

PRESS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24, 2007 - Slattery IT is delighted to announce that Dr William Miller, Silicon Valley legend, entrepreneur, academic and investor is to visit Australia in mid February, 2007.

Dr William Miller has witnessed Silicon Valley move from vacuum tubes to silicon, then from silicon to software, and finally from software to the internet. He is a Herbert Hoover Professor of Public and Private Management emeritus, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University. He is also a Professor emeritus of computer science and Senior Fellow emeritus in the Stanford Institute for International Studies.



From 1979 to 1990 he served as president and CEO of SRI International, as well as Chairman of the Board, CEO and a founder of the David Sarnoff Research Center. He was involved in the founding of the Mayfield Fund in 1968, serves on the boards of several startups, was the Provost of Stanford, and a Professor in both Stanford's Engineering and Graduate Business Schools. Having already celebrated his 80th birthday, Dr Miller recently founded a new nanomaterials start-up, NanoStellar.

Dr Miller will share his perspectives, while in Australia, on the role of the University in the 21st Century, outline the opportunities for University-Industry collaboration, especially the commercialisation of academically derived technologies. Dr Miller argues that research he has undertaken "has shown that for countries and/or regions to participate in the global growth of the high tech industries they must promote and facilitate education and advanced scientific and technological research. Additionally, if they do not promote and facilitate a favourable habitat for innovation and entrepreneurship the talent that they develop will go elsewhere to exercise that talent."

Rowan Gilmore, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Institute for Commercialisation who is supporting Dr Miller's trip to Australia, is looking forward to Dr Miller's visit and his explanation that there is no "silver bullet" when trying to emulate the success of Silicon Valley. Rowan Gilmore believes Dr Miller's visit will spotlight the challenge facing Australia, "the ecosystem needs the right culture, organisations, infrastructure, and entrepreneurs to flourish. It takes the right blend of ideas, people, and capital, all collaborating towards success."

".. I think the question we need to face up to is whether we as a nation are hungry enough to invest so our bright ideas can be commercialised and generate new wealth."

Rowan Gilmore, CEO, AIC

Dr Miller will present the factors outlined in his book "The Silicon Valley Edge" that account for Silicon Valley's leading edge in innovation and entrepreneurship and discuss the opportunities and challenges for Australia with government, academics and researchers and entrepreneurs and investors.

Mike Zimmerman from venture capital firm, Technology Venture Partners and a member of the Executive Committee for the Stanford Australia Association is very excited about Dr Miller's visit "There are few people more qualified to talk about the trends in Silicon Valley, as well as what the world can learn from its success. He is a legend and having him visit Australia is a rare opportunity."

Dr Miller will outline the challenges and opportunities for Australia and the rest of the world responding to the rise of an innovative Asia. "Looking ahead" he says, "there are three factors that will be most significant in shaping the future IT industry: (1) the growing importance of Asian demand for IT products; (2) the further development of venture capital; and (3) the prospect of Asia becoming a creator of technology."

Start-up companies created from Stanford University accounted for about 60 percent of total Silicon Valley revenues in both 1988 and 1996, and include companies such as HP, Sun Microsystems, Silicon Graphics, Adobe, and more recently, Yahoo! and Google. James McAdam, General Manager Strategy & Policy Services at the Australian Information Industry Association says, "Dr Miller presented to an Australian ICT industry delegation at Stanford last year. His insights into the challenges facing small companies on a fast growth track were of enormous benefit to our group."

Dr Miller's visit is being supported by – Westpac, Microsoft, Australian Institute for Commercialisation, SA Venture Capital Board, the Government of South Australia, Centre for Innovation and NanoVic.

The event dates are as follows -
Sydney - Tuesday 13th February
Canberra - Tuesday 13th February
Melbourne - Wednesday 14th February
Adelaide - Thursday 15th February
Brisbane - Friday 16th February

More details www.slatteryit.com.au

To request an interview with Dr Miller, please email watch@slatteryit.com.au or phone Vikki Yip on (02) 9423 8850.

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