Welcome and Introduction
Randall Wright
Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations

Randall S. Wright is a program director with MIT’s Industrial Liaison Program. He manages the interface between the managements of companies, headquartered in the United States and Europe, and the senior administration and faculty of MIT.

As a program director for MIT, he convenes teams of researchers and faculty members to provide on-going emerging technology intelligence and strategic advice for the world’s leading technology companies. He is a sought-after speaker, delivering keynote speeches focused on emerging technology opportunities and challenges, and counter-intuitive insights in executive panels and discussions. Randall draws on extensive experience advising executives on a range of emerging technology areas including digital transformation, big data, robotics, green buildings, water efficiency, energy storage, biofuels, advanced materials, and manufacturing. He provides navigation and recommendations on the emerging technologies and adoption landscapes critical to future business growth, as well as creation, development, and execution of programs of research between industry and MIT.

Randall has been bestowed by Federal President of Austria Dr. Heinz Fischer with the decoration Cross of Honor in Gold for Services to the Republic of Austria for his “outstanding contribution to the development of relations between Austria and MIT”.

Prior to MIT, Randall was a marketing manager for Pfizer, Inc., a major U.S. pharmaceuticals company. He was also a strategic planning analyst for Pennzoil Company--a Fortune 500 oil and natural resources company. Randall is an invited lecturer at Northeastern University’s Executive M.B.A. Program where he lectures on innovation and corporate strategy. His column Innovation Counterculture looks at ideas and perspectives on strategy, organization, and thinking to help executives connect to the world of innovation outside their organizations and he is published regularly in Research-Technology Management, the award-winning journal of the Industrial Research Institute.
Panel Discussion on The Future of Manufacturing
Brian Anthony
Associate Director, MIT.nano
Faculty Lead, Industry Immersion Program in Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Anthony has over 25 years of commercial, research, and teaching experience in product realization and information enabled manufacturing. He has extensive experience in market driven technology innovation, product realization, and business entrepreneurship and commercialization at the intersection between information technology and advanced manufacturing. His research and product development interests cross the boundaries of manufacturing and design, medical imaging, computer vision, acoustic and ultrasonic imaging, large-scale computation and simulation, optimization, metrology, autonomous systems, and robotics. His teaching interests include the modeling of large-scale systems in a wide variety of decision-making domains and the development of optimization algorithms and software for analyzing and designing such systems. He teaches on-line and on-campus professional programs in Smart Manufacturing and sensory systems Beyond IoT.

Dr. Anthony spent the first part of his career as an entrepreneur. He developed and directed the development of products and solutions for the industrial and scientific video markets. His products fueled corporate growth from startup to dominant market leader. He has been awarded 20 patents, published over 100 peer reviewed articles, and won an Emmy from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for innovations in sports broadcast technical innovation.

View full bio

David E. Hardt
Ralph and Eloise Cross Professor, Mechanical Engineering
Professor, Engineering Systems

Professor Hardt is a graduate of Lafayette College (BSME, 1972) and MIT (SM, PhD, 1978). He has been a member of the Mechanical Engineering faculty at MIT since 1979. His teaching focuses on control, dynamics and manufacturing processes. His disciplinary focus is system dynamics and control, as applied to manufacturing at both the process and system level.

Dr. Hardt has served as Director of the MIT Laboratory for Manufacturing and as Engineering Co-Director for the MIT Leaders for Manufacturing Program. He is currently leader of the Manufacturing Systems and Technology Program, part of distance teaching and research collaboration between MIT and Singapore.

Dr. Hardt also serves as the Graduate Officer for the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

View full bio

Richard Braatz
Gilliland Professor, Chemical Engineering
Faculty Research Officer

Richard D. Braatz joined the MIT Chemical Engineering Department as the Edwin R. Gilliland Professor. Before coming to MIT, Braatz was the Millennium Chair and Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He has been recognized internationally as a leader in process systems and control engineering. Professor Braatz brings to MIT a unique blend of fundamental controls theory, multiscale modeling, and challenging applications.

View full bio

Katrin Ellen Daehn
Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Materials Science and Engineering

Craig R Karasack
Technical Director of Ergonomics and Manufacturing Technology
Risk Control Services
Liberty Mutual Insurance