GLOBAL ALUMNI GATHERING
BENGALURU, INDIA
November 1 - 3, 2019

CLIMATE CHANGE:
Sustainability, Innovation, and Tech Transfer

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Welcome!

Thank you for participating in this international gathering. Bengaluru has been a second home of Illinois Institute of Technology for many decades, which makes it the perfect place to gather and celebrate the influence of our graduates and our partner schools’ graduates around the world.

The topics covered in our symposium this weekend—sustainability, innovation, and tech transfer—are among the most pressing issues of our time. Climate change is a global threat, and tackling it will require broad participation from the realms of science, engineering, computer science, design, business, and more. It's the sort of complex, multidisciplinary challenge which requires precisely the transformational, innovative thinking for which Illinois Tech graduates are internationally recognized.

This weekend, we’ll explore insights toward a more sustainable future while we celebrate the leadership demonstrated by Illinois Tech alumni, and alumni of our partner schools around the globe. During our 129-year history, Illinois Tech has helped change the world and we will continue to have a profound impact on the future of technology and innovation. Illinois Tech and our partner schools will continue to produce graduates with the skills, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit to redefine how we live our daily lives, while improving the health of our planet.

We hope this Global Alumni Gathering will empower you with new vision for the future, new professional relationships, and a closer bond with Illinois Tech alumni and friends, near and far. After you return home, we hope you will remain motivated to become more involved with Illinois Institute of Technology.

Alan W. Cramb
President,
Illinois Institute of Technology
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1
• Welcome Reception and Dinner
  7–11 p.m.
  Keynote Speaker: Ankur Jain (CS ’03)
  Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel | No.56, 6B, Palace Rd, Abshot Layout,
  Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka | 560052, India

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2
• Breakfast
  7–8:30 a.m.
  Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel

• Symposium
  8:30–12:30 p.m.
  Panel Presentations
  Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel

  Symposium 1—Innovation
  PANELISTS
  Gautam Mahajan (M.S. MECH ’70)
  President, Inter-Link and Customer Value Foundation
  Pinakin Patel (M.S. CHE ’77)
  Founder, T2M Global
  Rajesh Ramachandran (M.A.S. CS ’04)
  Chief Digital Officer, Industrial Automation Global, ABB
  Bhartendu Sinha (M.A.S. TSEC ’02)
  Energy Business and Technology Leader, National Award Winner

  Symposium 2—Sustainability
  PANELISTS
  Malali Gowda
  Professor and Center Head, Center for Functional Genomics and
  Bioinformatics, The University of TransDisciplinary Health Sciences
  and Technology
  Niranjan Khatri
  Founder and Principal Consultant, iSambhav
  Aditya Pundir
  Country Manager, The Climate Reality Project India
Symposium 3—Tech Transfer

PANELISTS

Brian Ippolito (AE ’92)
President and CEO, Orbis Technologies, Inc.

Vasudevan “Raj” Rajaram (LAW ’91)
Chair, Alumni Board of Directors—International Committee, Illinois Institute of Technology

• Networking Lunch
12:30–2 p.m.

Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel

• Tour of SLK Software
5:30–6:30 p.m.

Tour led by event sponsor Parth Amin (BA ’85), Founder and Chairman, SLK Group
Bus will depart Shangri-La Hotel at 5 p.m.
Thanisandra, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560045, India
3J39+3M Bengaluru, Karnataka, India

• Celebration and Networking Reception
7–11 p.m.

Hosted by Parth Amin (BA ’85)
114, Ritika Farms, Avalahalli, Doddaballapura Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore – 560064
On Sunday, participants can enjoy a one-day tour of Bangalore for an additional fee. This chauffeured tour picks you up at your hotel and includes stops at Lalbagh Botanical Garden, Vidhana Soudha, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Bangalore Palace and ISKCON Temple. The tour is $120 per person and includes a tour guide, all entry fees, lunch and bottled water.
Parth Amin is the chairman of SLK Group, where he leads with a modern and progressive management style. He believes in building careers through learning and innovation, and achieving business excellence through customer relationships.

Amin began his career in manufacturing after graduating from Illinois Institute of Technology - Stuart School of Business, and transitioned into the information technology industry in the early 1990s. In 2000 he founded the SLK Group, comprised of software and business process outsourcing units, and since then has been a consistent business leader with commendable acumen and industry foresight.

Today, the SLK Group is 6,000 people strong and growing. He has also held various offices as a member of the Young Presidents’ Organization, including serving as chair of the Bangalore Chapter. He was awarded Illinois Tech’s International Award of Merit in 2013 and has served as a member of the Stuart School of Business Board of Advisors since 2015.

Amin believes in a work-life balance and his interests include scuba diving, cycling, swimming, and yoga as well as playing the santoor, an Indian classical musical instrument.
Malali Gowda

PROFESSOR AND CENTER HEAD, CENTER FOR FUNCTIONAL GENOMICS AND BIOINFORMATICS, THE UNIVERSITY OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY HEALTH SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

Malali Gowda is a leader in the areas of genomics, bioinformatics, and the environment. He founded two environmental non-profit organizations in India: DNA Life (2016) and Biodiversity Conservation and Research Trust (2001) which have been recognized at national and international levels for working to solve climate change and environmental degradation problems. Gowda’s work established a method to re-forest barren or rocky land in a short period, resulting in increased vegetation cover, ground-water, and biodiversity. His work was recognized through the Environmental Stewardship Award (2019) by New England Biolabs, U.S. He also received the Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Presidential Environmental Award from the government of Karnataka.

As the head of the Center for Functional Genomics and Bioinformatics, Gowda designs research and education programs focused on genomics and bioinformatics. He has trained more than 500 participants across India through the bioinformatics (computation tools) and genomics program. His genomic research work was carried out in the U.S. for eight years at Michigan State University, North Carolina State University, and The Ohio State University. He returned in 2010 through the Ramalingaswami Fellowship Program of DBT, Government of India. Through the support of DBT, he served as founding director for Next Generation Genomic Facility at C-CAMP/NCBS – the first state-of-the-art, next generation genomics facility in India. His group has sequenced over 1,000 genomes (including humans, animals, plants, and microbes) in the facility by connecting more than 100 organizations across India.
Brian Ippolito (AE ’92)

PRESIDENT AND CEO, ORBIS TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Brian Ippolito has served as president and chief executive officer of Orbis Technologies, Inc. since 2006. Under his leadership, Orbis has established itself as an industry leading global content management software, solutions and services company with software deployed in 77 cities throughout 14 countries on four continents around the globe.

Ippolito served in the United States Air Force and has received numerous awards and recognition, including the prestigious John J. Welch Award for Acquisition Excellence and the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Maryland.

Prior to Orbis, Ippolito was director of advanced programs and products, C4ISR and Networked Systems at Northrop Grumman. His work at Northrop Grumman and at Orbis benefited immensely from his time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) as a researcher, where he published numerous papers and contributed to the book Lean Enterprise Value: Insights from MIT’s Lean Aerospace Initiative.

Ippolito received a bachelor’s degree in Aerospace Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology and a master’s degree in Engineering and Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Management and the Graduate School of Engineering. He currently serves on the Alumni Board of Directors at Illinois Institute of Technology.
Ankur Jain (CS ’03)
CEO AND FOUNDER, BIRA 91

Jain is a serial entrepreneur who moved to the United States in 1998. He completed his bachelor’s degree in Computer Science at the Illinois Institute of Technology. After a brief stint at Motorola, he co-founded a healthcare revenue management firm in New York City sold to a large healthcare provider network in 2007.

Inspired by American entrepreneurship of craft beer and his love of traditional beer in Belgium, he launched Bira 91 in early 2015, a craft beer brand “imagined in India” for the urban, millennial consumer. It quickly went viral and become the largest draft brand in India, gaining leadership in the premium segment in its active markets. In less than three years, Bira 91 is now in the top 25 craft beer brands worldwide by sales volume and the fastest growing beer brand in the world (growing 5x in 2017).

In late 2015, B9 Beverages raised a round of investment from the legendary Silicon Valley based venture firm Sequoia Capital, making it the fund’s first investment in a beer company globally. In 2018, Belgium’s family office Sofina Capital made an additional investment in Bira 91 bringing the total capital raised by the company to over $100 million.

Jain is a Fellow of the Disruptive Innovation Foundation, New York, and was honored in *Fortune*’s “Top 40 Under 40” (2016-2019), *GQ India*’s “50 Most Influential Young Indian Innovators” (2016), as well as *Economic Times* Hottest Business Leader (2018).
Niranjan Khatri

FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT, ISAMBHAV

Niranjan Khatri is founder and principal consultant at iSambhav and senior consultant to Green Jobs Skills Council. As general manager, environment initiatives at ITC Hotels, he pioneered the concept of eco-design in the late 1980s and 1990s. He also headed the Confederation of Indian Industry’s Renewable Energy Cell and served as faculty at Railway Staff College.

Khatri developed the eco-rating for schools for the Delhi Government which has been distributed to more than 1,200 schools in the Delhi region and 6,000 schools in Maharashtra. He has trained teachers in 1,200 schools in ecological design and distributed over 10,000 Lap Pals to students, a device that provides a good writing surface for students who don’t have access to tables or desks.

Khatri facilitated the printing of two books on employing people with disabilities and barrier free infrastructure and published an article on eco-design in Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration Quarterly.

More recently, Khatri created an eco-design program for hearing and speech impaired people in Koppal Village and for visually impaired people in Bangalore. In addition, he started the Bank of Nutrition in Koppal and has been pursuing the formation of the Bureau of Water Efficiency with GOI since 2004.

Khatri is on the board of National Trust (Ministry of Social Justice) and served on the Expert Committee at the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs from 2009 to 2014. He is the recipient of the Helen Keller Award (2006, 2011), Green Hotelier Award (2010), the Parivartan Sustainability Leadership Award (2012), and Fellow CII IGBC in 2017.
Gautam Mahajan (M.S. MECH ’70)
PRESIDENT, INTER-LINK AND CUSTOMER VALUE FOUNDATION

Gautam Mahajan is an internationally acclaimed expert in value creation, strategy, general management, and globalization. He is currently president of Customer Value Foundation and founder of Journal of Creating Value. Additionally, he chairs the Global Conferences on Creating Value and is a mentor for the Creating Value Alliance. Mahajan is one of the inventors of the PET petaloid bottle and noise control kit and holds 18 U.S. patents.

Mahajan has chaired and has been a keynote speaker at conferences in several countries and is an author of numerous books, including: Value Dominant Logic, The Value Imperative, Value Creation, Creating Customer Value Makes You a Great Executive, Total Customer Value Management: Transforming Business Thinking, and Customer Value Investment: Formula for Sustained Business Success.

Previously, Mahajan worked for Continental Group in the U.S. for 17 years (then a Fortune 50 company). He was also global president of Indo-American Chamber of Commerce; chairman, PlastIndia Committee; vice president, All India Plastics Manufacturers Association; trustee, Plastics Institute of America; and member of U.S. India Think Tank.

Mahajan’s honors include fellowships from Harvard Business School and Illinois Institute of Technology. He was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award, Illinois Institute of Technology (2000) and delivered the first Armour Distinguished Alumni lecture in 2011.
Pinakin Patel (M.S. CHE ’77)
FOUNDER, T2M GLOBAL

Pinakin Patel is a world leader in hydrogen and fuel cell technologies with more than 40 years of experience and 30+ patents. He has received more than $500 million in RandD funding for development of projects worldwide. He is the recipient of prestigious awards from US-DOE, State of Connecticut, ASME, Electrochemical Society and others.

Patel has supported dozens of start-ups in alternate energy and associated supply chain development, including strategic alliance and funding development.

Patel has a highly successful track record with multi-national sponsors, including BASF, Sempra, Exxon, EPRI, NASA, CARB, CEC, Canada-SDTC, and many others.
Aditya Pundir
COUNTRY MANAGER, THE CLIMATE REALITY PROJECT INDIA

Aditya Pundir is the country manager for The Climate Reality Project India. He took over the branch in 2010 and is posted in New Delhi. He received his training on climate change in 2009 from U.S. Vice President Al Gore and was selected for Australian Leadership Awards Training 2013 in environment. He has worked extensively in the field of climate change and sustainability in India.

Pundir is active in community leadership, has served as an honorary warden for civil defense, and as an editor of an environmental website.

Pundir has authored two books on natural World Heritage sites for UNESCO, five environmental education CD-ROM’s, and seven comics for children on environmental issues. He serves on consultation committees on climate change in India formed by UNDP, World Bank, and UNESCO.

He holds an M.B.A. from Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad and an M.I.B from Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. He loves traveling and photography.
Rajesh Ramachandran is chief digital officer, Industrial Automation Global, ABB. In his role, Ramachandran drives digital strategy, thought leadership and execution of ABB digital portfolio and business growth.

He brings 27 years of global leadership experience with a successful track record of building and transforming technology and innovation driven businesses across India, United States, Europe, Middle East and Asia Pacific. He transforms businesses with IP and platform-led nonlinear high-profit growth, tapping the best of “business-driven technology innovation” and “technology-driven business innovation”. With strong customer centricity, he has successfully led strategic transformation programs (with CXOs of Fortune 500 companies) to move up their digital and industry 4.0 value chain—driving transformative business outcomes.

Prior to ABB, Ramachandran held CEO and senior leadership roles globally at organizations such as eBay, Oracle, Siemens, and Rolta, where he re-strategized and renewed entire ecosystems, including business strategy, top and bottom line growth, platform innovation, R&D, product management, industry value engineering, startup ecosystems, M&A, delivery excellence, GTM, and sales and customer advisory boards.

Ramachandran holds a master’s degree in Computer Science from Illinois Institute of Technology and an Executive M.B.A. from India Institute of Management, Bangalore. He is involved in many industry forums and academia.
Rajaram is a geotechnical and environmental engineer with 44 years of experience in water and waste management. He has authored five books and has written more than 40 articles in national and international publications.

Rajaram has worked on water and waste projects in India and the U.S. and has extensive experience in managing complex projects. He obtained his B.E. from Osmania University, India, and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA. He holds a J.D. in energy and environmental law from Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law.
Bhartendu Sinha is an energy business and technology leader and a national award winner for innovation in energy. Formerly he was vice president and managing director (India) for AutoGrid (a firm recognized by the World Economic Forum as a pioneer in smart grid analytics) as well as the founder and chairman for Geovas (a firm which achieved several firsts in India’s smart meter market, which was acquired). Prior to that, he held engineering/business leadership roles at Intel, Texas Instruments, and Motorola where he worked to develop innovative telecom infrastructure, cell phone, wireless network, video, data center, server, and PC products.

Sinha holds a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering and a master’s degree in Computer Science and Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; a professional masters in Software and Telecom Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology; and a post graduate diploma in Management from IIM-Ahmedabad. He is on the Board of Governors of the India Smart Grid Forum.
COMMITTEE

Raj Rajaram, Chair (LAW ’91)
Sunwoong Choi (ME ’81, METM ’81, Ph.D. METM ’92)
Tetsuyuki Hirano (ARCH ’79)
Emmanuel Klu (CS ’13)
William Lam (ME ’82, M.A.S. BA ’88)
Charlotte Leroy (L.L.M. ICLP ’11)
Adrien Lillo (EE ’14)
George Mui (CS ’76, M.S. ’80)
Joseph Mulvey (EE ’91)
Guillaume Saussay (M.S. CPE ’14)
Dawn Schuette (ARCH CRP ’92, M.A.S. CRP ’93)
Ann Trandai (EE ’89, M.S. ’93)
Parth Amin (BA ’75)  
SLK Software—$12,500

Sanjay Kirloskar (ME ’78)  
Kirloskar Brothers LTD—$12,500

Madhavan Nayar (M.S. IE ’68)—$2,500

Pinakin Patel (M.S. CHE ’77)  
T2M Global—$2,500

Brian Ippolito (AE ’92)  
Orbis Technologies, Inc.—$1,000

Manu Vora (M.S. CHE ’70, Ph.D. ’75)—$500
If you need assistance while in Bengaluru, feel free to contact:

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Visit alumni.iit.edu/global-gathering-2019-map for an interactive map.