



iit Alumni Newsletter April 2016

2016 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE, Boston

EARLY REGISTRATION IS OPEN

<http://www.iit-2016.org>



Leading transformation for a better tomorrow: Technologies that lift the human spirit

Co-Sponsored by IIT AGNE and PANIIT USA

Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence

August 12-14, 2016

<http://www.iit-2016.org/>

Conference Program:

An impressive array of luminaries are signing up to speak at the Conference. Among the confirmed speakers are: Dr. Gururaj “Desh” Deshpande (renowned global entrepreneur), Dr. Nitin Nohria (Dean, Harvard Business School), Dr. Amitabha Ghosh (Science Chair, NASA MARS Explorer Mission), Salil Donde (Executive Vice President, Global Information Services, Nasdaq), Dr. Vivek Murthy (Surgeon General, USA), Nandan Nilekani (ex-CEO of Infosys), Arvind Gupta (Founder, Digital India and Indian Government Advisor). Stay tuned as this list of inspiring speakers grows!



Dr. Gururaj Deshpande



Dr. Nitin Nohria



Dr. Amitabha Ghosh



Salil Donde

The Conference Program has gelled around 4 major clusters:



Energy and Environment – renewable energy generation and storage, energy efficiency, smart grid, water technology, climate policy



Life Sciences and Healthcare – personalized medical devices and care delivery, integrative medicine, vaccines, data driven healthcare



Frontiers of Technology – Internet of Things, data storage and security, cloud based enterprise, data overload



Education – plenary panel of university Presidents, digital learning, democratization of education, US-India partnerships

Check out the website for more details on the **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

Business Plan Competition:

If you are a new business looking for funding and publicity, or an established business with a new strategic direction, consider entering our business plan competition. Consider the visibility from Venture Capitalists, Angel Investors, decision makers from leading enterprises, and exposure to a talented pool of technical and business folks.

Find out more - <http://www.iit-2016.org/>

Women in Technology:

The Women's segment of the 2016 Leadership conference aims to bring together a community of women to network and discuss candid topics that are particularly relevant to women no matter where they are in their career path.

Find out more - <http://www.iit-2016.org/>

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Panel Discussion: “Women Advancing STEM”

Next in a series of stimulating panel discussions organized by IIT AGNE leading up to the conference.

Hear the stories and perspectives of some truly amazing and inspiring women panelists engaged in the fields of STEM research, technology development, entrepreneurship, and education. Find out

about opportunities in these fields and what it will take to develop new skills.

Moderator: Rita Advani, Director Regional Programming High Touch High Tech of New England and President, Bush Pond Ventures, LLC (Advancing Science Literacy for PreK – Grade 12)

Panelists:

- Chitra Javdekar, Dean of STEM, Mass Bay Community College
- Gitika Srivastava, Founder/CEO at Navya Network; and Partner at KAHM Capital
- Kathy Vandiver, Director of the Community Outreach Education and Engagement Core at the Center for Environmental Health Sciences, Edgerton Center, MIT
- Mondira Pant, Lead Technologist, Intel Corp.

Date and Time: Saturday April 16, 2-4pm

Location: Havana Conf. Room, 5th floor, Cambridge Innovation Center, 1 Broadway, Cambridge, MA

Registration: FREE but please RSVP here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-advancing-stem-tickets-23016450824>

Find out more - <http://www.iit-2016.org/> <http://www.iitagne.org/>

Partner Event

TiE StartupCon

April 15, 2016, 8am-6pm

Boston Marriott Copley Hotel

110 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA

On April 15 TiE-Boston will bring Boston Entrepreneurs together at TiE StartupCon. Launched in 2000, StartupCon has grown to become New England's largest startup conference, with over 1,000 attendees, all-day panels and networking. This year the conference promises to be even bigger and better, featuring three keynotes including renowned biotechnologist and inventor Bob Langer, three tracks "Ideate & Innovate", "Scale", and "What's trending in Tech, Healthcare and Pharma" and a Startup Expo showcasing 50 of the hottest startups in the area including 15 TiE ScaleUp companies. The conference will also feature "Mentor Connect", a match-making breakfast offering entrepreneurs the opportunity to meet serial entrepreneurs and venture capitalists.

To register visit tiestartupcon.com

Find out more - <http://www.iit-2016.org/>

PANIIT ALUMNI NEWS



GOQii adds ex-Google exec Amit Singhal to board of directors

NEW DELHI: Wearable fitness devices maker GOQii has appointed former Google executive Amit Singhal to its board of directors, a move that will help it expand the presence in the US market. This is Singhal's first role since leaving his position as Head of Google Search

in February this year.

Singhal, an IIT alumni, has been credited for rewriting the original page rank algorithm for Google Search which was invented by Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin. He has also been behind Google's voice search efforts and also the knowledge graph which is the engine powering Google Search.

Singhal brings more than 20 years of invaluable consumer and business expertise to GOQii and will help guide its expansion into new global markets, the first of which will be the US, GOQii said in a statement.

"It's an exciting time to be at GOQii and we are thrilled to have Amit join our board of directors. His expertise is unparalleled and will be invaluable as we execute on our vision of helping millions of people shift to a healthier and sustainable lifestyle," GOQii founder and CEO Vishal Gondal said.

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PARTNER CHAPTER EVENTS

IIT Bombay SF Bay Area presents IITs and IITians: A History

Register Here

We have early bird discounts, and student passes too, so hurry!

When: Saturday Apr 23rd, 2016, Noon to 4 pm

Where: TiE Silicon Valley, 415 Oakmeade Parkway, Sunnyvale, CA 94085 ([map](#))

Event Details

We all love our alma mater, and are proud and nostalgic about our time there, but do you know how the IITs came to gain premier engineering college status in such short time when there were already well known colleges such as BHU and Pune? Do you know the story of how IITians conquered the pinnacles of high-tech professions here in the US?

Join us on April 23rd to find out, at an event being held for the first time in the Bay Area. We will have talks by two great speakers:

- **Ross Bassett**, an associate professor of history at North Carolina State University, has recently published a book titled *The Technological Indian*, which puts the IITs into a broader context by looking at Indians and MIT, both the Indians who went to MIT, starting in the late 1800s, and the way that MIT served for over a century as point of reference for those interested in India's technological development.

- **Dinsha Mistree** is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law at Stanford. He studies the political economy of Indian higher education. He has written about the history of the IITs and is currently analyzing motivation and professionalism at the IITs, based on a survey of all IIT faculty. Dinsha is also the son of an IIT-Kharagpur alum (Farrokh).

Tentative Agenda:

Noon to 1:30 pm - Registration, networking and lunch

1:30 pm to 2:15 pm - Talk by Ross Bassett, followed by Q&A

2:15 pm to 3:00 pm - Talk by Dinsha Mistree, followed by Q&A

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm - Small group networking and wrap up

Few good reasons to attend:

- You want to learn more about the history of IITs, and how they became the premier engineering colleges in India
- You want to hear the story of how our alumni gained so much success and prominence in the tech world
- You want to attend a first-of-its kind event in the Bay Area
- You want to spend part of your Saturday eating some great Indian food and networking!

Register Here

IIT NEWS

Boeing catches them young to scale up talent pool

The firm, which aims to double sourcing from India, is looking at partnerships with institutions such as the IITs

Harsh Mathur, 13-year-old, was grinning from ear to ear as he manoeuvred his model aircraft through the obstacles successfully. A seventh standard student, he has already beaten 33 teams from premier institutes to be in the finals of the Boeing National Aeromodelling Competition.

Boeing wants to identify and support training of hundreds of talented youngsters like Harsh to fuel its growth in India. The American giant is organising this competition in partnership with the Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) to promote interest in aviation design and technology. As aerospace becomes a sunrise sector in India, Boeing is looking to invest in developing skills.

It is developing relationship with academic institutes and government's skills training initiatives to develop talent supply chain. "If you want to create a globally competitive aerospace industry in India, you need skilled workers. At present, there is a deficiency of talent as aviation is relatively new industry in

India. We have to make frontline teams ready," said Pratyush Kumar, president, Boeing India.

Recently, Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju had accepted there was a mismatch between the skills in demand and the talent available.

One step that the company is taking is to develop a strong partnership with IITs. "The best way is to energise young people. It is about getting them interested in aerospace. Even by flying such a small plane, they understand aerodynamics, fluid mechanics and programming. All this leads to

skill building,” Kumar said. Boeing will start hiring from campuses in near future as it looks to double its strength in India by 2020.

Beside this, the manufacturer of jetliners is looking to expand its collaboration with the government’s Skill India scheme. “We have recently tied up with Tata Advanced Materials and Nettur Technical Training Foundation for a skill development programme. “The first batch that graduated has been working on F-18 and F-15 jets, as well as Chinook and Apache helicopters. Such things build credibility of Indian supply chain,” Kumar added.

According to P V M Rao, coordinator of IIT-Delhi’s innovation centre, this is win-win proposition for both industry and academia. “Earlier, IIT-Delhi had an aeromodelling club and it used to be a hobby. Now, credits are given to students for their performance. Such initiatives help in building relationships. In future, we will ask Boeing to partner with our projects,” he said.

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IIT-Madras alumni run companies with combined revenue of \$71 bn

More than 40,000 IIT-Madras alumni are collectively estimated to have a 2014 revenue responsibility of \$71 billion based on the median amount calculated from a recent survey.

A recent survey of IIT-Madras alumni by an alumnus of the 1973 graduating class, Dr Gopala Ganesh, has brought some insights into how post-graduation priorities have evolved over the decades from the 1960s. More than 2,000 alumni participated in the survey, making it one of the largest undertaken by any IIT.

About 30 per cent of IIT-Madras alumni are currently employed in core engineering; the percentage is significantly higher among those whose first degree is a post-graduate one. Of those that left core engineering, about a third are entrepreneurs, a quarter are in service industries, and another quarter are in education/ research.

The percentage of IIT-Madras graduates living abroad peaked at 40 per cent in the mid-70s to mid-90s batches, and has now dropped to 34 per cent post-2000. The drop is even more severe post-2010, down to the 20 per cent range.

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