

# MIT Industrial Liaison Program Faculty Knowledgebase Report

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## 2023 MIT Perth Symposium

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June 30, 2023 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

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Welcome and Introductions

8:30 AM

Welcome

Neil Freeman  
Manager of Innovation  
[Rio Tinto](#)

8:40 AM

Opening

Hon Stephen Dawson MLC  
Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy  
[Government of Western Australia](#)

8:50 AM

MIT and the Industrial Liaison Program  
Ron Spangler  
Director, [MIT Corporate Relations](#)



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Ron Spangler serves as the Director of Corporate Relations, managing a diverse portfolio of companies in the mining, energy, aerospace, and defense sectors. Before joining MIT Corporate Relations, Ron dedicated two decades to an industry career, primarily focusing on various MIT-connected startup companies. In 1994, he earned his doctorate in Aeronautics and Astronautics from MIT, and his extensive contributions include numerous publications and patents. Notably, Ron is also an FAA-licensed pilot with a glider rating.

Innovation Ecosystem Development

9:00 AM

The Role of Corporate Accelerators and Ventures in a Thriving Innovation Ecosystem  
Scott Stern  
Professor, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management  
David Sarnoff Professor of Management of Technology, [MIT Sloan School of Management](#)



Scott Stern  
Professor, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management  
David Sarnoff Professor of Management of Technology  
[MIT Sloan School of Management](#)

Scott Stern is the *David Sarnoff Professor of Management* at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

Stern 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.

Stern has worked widely with practitioners in bridging the gap between academic research and the practice of innovation and entrepreneurship. This includes advising start-ups and other growth firms in the area of entrepreneurial strategy, as well as working with governments and other stakeholders on policy issues related to competitiveness and regional performance. In recent years, Stern has developed a popular new MIT Sloan elective, [Entrepreneurial Strategy](#), co-founded the [MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program](#), advised the development of the [Social Progress Index](#), and served as the lead MIT investigator on the [US Cluster Mapping Project](#).

Stern started his career at MIT, where he taught from 1995 to 2001. Before returning to MIT in 2009, he held positions as a Professor at the Kellogg School of Management and as a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution. Stern is the director and co-founder of the [Innovation Policy Working Group](#) at the National Bureau of Economic Research. In 2005, he was awarded the [Kauffman Prize Medal for Distinguished Research in Entrepreneurship](#).

Stern holds a BA in economics from New York University and a PhD in economics from Stanford University.

[View full bio](#)

9:30 AM

Building a Strong Entrepreneurial Community

Phil Budden

Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management,  
[MIT Sloan School of Management](#)



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Dr Phil Budden is a Senior Lecturer at MIT's Management School, in Sloan's TIES (Tech Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Strategy) Group, where he focuses on 'corporate innovation' and multi-stakeholder innovation ecosystems, especially how corporates can get value from the latter (including start-up enterprises). He works closely with corporate executives and leaders of other large organisations on such strategies, through MIT Corporate Relations/ILP, the Corporate Innovation Program (<https://corporateinnovation.mit.edu>), Executive Education (<https://executive.mit.edu/ci>) and MIT's global REAP program (<https://reap.mit.edu>), as well as custom and consulting work.

10:00 AM

Team WA Report: The MIT Regional Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program Process, and How to Engage

Neil Freeman

Manager of Innovation

[Rio Tinto](#)

10:10 AM

Panel Discussion: Possible Entrepreneurial Futures for Western Australia

Scott Stern  
Professor, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management  
David Sarnoff Professor of Management of Technology  
[MIT Sloan School of Management](#)

Phil Budden  
Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management,  
[MIT Sloan School of Management](#)



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Hon Stephen Dawson MLC  
Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy  
[Government of Western Australia](#)

Alison Morley  
Managing Director - Studies  
[Rio Tinto](#)

Danelle Cross  
Director of Entrepreneurship and Commercialization  
[Curtin University](#)

Derek Gerrard  
Director  
[Purpose Ventures](#)

11:00 AM

The David H. Koch School of Chemical Engineering Practice, and MIT Australia and New Zealand Internships

Brian Stutts  
Technical Business Leader and Station Director  
[School of Chemical Engineering Practice](#)

Sean Gilbert  
Managing Director  
[MIT-Australia & New Zealand Program](#)

11:10 AM

Morning Tea

Startups

11:30 AM

The MIT Startup Exchange: Bridging The Corporate-Startup Gap

Catarina Madeira  
Director, [MIT Startup Exchange](#)



Catarina Madeira  
Director  
[MIT Startup Exchange](#)

Catarina has been working with the Cambridge/Boston startup ecosystem for over 10 years and joined Corporate Relations with a solid network in the innovation and entrepreneurial community. Prior to MIT, she was part of the team that designed and launched the startup accelerator IUL MIT Portugal, which was later rebranded as Building Global Innovators. She was based in Lisbon and worked in direct relation with the Cambridge team. She held positions including Operations Coordinator, Program Manager, and Business Developer. The accelerator soon achieved steady growth in large part due to the partnerships that Catarina led with regional and global startup ecosystems. After that, she worked at NECEC, leading a program that connects cleantech startups and industry. In this role, she developed and built a pipeline of startups and forged strong relationships with both domestic and European companies. She has also held positions in Portugal and France, including at Saboaria e Perfumaria Confiança and L'Oréal as Technical Director and Pharmacist. Catarina earned her bachelor's in chemistry and pharmaceutical sciences in Portugal. She went on to earn her Master of Engineering for Health and Medicines in France.

12:00 PM

Startup Lightning Talks

Daniel Stack  
Co-Founder and CEO  
[Electrified Thermal Solutions](#)

Edward Cubero  
Strategy and Business Development  
[Amogy](#)

Joel Jean  
CEO and Co-Founder  
[Swift Solar](#)

Ralph Wiser  
Director of Product Development  
[Mantel Capture](#)

James Benetatos  
Head of Business Development  
[Quaise Energy](#)

Julia Reisser

Fabian Le Gay Brereton

Brett Ellacott

Brigette McDowell

1:00 PM

Lunch With Startup Exhibition

2:20 PM

Corporate Reverse Pitch

Ashleigh Brinkhuizen  
Principal, Knowledge, Innovation & Technology  
[Rio Tinto](#)

Neil Kavanagh  
Chief Scientist  
[Woodside Energy](#)

Tracy Deveugle-Frink  
Head of Digital Products  
[Western Power](#)

Craig McClure  
CBH

New Energy

3:00 PM

The MIT Energy Initiative and Industrial Decarbonisation  
Robert Armstrong  
Chevron Professor of Chemical Engineering  
Director, [MIT Energy Initiative \(MITEI\)](#)



Robert Armstrong  
Chevron Professor of Chemical Engineering  
Director  
[MIT Energy Initiative \(MITEI\)](#)

Professor Robert C. Armstrong directs the [MIT Energy Initiative](#), an Institute-wide effort at MIT linking science, technology, and policy to transform the world's energy systems. A member of the MIT faculty since 1973, Armstrong served as head of the Department of Chemical Engineering from 1996 to 2007. His research interests include polymer fluid mechanics, rheology of complex materials, and energy.

Armstrong has been elected into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2020) and the National Academy of Engineering (2008). He received the Founders Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Chemical Engineering (2020), Warren K. Lewis Award (2006), and the Professional Progress Award (1992), all from the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. He also received the 2006 Bingham Medal from the Society of Rheology, which is devoted to the study of the science of deformation and flow of matter,

Armstrong was a member of MIT's [Future of Natural Gas](#) and [Future of Solar Energy](#) study groups. He advised the teams that developed MITEI's most recent reports, [The Future of Nuclear Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World](#) (2018) and [Insights into Future Mobility](#) (2019), and is co-chairing the new MITEI study, [The Future of Storage](#). He co-edited [Game Changers: Energy on the Move](#) with former U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz.

[View full bio](#)

3:30 PM

The New Energy Journey at Woodside

Jitendra Joshi  
Head of Technology, New Energy Solutions  
[Woodside Energy](#)

4:00 PM

Panel Discussion: The Zero-Carbon Energy Future

Ron Spangler

Director, [MIT Corporate Relations](#)



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Robert Armstrong

Chevron Professor of Chemical Engineering

Director

[MIT Energy Initiative \(MITEI\)](#)

Peta Ashworth

Professor

[The University of Queensland](#)

Jitendra Joshi

Head of Technology, New Energy Solutions

[Woodside Energy](#)

David Edwards

Future Technology & Innovation Manager

[Horizon Power](#)

Nicole Lockwood

Chair, Malka Foundation

4:40 PM

Closing Remarks