2025 MIT Research and Development Conference

November 18, 2025 - November 19, 2025

Day One | Plenary

8:00 AM

Registration with Light Breakfast

9:00 AM

Welcome and Introduction Gayathri Srinivasan Executive Director, MIT Corporate Relations



Gayathri Srinivasan Executive Director MIT Corporate Relations

Dr. Srinivasan is a distinguished scientist who received her PhD in Microbiology from The Ohio State University in 2004, where she contributed to the discovery of the 22nd amino acid, Pyrrolysine (2002). She first came to MIT as an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow in Prof. Tom Rajbhandary's lab, where her research focused on understanding protein synthesis mechanisms in Archaea.

Dr. Srinivasan subsequently moved into the business development and technology licensing space, serving in MIT's Technology Licensing Office, where she helped commercialize technologies in medical devices and alternative energies. She then moved to UMass Medical School's Office of Technology Management in 2009 and to Emory University in Atlanta in 2014 as the Director of Public and Private Partnerships for the Woodruff Health Sciences Center. In 2019, Dr. Srinivasan joined Emory's Office of Corporate Relations as Executive Director, and in 2021, she led the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations.

9:15 AM

Is My Job Safe in the AI Era?

Yossi Sheffi

A discussion of the mechanism by which jobs are lost or modified, based on history and recent developments (supply-chain perspective)

Future Fleet Design — Modernizing U.S. Naval Ship Design and Production for Maritime Dominance

Rear Admiral Peter D. Small

Chief Engineer and Naval Sea Systems Command Deputy Commander for Naval Systems Engineering and Commander, Naval Surface and Undersea Warfare Centers The U.S. Navy

"The way we fight today will not be the way we fight tomorrow. We will relentlessly innovate, adapt, and accelerate the integration of cutting-edge technologies—artificial intelligence, robotics and autonomous systems, resilient command and control networks, hypersonic weapons, advanced manufacturing, and quantum-enabled sensing. The way we fight tomorrow becomes reality with our future fleet design—a design that will be tightly coupled to the Navy warfighting concept, a newly developed Navy deterrence concept, and aligned to the department's investment priorities." — Chief of U.S. Naval Operations, Admiral Daryl Caudle

The U.S. shipbuilding industry has seen a decline in design and manufacturing capabilities, driven by reduced demand for commercial vessels and long, low-rate production of naval platforms. As a result, design standards and tools have fallen behind modern technology. Yet, the U.S. Navy faces a resurgent demand for technologies designed to empower a modernized fleet - new and diverse ship types, a growing imperative for unmanned platforms, and engineering capabilities that enable increasingly complex missions. This presentation will examine how the U.S. Navy can harness emerging technologies to revitalize ship design and construction. Specifically, it will explore the critical need for intelligent design tools that optimize both performance and manufacturability. It will also highlight opportunities to modernize specifications by integrating innovations such as robotic welding and Al-driven non-destructive testing (NDT). Advancing these capabilities is essential to building a more lethal, resilient, and cost-effective fleet—one capable of maintaining maritime dominance in an increasingly contested global environment.

10:15 AM MIT Professional Education

Myriam Joseph

10:20 AM Networking Break

10:50 AM New Manufacturing Initiative and the Future of Manufacturing John Hart

Department Head and Professor, MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering



John Hart
Department Head and Professor
MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering

John Hart is Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at MIT. He is also the Director of the MIT Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity and the Center for Advanced Production Technologies. John's research group focuses on the science and technology of production, including work on additive manufacturing, materials processing, automation, and computational methods. John has been recognized by awards from the United States NSF, ONR, AFOSR, DARPA, SME, and ASME, along with two R&D 100 awards. He has also received the MIT Ruth and Joel Spira Award for Distinguished Teaching in Mechanical Engineering and the MIT Keenan Award for Innovation in Undergraduate Education, for his leadership in undergraduate manufacturing education using new pedagogical models and digital resources. John is a co-founder of Desktop Metal and VulcanForms, and a Board Member of Carpenter Technology Corporation.

View full bio

Startup Exchange Lightning Talks Ariadna Rodenstein Program Manager, MIT Startup Exchange



Ariadna Rodenstein Program Manager MIT Startup Exchange

Ariadna Rodenstein is a Program Manager at MIT Startup Exchange. She joined MIT Corporate Relations as an Events Leader in September 2019 and is responsible for designing and executing startup events, including content development, coaching and hosting, and logistics. Ms. Rodenstein works closely with the Industrial Liaison Program (ILP) in promoting collaboration and partnerships between MIT-connected startups and industry, as well as with other areas around the MIT innovation ecosystem and beyond.

Prior to working for MIT Corporate Relations, she worked for over a decade at Credit Suisse Group in New York and London, in a few different roles in event management and as Director of Client Strategy. Ms. Rodenstein has combined her experience in the private sector with work at non-profits as a Consultant and Development Director at New York Immigration Coalition, Immigrant Defense Project, and Americas Society/Council of the Americas. She also served as an Officer on the Board of Directors of the Riverside Clay Tennis Association in New York for several years. Additionally, she earned her B.A. in Political Science and Communications from New York University, with coursework at the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in Mexico City, and her M.A. in Sociology from the City University of New York.

Christine Yi-Ting Wang

Zachary Kabelac

Andrew Dorne

Baptiste Bouvier

Peter Schmitt

Deep Patel

Rana Hajirasouli

David McCalib

Pavel Bystricky

Sanjay Manandhar

12:20 PM

Lunch with Startup Exhibit

1:30 PM

Create, Prototype, Deliver: Lincoln Laboratory's Engine for National Security

Melissa Choi

Commercial innovation is a key component of U.S. national security strategy, but the specialized needs of national security often make harnessing this innovation difficult. As the Department of Defense's largest Federally Funded Research and Development Center, MIT's Lincoln Laboratory's mission is to close this gap and spark disruptive solutions. This talk will highlight how Lincoln Laboratory 1) works with the DoD to analyze its most pressing problems; 2) develops advanced technology or harnesses commercial capabilities to make new solutions possible; 3) creates prototypes to validate solutions or address urgent needs; and 4) efficiently transitions prototypes to the private sector for commercial development. These four overlapping capabilities are the fundamental building blocks of the Laboratory's innovation engine for national security. We will feature examples of significant technologies that have moved out of the lab and into the military and marketplace for real-world impact.

2:00 PM

Building Rational Robots

Leslie Pack Kaelbling

The classical approach to AI was to design systems that were rational at run-time: they had explicit representations of beliefs, goals, and plans, and ran inference algorithms online to select actions. More recently, relatively unstructured, data-driven end-to-end approaches have achieved great success across a wide range of domains and have begun to seem like a plausible path to general-purpose intelligent robots. However, we are now seeing the limits of pure behavior learning, and many practitioners are reintegrating forms of search and explicit reasoning into their approaches.

Leslie Kaelbling will revisit the rational-agent approach to designing intelligent robots from the perspectives of engineering effort, computational efficiency, cognitive modeling, and interpretability. She will present current research aimed at understanding the role of learning in runtime-rational agents, with the ultimate goal of constructing general-purpose, human-level intelligent robots.

2:30 PM

Panel: Scarcity and Geopolitics

David Rotman

Yasheng Huang

Richard Roth

Gina Aquilano

Tomás Villalon

3:30 PM

Networking Break

4:00 PM

From Idea to Impact: The Role of University Technology Transfer Offices

Lesley Millar-Nicholson

Reflecting on the MIT's TLO activities and engagement over the past years, the Executive Director will provide insights and anecdotes about how technology transfer offices, supporting some of the world's great research institutions, actually work. The high points and low points, the successes and stressors, the fiction and the reality. You will walk away we hope with some useful facts and information to help understand the role of academic institutions in the creation of new ideas/inventions and their practical translation into products/services and new industries.

Amy Nordrum

Artificial intelligence is a core topic of coverage for the newsroom at MIT Technology Review, and the journalists who work there are always looking ahead to what's coming next. That's especially challenging for the fast-moving field of artificial intelligence, where it can be particularly difficult to distinguish hype from reality. Executive editor Amy Nordrum will share the major developments and recent advances that the newsroom is watching closely, touching on topics like generative search, AI agents, AI in gaming, small language models, AI companions, and more. Consider this your primer on which areas of AI are most important to know about and worth watching in the months ahead.

5:00 PM

Networking Reception

Day Two | Track 1 | Entrepreneurship in Action: From Discovery to Disruption

Explore how groundbreaking science and technology translate into market-ready solutions and drive corporate growth. Learn to identify and capitalize on emerging opportunities, understand pathways to commercialization and innovation strategies, and see how your company can benefit from university-industry partnerships through real-world examples. Walk away with actionable insights to drive progress and growth within your organization.

Introduction
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.

Al-Driven Enterprises: The New Arithmetic of Exponential Growth

Paul Cheek

This session unveils the rise of artificial-intelligence-driven enterprises (AIDEs) that fuse the global ambition of innovation-driven startups with the lean efficiency of SMEs. We'll examine how founders wield generative AI across R&D, go-to-market, and operations to slash innovation debt, reach \$100M+ ARR with <50 people, and open pathways for regions with limited venture capital to compete globally. Attendees will leave with a framework for building, funding, and scaling their own AIDE internal ventures—and insights into what this shift means for talent, policy, and the future of corporate R&D.

9:35 AM

Investing in Deep Tech

Michael Kearney

From Innovation to Impact: Entrepreneurship in 2025. Michael Kearney, General Partner of Engine Ventures, will discuss progress in the MIT innovation ecosystem since the inception of the Engine system in 2017, how the innovative landscape has evolved during that time, and how entrepreneurs and investors are managing through today's economic uncertainties.

10:10 AM

From Prototype to Product: The Power of Research-Industry Partnerships

Ariel Furst

Kei Honda

How can cutting-edge university research make its way into real-world applications? What does it take to build partnerships that go beyond traditional industry-academic relationships? In this fireside chat, MIT's Furst Lab and Idemitsu, a leading global company and ILP member, share insights from their ongoing collaboration, as well as broader principles that apply across sectors. This session offers a candid look at how structured partnerships can accelerate technology translation, de-risk innovation, and create meaningful pathways from lab to market. Learn how forward-thinking collaborations can lay the foundation for new ventures co-developed with industry partners.

10:45 AM

Networking Break

Day Two | Track 2 | Power Hungry World - The Future of Sustainable Energy

Global electricity demand is projected to nearly double by 2050, driven by the rapid electrification of buildings, transportation, and manufacturing. Compounding this pressure is the exponential growth of AI. While AI offers transformative potential across industries, it is also emerging as a significant energy consumer. Data centers, the digital engines powering AI, have more than doubled their electricity consumption since 2018 and now account for 4.4% of global demand. In the U.S., they are expected to consume up to 12% of total electricity by 2028.

This track will explore how the world can meet rising energy needs through the rapid expansion of sustainable energy production. From fusion and next-generation nuclear to renewables, grid-scale storage, decentralized systems, and forward-looking policies, we will examine the innovations and frameworks critical to building a resilient, low-carbon energy future. Addressing this challenge will require a bold vision, accelerated technological advancement, and unprecedented global collaboration.

Introduction Klaus Schleicher Director, MIT Industrial Liaison Program



Klaus Schleicher Director MIT Industrial Liaison Program

Klaus Schleicher joined the Office of Corporate Relations in 2013. He has a Global Operations and Technology background that has delivered rapid profitable growth in the imaging systems, speech recognition, IT security and consulting, digital printing & media industries. He has executive experience in Sales, Marketing, Product Development, Strategy and Business Development and has held senior positions at Universal Wilde, Presstek Inc., Consul Risk Management B.V. (IBM), Lernout & Hauspie (Nuance), Agfa (Bayer Corp.) and Honeywell Inc. He holds a Master Degree in Computer Science and Engineering, from the Technical University of Giessen in Germany.

View full bio

9:00 AM Nuclear Reactors Replacing Gas Turbines

Charles Forsberg

Building on Principal Research Scientist Charles Forsberg's research in advanced reactors and high-temperature energy systems, this talk highlights base-load nuclear reactors replacing the gas turbine to provide dispatchable electricity and heat to industry. There are two strategies. The first strategy stores heat from the reactor when low demand for dispatchable heat to industry or dispatchable electricity. Heat storage may exceed 200 hours. The second strategy converts low-price electricity into high-temperature (1700 °C) heat stored in firebrick. Air flows through the firebrick to provide hot air to industry or thermodynamic topping cycles for nuclear reactors, so that peak power is more than twice the base-load electricity output. Both options are enabled by recent inventions and developments.

Pathways to a Sustainable Energy Future

Sergey Paltsev

Sergey Paltsev will explore the future of sustainable energy in a "power-hungry" world, focusing on the interplay between global energy systems, economic forces, and climate policy. Drawing on integrated global economic modeling, his talk will examine pathways for decarbonization, technology deployment, and policy interventions that can balance energy demand, environmental constraints, and economic growth. Attendees will gain insights into how strategic decisions at the intersection of technology, policy, and economics can shape a sustainable energy future.

9:35 AM

Dennis Whyte

In this dynamic talk, Prof. Dennis Whyte, MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center, presents a compelling vision for fusion energy as the transformative solution to global energy and climate challenges. He explains how fusion—mimicking the power of stars—offers a carbonfree, virtually limitless, and safe energy source that can scale globally. Prof. Whyte highlights recent breakthroughs at MIT, including the development of high-temperature superconducting magnets that drastically reduce the size and cost of fusion reactors. These innovations have led to the creation of SPARC, a compact fusion experiment, and the spinout of Commonwealth Fusion Systems, aimed at commercializing fusion by the early 2030s. Emphasizing fusion's potential to decarbonize not just electricity, but also heavy industry and fuel production, Whyte outlines a clear, science-driven pathway to realizing practical, scalable fusion power within this decade.

10:45 AM

Networking Break

Day Two | Track 3 | Innovation and Impact in the New Space Era

This session explores the transformative dynamics of the New Space era, where commercial innovation, rapid development cycles, and expanded access to space are redefining what's possible. Presenters will highlight emerging technologies, novel mission approaches, and cross-sector collaborations driving this shift. Topics may include advances in Earth observation and sensing, the proliferation of small satellite platforms, and research in space physiology to support human spaceflight. Whether technological, scientific, or entrepreneurial, these developments exemplify how New Space is reshaping the space ecosystem and opening new frontiers for exploration, application, and impact.

Introduction Ron Spangler

Director, MIT Corporate Relations



Ron Spangler Director MIT Corporate Relations

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.

9:00 AM

Space Sustainability

Oli de Weck

9:35 AM

Tracking Methane Emissions

Daniel Varon

Kerri Cahoy

10:45 AM

Networking Break

Day Two | Track 4 | Intelligence Unleashed: Scaling and Securing Enterprises of the Future

The next wave of innovation is being shaped by AI systems that don't just respond; they act. From agentic AI that collaborates and makes decisions autonomously to decentralized architectures that push intelligence to the edge, MIT researchers are leading the charge. They are reimagining how organizations secure, interpret, and operationalize data.

This track brings together thought leaders from across MIT to explore the strategic, organizational, and human implications of AI at scale. Topics will include quantum-safe infrastructure, explainable AI, cyber-physical resilience, agent-based platforms, and the role of trust, transparency, and ethics in intelligent systems.

For enterprises navigating an era defined by autonomy, agility, and risk, this track connects frontier research with real-world impact.

Introduction
Jim Flynn
Program Director MIT Industry

Program Director, MIT Industrial Liaison Program



Jim Flynn
Program Director
MIT Industrial Liaison Program

Before MIT, Jim was the assistant dean of research business development at the UMass Amherst College of Information and Computer Sciences. Jim founded, built, and sold multiple technology companies in fintech and online media. He has bootstrapped startups and closed venture capital, angel, and private equity funding rounds. Jim also served as the Chief Operating Officer of a public company and a subsidiary of Pitney Bowes. He began his career at AT&T as a software developer, hardware engineer, and national account manager. Jim has authored patents and wrote one of the first books on Java programming. Out of all the roles he's held, Jim's favorite job title by far is dedicated dad of four. He earned a BS from Manhattan College and an MBA with concentrations in finance and international business from New York University.

11:15 AM Autonomous AI Agents/Project NANDA

Ramesh Raskar

11:50 AM Al Agents: From Fundamental Research to Practical Applications

Dan Gutfreund

1:00 PM Adjournment with Bagged Lunch

Day Two | Track 5 | Frontiers in Advanced Materials: From Molecular Design to Functional Systems

The future of materials science lies in the seamless integration of molecular precision, functional performance, and nanoscale understanding. This session brings together leading MIT researchers whose work spans the full spectrum of advanced materials innovation—from the bottom-up design of molecular architectures to the real-world deployment of materials and the tools that reveal their behavior at the atomic scale.

Introduction
Peter Lohse
Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations



Peter Lohse Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations

Dr. Peter Lohse joined the Office of Corporate Relations (OCR) in October 2018 as Program Director.

Lohse comes to OCR with deep and broad knowledge and expertise in the pharma, biotech, and other life sciences-driven industries including agro, nutrition, chemical, and consumer products. As a scientist and entrepreneur, he has an extensive background developing business and managing partnerships with large corporations, early-stage companies, academia, and non-profit organizations. Most recently, Lohse was V.P, Operations and Business Development for InnovaTID Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge. Before that, he was a Strategy Consultant for Eutropics Pharmaceuticals, an emerging biotech company in Cambridge.

Prior to this, Dr. Lohse was Director, Scientific Operations & Innovation Program Director for Eli-Lilly's open innovation platform, InnoCentive, Inc. in Waltham. Earlier in his career, he held positions with increasing responsibility at ArQule of Woburn, Phylos in Lexington, and Novartis Pharma in Switzerland.

Lohse earned his M.S., Chemistry & Applied Sciences and his Ph.D., Organic Chemistry at Federal institute of Technology (ETH) in Switzerland. He earned his M.B.A., Strategy, Finance, Marketing as a Sloan Fellow at MIT. He also held the position Research Fellow, Molecular Biology at Harvard Medical School - Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston (with Professor J. Szostak, Nobel Prize 2009), This was a Swiss National Science Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship -- In vitro selection of functional RNAs.

View full bio

11:15 AM Hierarchical Materials Via Nanoscale Self-Assembly

Robert Macfarlane

11:50 AM Atomic-Scale Microscopy for Material Synthesis

Frances Ross

Cem Tasan

Metal design is key in solving engineering problems across numerous sectors that rely on material performance. Our group develops novel methods to observe metal microstructures at work. Based on these unique insights, we identify new design concepts for steels, titanium alloys, high entropy alloys, and beyond. In this talk, several case studies will be presented to demonstrate the strength of this approach in solving various industrial problems.

1:00 PM

Adjournment with Bagged Lunch

Day Two | Track 6 | Engineering Life Sciences: Interdisciplinary Pathways from Concept to Impact

Life sciences are no longer confined to the realm of biology—they have evolved into a multidisciplinary frontier. This session examines the dynamic intersection of biology, engineering, and computational science, where bold ideas give rise to transformative innovation. By integrating Al, advanced technologies, and foundational biological research, the session will highlight how cross-disciplinary collaboration accelerates the path from scientific discovery to real-world application at MIT. Emphasizing the translation of visionary research into impactful solutions, this track invites participants to reimagine what becomes possible when disciplines converge to shape the future.

Introduction Natalie Kim

Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations



Natalie Kim

Program Director, MIT Corporate Relations

Dr. Najung "Natalie" Kim is a Program Director at the MIT Industrial Liaison Program. She brings to the Office of Corporate Relations (OCR) expertise in strategic collaboration in life sciences and biotech industries, including cell and gene therapy and Al/ML analytics. Kim comes to OCR from Adjuvant Partners where she has been serving as Senior Consultant, Strategic Partnering, working to connect industry, startups, and academic leaders in the cell and gene therapy sector. Before Adjuvant, Natalie worked at Ajinomoto, where she was Manager of the Research & Innovation Center, facilitating collaborations on preclinical and clinical development of biologics, diagnostics, and cell therapy ancillary products in Asia, Europe, and North America. Prior to Ajinomoto, Kim was a business development manager at Medipost, where she led strategic partnerships in mesenchymal stem cell therapeutics in orthopedic and neurodegenerative applications. Kim also went through her postdoctoral training at the Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine as a Department of Defense Research Fellow working on translational gene therapy in tissue engineering programs.

Kim earned her B.S. Bioscience and Food Engineering at Handong Global University, her M.S. Medicine at Seoul National University in South Korea, and her Ph.D. Biomedical Engineering at the University of Iowa.

11:15 AM

Targeting Glycans for Cancer Immunotherapy

Jessica Stark

Despite the curative potential of cancer immunotherapy, many patients do not benefit from existing treatments. Glyco-immune checkpoints – interactions of cancer glycans with inhibitory glycan-binding receptors called lectins – have emerged as prominent mechanisms of resistance to molecular and cellular immunotherapies. I will describe the development of antibody-lectin chimeras: a biologic framework for glyco-immune checkpoint blockade that is now moving toward the clinic.

11:50 AM

INM and Translational Biomanufacturing

Christopher Love

12:25 PM

Antibody-Bottlebrush Pro-drug Conjugates: A Novel Platform for Targeted Theranostics

Jeremiah Johnson

Antibody-drug conjugates (ADCs) are the gold standard for targeted drug delivery systems, but their chemical design imposes constraints that, if addressed, could enable a new generation of cancer therapeutics and imaging modalities. For example, due to bioconjugation limitations, the payload scope of ADCs is restricted to highly potent payloads with inherently unselective mechanisms of action, leading to narrow therapeutic windows and resistance. This seminar will introduce a new platform called Antibody-Bottlebrush prodrug Conjugates (ABCs) that can potentially address these challenges. ABCs feature a modular design that allows drug-to-antibody ratios (DARs) from ~1-135 while maintaining strong target binding, efficient cellular uptake, and favorable pharmacokinetics and biodistribution. Leveraging their capability to access very high DARs, ABCs can carry payloads (e.g., 10-fold less potent than existing ADC payloads) that are insufficiently potent to be used in traditional ADCs, thereby enabling new mechanisms-of-action. Moreover, ABCs are readily amenable to using various payload combinations, release mechanisms, and non-drug (e.g., imaging) agents. ABCs display efficacies on par with or superior to clinical ADCs in preclinical tumor models at clinically relevant payload doses, motivating their further clinical translation.

1:00 PM

Adjournment with Bagged Lunch

Day Two | Optional Conference Campus Tours

On day two, after lunch at 1:15 PM, join the ILP for a unique opportunity to explore MIT through concurrent tours, each providing an in-depth look at the institute's innovation ecosystem. Sign-up boards will be available at the registration desk starting in the morning.

1:15 PM

Attendees to gather at the ILP registration desk for departure from the Marriott

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

MIT Campus Walking Tour (15 people max)

Take a guided tour of our dynamic campus and experience firsthand how MIT is making a better world. From cutting edge research to innovation, from world-renowned architecture to rich community life, the MIT campus is a treasure to explore. MIT is also the heart of the vibrant innovation district of Kendall Square, the most innovative square mile in the world – come see how academics, entrepreneurs, corporations and non-profits make it all happen.

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

Innovation Trail: VIP Walking Tour (25 people max)

Join a group of fellow participants for a special walking tour of The Innovation Trail, a walking route that highlights the past, present, and future of science, technology, and innovation in the Boston-Cambridge area. We'll cover everything from NASA to candy-making to Google to MIT's tradition of "hacks" or student pranks. Tour begins in the lobby of the Marriott, lasts 90 minutes, and ends with an easy walk back to the hotel. Wear comfortable shoes and dress for the weather.

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

MIT Museum (15 people max)

Participants will be introduced to provocative exhibitions on CRISPR and AI, the magical kinetic sculptures of Arthur Ganson and Andy Cavatora, and countless unexpected treasures from the museum collection of more than a million artifacts.