serves as Senior Associate Dean for research and co-chairs the School’s project on the competitiveness of the United States. He was head of the HBS Strategy Unit from 2009 through 2014. In leading the U.S. Competitiveness Project, Jan has worked with a team of about 20 HBS faculty to explore steps that leaders—especially business leaders—can take to help firms in the U.S. win in the global marketplace while raising American living standards.

His work on U.S. competitiveness focuses on how managers choose to locate business activities in the United States or elsewhere, how business leaders can best work with educators to improve America’s schools, and how leaders of American cities can foster cross-sector collaboration for shared prosperity. In support of this work, Jan has recently developed case studies on Barry-Wehmiller, the Columbus Partnership, the city of Detroit, and Southwire Corporation. His research on business strategy focuses on how managers tackle decisions that cut across functions and across product lines. His scholarly work in this area combines computer simulations, large-scale statistical studies, field research, and case studies. To support this research, Jan has completed case studies on diverse organizations ranging from Dell and Delta Air Lines to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and LEGO.

Elisabeth (Liz) Reynolds is Executive Director of the MIT Industrial Performance Center (IPC), a multidisciplinary research center that focuses on firms, industries and technological change in the global economy and how their emergence and transformation impact society at large. Her work has focused in particular on the theory and practice of industry cluster development and regional innovation ecosystems and she advises several organizations in this area. Her current research focuses on trends and developments in advanced manufacturing, growing innovative companies to scale, and building innovation capacity in emerging economies.

Before coming to MIT for her Ph.D., Liz was the Director of the City Advisory Practice at the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, a non-profit founded by Professor Michael Porter focused on job and business growth in urban areas. She also held positions with the Institute for Research on Public Policy in Montreal and with Goldman Sachs in London. She is a Lecturer in MIT’s Department of Urban Studies and Planning, where she obtained her PhD, and sits on the boards of the Massachusetts Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative and the Northeast Clean Energy Council among others.
Having started as a programmer, Stephanie Rowe has 20+ years of experience working in technology. She is a passionate innovator, entrepreneur, design thinker and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) for girls advocate. She recently founded Joulez, a startup focused on designing products and experiences to inspire girls ages 8-12 to engage in STEM activities. She is the Founder of Design Thinking DC, DC’s premier organization for innovation and human-centered design. This action-oriented community of more than 4,000 innovative change makers comes together to share knowledge and experience to facilitate complex problem solving.

She spent three years working at the Department of Homeland Security building and running TSA’s identity management systems. She also spent 15+ years with Accenture where she was a Senior Executive specializing in managing complex, large-scale transformation initiatives for Fortune 100 companies across multiple industries. She received her MBA from MIT where she was a Sloan Fellow.

Professor Albert Saiz is the Daniel Rose Associate Professor of Urban Economics and Real Estate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Director of the MIT Center for Real Estate. Prof. Saiz also serves as the Director of MIT’s Urban Economics Lab, which conducts research on real estate economics, urban economics, housing markets, local public finance, zoning regulations, global real estate, and demographic trends affecting urban and real estate development worldwide. He teaches in both the MIT Urban Planning and Real Estate programs.

Before joining MIT, Prof. Saiz was a Research Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, and an award-winning Assistant Professor of Real Estate and Economics in the MBA Core Program at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He currently serves as a Visiting Scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia; a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Analysis of Labor (IZA—Bonn, Germany); a Board Member at the American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association, and as a Research Advisor for Buildzoom.com. He is also an Editor of the Journal of Housing Economics. He holds a BA in economics from Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona (1995) and a PhD in economics from Harvard University (2002).
Salomon Salinas is the Global Leader of Accenture’s Smart Cities practice and a North America Sustainability Practice Leader. He is responsible for the development and maintenance of a global Smart Cities offering and alliances with global Internet of Things providers. He is involved with and often directly oversees the work of multi-disciplinary teams supporting Accenture’s work in cities across North America and throughout the world. As part of this effort, he leads Accenture’s digital work for the City of Chicago, representing the company in a unique Public Private Partnership with the city and various other public and private entities that intend to rapidly advance smart city development. In addition, Sol’s responsibilities extend to helping expand Accenture’s sustainability presence across the U.S. federal government, Health and Public Service, Retail, Consumer Goods, Light Industrial, and Energy sectors globally.

He has had overall program direction for various sustainability clients in North America and globally, with annual revenues exceeding $100 million, including the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. General Services Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, World Bank-International Finance Corporation, Carbon Disclosure Project, and various global commercial strategy and sustainability clients.

Paul Smyke currently serves as Head of Regional Strategies–North America, and Member of the Executive Committee of the World Economic Forum, LLC. He joined the organization 30 years ago when the Forum employed 35 staff, compared to more than 600 today, and split that time evenly between its’ Geneva headquarters and the east coast of the United States. Most recently, Paul has focused his attention on the Forum’s strategy and growth in the United States and Canada, primarily in political circles, as well as key institutional relationships in the realm of business, media, academia and civil society. This role combines designing and implementing engagement strategies for the above. As such he serves as the principal interface between the Forum and policymakers in the Administration, Capitol Hill, Independent Agencies, and Governors.

Under Paul’s leadership, dozens of such officials, ranging from Members of Congress to First Ladies, Cabinet Secretaries, Vice-Presidents and Presidents have taken part in Forum activities in Davos and around the world. The same is true regarding Canadian Prime Ministers, Ministers, Mayors and Premiers.

Earlier in his tenure, Paul served in several capacities, including Member of the Executive Board and Senior Advisor to the Managing Board. He has held both functional and geographic responsibilities, having been the ‘Face of the Forum’ in charge at various times of political and business relationships, especially in Latin America during most of the 1990s.
Scott Stern is the David Sarnoff Professor of Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management. He explores how innovation and entrepreneurship differ from more traditional economic activities, and the consequences of these differences for strategy and policy. His research in the economics of innovation and entrepreneurship focuses on entrepreneurial strategy, innovation-driven entrepreneurial ecosystems, and innovation policy and management. Recent studies include the impact of clusters on entrepreneurship, the role of institutions in shaping the accumulation of scientific and technical knowledge, and the drivers and consequences of entrepreneurial strategy.

Andy Stoll is a serial entrepreneur and a Senior Program Officer at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in Kansas City, where he is responsible for the implementation and management of the Foundation’s ecosystem development strategy. Before joining the Kauffman Foundation, Andy co-founded Seed Here Studio in 2010, to build the innovation ecosystem in The Creative Corridor and across Iowa. He is the co-founder of six entrepreneurial-focused organizations include Vault Coworking & Collaboration Space and NewBoCo. Andy most recently co-founded The Startup Champions Network, the nation’s first professional association for full-time innovation ecosystem builders. His past work includes projects with The Case Foundation, The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation and The Bohemian Foundation, building innovation ecosystems in technology, global health and music, respectively.

Andy is a regular speaker on entrepreneurship and ecosystem building; a global facilitator for Startup Weekend; and has taught entrepreneurship at Cornell College. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in business management and a Bachelor of Arts in communication and media production from The University of Iowa, as well as a Master of Arts in media cultures from The City University of Hong Kong.
Reed Sturtevant is a General Partner on the investment team at The Engine. Reed was a founder and Managing Director at seed venture fund Project 11 and Techstars Boston. He attended MIT and has a background in software. He ran Microsoft Startup Labs in Cambridge and was VP of Technology at Idealab, Boston. Early in his career, he created Freelance Graphics which was acquired by Lotus Development Corp. He has been a lecturer at MIT Sloan and is a frequent speaker at MIT entrepreneurship courses and programs.

Dr. Steve Tang is the first president in the Science Center’s history to have not only led a company through venture funding and an initial public offering, but to also serve as a senior executive with a large life sciences company as it acquired and integrated smaller start-ups. In September 2016, Dr. Tang was re-appointed to the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship (NACIE) and now serves as NACIE co-chair through 2018. NACIE members offer recommendations to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce for policies and programs designed to make U.S. communities, businesses, and the workforce more globally competitive.

Previously, Dr. Tang served on the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Innovation Advisory Board. He also serves on several statewide, regional and local Boards of Directors. Along with Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, he co-chairs the Team Pennsylvania Foundation, which bridges the gap between government and the private sector. Dr. Tang also serves as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of OraSure Technologies Inc. (NASDAQ: OSUR), a leader in the development, manufacture and distribution of diagnostics and collection devices designed to detect or diagnose critical medical conditions. From 2014-2016, he served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Committee of Seventy, which is Philadelphia’s and Pennsylvania’s largest and oldest active better government advocate and watchdog. Dr. Tang earned a doctorate in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University, an M.B.A. from Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, and a B.S. in Chemistry from the College of William and Mary.
Rasmus Wiinstedt Tscherning is CEO and Founder of Creative Business Cup, a global network supporting creative and innovative entrepreneurs. Previously, he was Managing Director of CKO–Center for Cultural and Experience Economy and was the Chairman of the European Creative Industries Alliance, appointed by the European Commission. He was also Co-Chair of the OMC Group on Access to Finance for Cultural and Creative Sectors, Advisory Board Member for Wallonia European Creative District, Founding Member of Regional Creative Industries Alliance, and Advisory Board Member, Copenhagen Business School, Master in Management of Creative Business Processes. Rasmus is passionate about promoting entrepreneurship, the creative industries, and cross-sector innovation and is a speaker on these subjects in French, English, German, Danish and Swedish. He has a Master’s in Political Science and a creative DNA: at 18 years old, he won a Scandinavian graphic design competition and in 2009, was part of the team of architects and engineers who won 1st Prize for the Masterplan for Nordhavnen, a part of Copenhagen for 40,000 citizens.

Erik Ubels

OVG Real Estate

Since January 2016, Erik Ubels has been Chief Technology Officer at OVG Real Estate, driving innovation and application of technology in the widest context you can imagine related to real estate technology. This includes building processes, building material, HVAC installation, Internet of Things, and energy, including solar. At OVG, they take pride in building the world’s most amazing buildings, not just smart as in energy efficiency, but intelligent, to learn from the building and to make it a better place to work, improving users’ comfort and wellbeing.
As Executive Vice President, Mark Vasu leads and supports revenue-generating activities that sustain and grow Greentown Labs. He manages a portfolio of (40) corporate sponsors, partnerships with organizations in the cleantech ecosystem, and oversees the member pipeline. He also provides consulting and advisory services to new or growing incubators, and is helping to grow a national network of incubators.

Prior to Greentown Labs, Mark was the founder of perCent Inc., a software company focused on reducing personal energy use and spending. He also founded and led CMV Marketing, a marketing and sustainable strategy-consulting firm for social-purpose companies and high-performing social enterprises. He served in marketing and business development leadership roles working for the founders of three high growth social enterprises as the first development director for City Year, a model national service program that inspired President Clinton to create AmeriCorps; VP Marketing for Children First, a pioneer of corporate-sponsored onsite child care and early education services (acquired by Bright Horizons); and Jumpstart, a national early childhood education program involving mentoring of low-income pre-school children by college students.

Lee Wellington has dedicated her career to industrial development for over a decade. Before joining the Urban Manufacturing Alliance (UMA) as Founding Executive Director, Lee directed a New York City Council Member’s land use decisions and legislative portfolio as Chief of Staff; helped create NYC’s Industrial Business Zones and a broader industrial policy for the NYC Mayor’s Office; and administered a New York State tax incentive program, expanding incentive boundaries to include new industrial neighborhoods. Lee was a Planning Fellow at the Pratt Center for Community Development where she coordinated a vacant lot activation program and assisted with a large-scale study of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Lee received a B.S. in Economics from the Stern School of Business at New York University, a J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, and a M.S. in City and Regional Planning from the Pratt Institute.
Gary White is the Founder and President of BlackStart Innovation, a service-disabled veteran-owned small business located in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. BlackStart, an energy resiliency and innovation consultancy group, is focused on creating energy resiliency strategies and ecosystems to conceive, develop, and implement innovative and sustainable resolutions to energy challenges for organizations and entire communities.

Prior to BlackStart, Gary was a charter member and the Director of Innovation and Strategic Integration at the Air Force Office of Energy Assurance, where he established the Joint Energy Development, Demonstration, and Innovation (JEDDi) Lab—a unique initiative addressing energy problems across government agencies and funding structures.

Major White is also an associate program officer at the Air Force Research Lab’s Office of Scientific Research, has 14 years of military service as a certified acquisition program manager, international affairs specialist, and air battle manager, sits on the Harvard Extension Alumni Association Board of Directors. He is an alumnus of the Department of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory Executive Energy Leadership Academy and holds graduate degrees from Harvard University, Georgetown University, and Troy University in International Relations, Global Hospitality Leadership, and Management, respectively. Gary lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and business partner, Lisa Spinelli, and their three daughters Angelina, Valentina, and Carina.

Dr. Johanna Wolfson is the Director of Technology-to-Market in the Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE). In this position, she leads efforts to reduce barriers and inefficiencies in the U.S. innovation system in service of getting promising new energy technologies to market. Existing efforts under Tech-to-Market help launch entrepreneurs and new businesses out of universities and National Labs, open up National Lab facilities to small businesses and entrepreneurs, position early-stage hardware innovators for manufacturing and scale-up, and pilot new approaches to financing early-stage energy innovation. She is also responsible for developing new EERE programs in service of the Tech-to-Market mission, and for coordinating and evaluating Tech-to-Market efforts across EERE’s technology offices.

Prior to EERE, Johanna was with the Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems in Boston where she led TechBridge, an innovative program that mitigates the technical risk of startup ventures for investors and strategic partners via technical demonstration and validation. Previously, she served as the President of the MIT Science Policy Initiative, engaging scientists and engineers in the policy dialogue for R&D funding and better innovation models. Johanna has a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from MIT, where she conducted research on photo-induced solid-state dynamics.
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