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
Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations

Ron Spangler joined the Office of Corporate Relations (OCR) in October 2013 as Senior Industrial Liaison Officer.

Spangler comes to OCR with many years of experience in business development, portfolio management, product development, and strategy. For the past thirteen years, he has been at TIAX as Director, Government Business Development where he has been responsible for new technology-based business development, with emphasis on products and services in energy and defense. Prior to that, he was at Milde Technology Corporation, an MIT spinoff, as Vice President, Marketing and Business Development. Spangler has also held positions at Cymer, Inc. as Director, Product Marketing, Emerging Technologies and Applications and as Director, Semiconductor Applications; at Active Control eXperts, Inc. as General Manager, Sports Equipment Business Unit and as Engineering Manager, Vibration and Motion Control Business Unit; and at Litton Industries, Itel Optical Systems Division, as Senior Electrical Engineer.

Spangler earned his S.B., Aeronautics and Astronautics, his S.M., Aeronautics and Astronautics, and his Ph.D from the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics here at MIT. He was also a member of the MIT Rugby Football Club, Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and General Manager of WMBR-FM.

Spangler has many publications and patents to his credit and is an FAA licensed pilot with a glider rating.

Innovation Ecosystem Development
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

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
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,
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Alison Morley
Managing Director - Studies
Rio Tinto

Danelle Cross
Director of Entrepreneurship and Commercialization
Curtin University

Derek Gerrard
Director
Purpose Ventures

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

Morning Tea

Startups
Catarina Madeira joined Corporate Relations in May 2021 as Program Director, Startup Exchange.

Madeira has been working with the Cambridge/Boston startup ecosystem for the past 10 years and joins Corporate Relations with a solid network in the innovation and entrepreneurial community. In 2010, she joined the startup accelerator IUL MIT Portugal working in Lisbon and working with the Cambridge team on all aspects related to the accelerator’s launch. 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. Most recently 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 L’Oreal and Saboaria e Perfumaria Confiança as Pharmacist and Technical Director.

Madeira earned her Bachelor in Chemistry at the University of Porto and her Bachelor in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Coimbra in Portugal. She went on to earn her Master of Engineering for Health and Medicines at University Lyon 1 and EM Lyon 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

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
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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

4:00 PM  Panel Discussion: The Zero-Carbon Energy Future
Ron Spangler
Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations

4:40 PM  Closing Remarks