CBC SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr David Toh
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Innovation and Commercialisation Strategy: From Lab Prototype to Market

Interested to learn more about commercialising your inventions? What are the benefits and pitfalls of starting your own company, versus licensing the technology to a third party? What should you look out for before you launch your startup and what are the resources available to prepare yourself should you choose this path? What are some of the common pitfalls you should avoid as a university startup, if you are starting a business?

The aim of this talk is to provide faculty and researchers with some background knowledge on how to go about commercialising their technology inventions. Not all innovations are suited for starting companies, and sometimes the better strategy is to license the technology to a third party SME or MNC. If you have chosen the path of starting a business, we will walk you through the various stages of financing your startup, including discussion on grants, external investor funding, and some basic valuation principles. We will also discuss free resources available for you to tap into at NTUitive to better prepare yourself before launching the business. Last, we will also articulate strategies needed to build a successful and scalable tech startup.

Biography
David Toh is Director and Chief Technology Officer at NTUitive, responsible for commercialisation of the University's intellectual property. Prior to joining NTU in 2013, David worked for 20 years in finance, where he was a top-rated Asia Pacific technology sector analyst with a number of investment banks. In that capacity, David also advised public and private technology companies on corporate strategy and fund raising. After leaving investment banking, David worked as a fund manager at DBS Asset Management before setting up his own Asia Pacific focused equity fund. Prior to the finance industry, David worked as a process engineer in a semiconductor fab.

David is also currently an independent director of SGX-listed iFast Corp and advises a number of startups in an informal capacity. He also sits on the Singapore Stock Exchange Listings Advisory Committee providing opinions on technology companies seeking IPOs. David graduated with a B.Sc. Materials Science & Engineering and a B.A. in Government and Asian Studies from Cornell University in 1991.