



NCL Innovations

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NCL Innovations Seminar Series

5th Talk

"The journey from science to enterprise: Key lessons from Cambridge"

by

Shailendra (Shai) Vyakarnam,

Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning
Judge School of Management
University of Cambridge

on

Friday, 13 February 2009

at 1100 hrs in the
Second Floor Lecture Hall, Main Building
National Chemical Laboratory
Pashan Road, Pune – 411008

Open to all.

Abstract:

Since the 1960s, Cambridge as a city has transformed from a rural market town with a University into a thriving high tech cluster which often gets compared to Silicon Valley. Many scientific discoveries are now common products and solutions. Some of this is due to the university, but much is also due to a parallel growth of technology consultants and the magnetic effect of the University in attracting entrepreneurs and investors.

The result is that the staff and students of the University have taken much more positively to the idea of commercialisation of their research into practical solutions, products and services. The seminar will open up the discussion of why and how this has happened and what lessons there might be for other research led Institutions and for the people within those Institutions.

Shai Vyakarnam



Prof Shai Vyakarnam
Director, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning
University of Cambridge

Dr Shailendra Vyakarnam has been in entrepreneurship education and research for some 20 years. He has been at Cambridge since 2001 and has developed the Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning at the Judge Business School into a leading "practitioner led entrepreneurship education" Centre. The focus of his work is "for rather than about entrepreneurship". The research at the Centre has focused on the impact that serial entrepreneurs have had on the local growth of companies, the effects of social networks on opportunity recognition and the early stages of commercialisation. He works closely with Cambridge Enterprise through which much of the commercialisation takes place. He is on the Board and a shareholder in a number of start ups.

He is a mentor to many academics, students and others when they are thinking about next steps to commercialisation.

Most recently he contributed to a white paper for the World Economic Forum (Davos 2009) - on entrepreneurship education for social inclusion.

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