



OUR MISSION

We empower aspiring entrepreneurs to become global citizens who create and scale responsible innovations.

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ON THE COVER STVP Mayfield Fellows gather at the Distinguished Lectureship of the Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs' Resilience and Well-Being, which featured LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman (read more on p. 13).

OUR MINDSETS

Purposeful Passion

Pursuing our work with enthusiasm and discipline, grounded in ethical consideration for the results we produce.

Leading with Empathy

Putting people first, expressing gratitude, and building a welcoming and inclusive community.

Humble Audacity

Aiming high, collaborating for greater impact, learning from failure, and celebrating success.

Positive Transformation

Activating the potential and resilience of each individual while strengthening the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Welcome

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This past year, the 25th anniversary of our home department, Management Science & Engineering, provided a natural moment to reflect on STVP's journey – and to chart our course for the future.

For more than a quarter-century, STVP has shaped both the practice and the study of technology entrepreneurship. We pioneered methodologies like the Lean Startup that redefined how ventures are built – a legacy recognized this year as Steve Blank received the prestigious Strategy Leadership Impact Award. At the same time, we helped build the scholarly community itself, co-founding and sponsoring the West Coast Research Symposium, which has become a premier gathering for researchers in our field.

Building on this foundation, we are now working to address defining challenges for today's aspiring entrepreneurs: fostering the resilience of the founder, and giving them the tools to lead ethically and build responsible ventures.

Our focus on the human side of innovation is the driving force behind the Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs' Resilience & Well-Being (SIER), a collaboration with the Stanford Mussallem Center for Biodesign that began in 2024. By spearheading research into founder well-

being, our faculty and PhD students, led by STVP Faculty Director and Professor Riitta Katila, are building the frameworks to support the people at the heart of every startup. SIER's powerful inaugural Distinguished Lectureship from LinkedIn co-founder Reid Hoffman, featured inside, marked a milestone for this emerging initiative.

This spirit of resilience was echoed by Google co-founder Sergey Brin in his ETL conversation. Conceived by ETL Adjunct Lecturer, STVP Advisory Board Member, and Mayfield Fellows Program alum Emily Ma of Google DeepMind, the fireside chat marked the capstone of the School of Engineering Centennial and was moderated by President Jonathan Levin and Dean Jennifer Widom. Brin pointed out that, in the age of AI, "deep, hard tech has become increasingly important." He also shared his own story of overcoming personal hurdles, reminding our students that "those challenging transitions can pay off."

These themes of resilience and technical depth speak to the importance of STVP's mission. Through our fellows programs and courses, STVP students are developing the skills and mindsets to grapple with the technology that will shape our lives and build a better future.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated community of faculty, mentors, supporters, and friends. Thank you for your belief in our mission. Together, we are shaping the future of entrepreneurship research and education.

With gratitude,



Tom Byers
Professor, Management Science & Engineering and Faculty Director, STVP



Ashlea Wallington
Executive Director, STVP

New Leadership

STVP welcomes new Executive Director Ashlea Wallington. Her global leadership in entrepreneurship education will guide the center into its next chapter of transformative impact.

Teaching

We create and deliver teaching and learning approaches that develop entrepreneurs as global citizens.

Through innovative educational programs from STVP, Stanford students from every discipline gain transformative learning experiences, a community of talent, and Stanford Engineering's spirit of groundbreaking technology innovation. Our pioneering pedagogies and widely accessible curricula power learning experiences around the world.

OUR IMPACT

650+

Fellows Program Alumni
from 5 programs spanning
undergraduates to postdocs

3,000+

Annual Enrollments
in 40 affiliated courses serving
students across Stanford

20+

Teaching Awards
received by STVP faculty
and instructors





ABOVE At the MS&E 25th anniversary event, Professor and STVP Faculty Director Riitta Katila (left) interviewed Adjunct Professor Steve Blank about creating the Lean Startup method at STVP.

Writing the Playbook for Modern Entrepreneurship

At the MS&E 25th anniversary, STVP faculty reflected on a legacy of global impact and a future defined by grand challenges.

As the Management Science & Engineering department celebrated its 25th anniversary, STVP faculty took the stage to reflect on a legacy of innovation in entrepreneurship education. The STVP journey began with a “bold premise,” explained Professor and STVP Faculty Director Chuck Eesley: that entrepreneurship could be taught systematically and cultivated across all disciplines.

In a fireside chat with Professor and STVP Faculty Director Riitta Katila, Adjunct Professor Steve Blank recounted how that premise allowed him to challenge the status quo. “Everything we knew about building startups in the 20th century was wrong,” he declared. At Stanford, he developed his pivotal insight: “Large companies execute known business models. Startups search for them.” While execution had a century of tools, the “search” had none. “That, in hindsight, was what I built,” he said. (Read more about Blank’s impact on p. 13.)

“I admit I was skeptical at first,” Katila recalled thinking during Blank’s initial pitch. “I could not have been more wrong in my life.”

That’s because the bold idea by Blank became the Lean Startup method, which debuted in MS&E’s Lean Launchpad

course. Its impact was affirmed when the National Science Foundation called Blank for help. “We think you’ve invented the scientific method for entrepreneurship,” they told him, leading to the creation of the national I-Corps program. Its effectiveness has also been confirmed by several empirical studies run by Katila and her PhD students at STVP.

Building on that legacy, Eesley described how STVP is now addressing a new question: “How do we prepare entrepreneurial leaders not just for starting companies but to address the grand challenges that are facing society?” The focus has shifted as students increasingly ask, “How can I build something that matters?”

This mission extends from empowering refugee entrepreneurs in Uganda to embedding ethical reasoning across the curriculum and researching entrepreneurial resilience through SIER with Stanford Biodesign. With Stanford alumni having founded over 40,000 companies generating \$2.7 trillion in annual revenue, the responsibility is immense.

“The future of innovation is not going to be built by accident,” Eesley concluded. “It’s going to be built by the students we teach in the classroom today.”

Read more and watch “The Future of Entrepreneurship Education” at goto.stanford.edu/eship-playbook.

Fellows Programs

The fellows programs are at the heart of STVP, helping Stanford undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs develop as entrepreneurial leaders, understand how to navigate the venture ecosystem, and connect with a vibrant network of peers, alumni, and mentors.

Mayfield Fellows Program

The Mayfield Fellows Program turns 30 in 2026! MFP enables undergraduate and co-term students to develop leadership skills for responsible tech ventures. The program is supported by Mayfield and led by Tom Byers, professor, MS&E and faculty director, STVP; and Ann Miura-Ko, adjunct lecturer, MS&E, and partner, Floodgate.



“The Mayfield Fellows Program has instilled in me the values of principled, ethical leadership and an unwavering belief that I can create what I wish to see in the world. The combination of case-based learning, real-world experience, and learning alongside a brilliant, diverse cohort has shaped my approach to leadership, entrepreneurship, and how I want to live my life. MFP has been the most incredible experience I could’ve wished for at Stanford!”



Ahmed Muhammad
2025 MFP Fellow

Accel Leadership Program

The Accel Leadership Program trains technically minded graduate and co-term students to solve real-world problems via case-based team learning. The program is supported by Accel and led by Byers; Mo Lei Fong, adjunct lecturer, MS&E; and Steve Loughlin, partner, Accel.



“The Accel Leadership Program amplified my network and perspective in many ways. In addition to learning from various founders, mentors, and VCs, I found the ambitions, perspectives, and thoughtfulness of my peers highly inspiring. The program’s deliberate focus on fostering relationships, both within the program and across the broader entrepreneurial community, has strengthened my confidence and commitment to pursuing any future venture with an entrepreneurial mindset.”



Neha Balamurugan
2025 ALP Fellow

Threshold Venture Fellows

The Threshold Venture Fellows program, which celebrated its 10th year in 2024-25, enables master's and co-term students to develop leadership skills for the venture ecosystem. The program is supported by Threshold and led by Heidi Roizen, adjunct lecturer, MS&E, and partner, Threshold Ventures; and Aidan Madigan-Curtis, partner, Eclipse Ventures.



“The Threshold Venture Fellows program has been the highlight of my time at Stanford. From a bonding retreat in Lake Tahoe to sessions on building a decacorn, TVF has given me the skills, perspectives, and community to thrive as an entrepreneur. I will be forever grateful for the inspiring people I have met through this program and who I will take with me on my entrepreneurial journey!”



Hannah Nabavi
2025 TVF Fellow

Xfund Ethics Fellows

This student-led program helps undergraduate and co-term students develop ethical principles. It is supported by Brandon Farwell, partner, Xfund, who's also a mentor with Jack Fuchs, lecturer, MS&E, and operating partner, Blackhorn Ventures; and Mar Hershenson, adjunct lecturer, MS&E, and managing partner, Pear VC. Tom Byers is the faculty advisor.



“My experience as an Xfund Ethics Fellow reshaped how I think about impact through initiative and entrepreneurship. Through deep engagement with an inspiring cohort of fellows and leaders, I confronted ethical trade-offs in real decision-making and developed principled strategic frameworks that will guide how I build, lead, and pursue ambitious ventures.”



Han “Harrison” Lee
2025 Xfund Ethics Fellow

Emerson Consequential Scholars

Emerson Consequential Scholars helps PhDs and postdoctoral scholars apply an entrepreneurial mindset to their academic work. It is supported by Emerson Collective and led by Michael Lepech, professor, CEE; and Fern Mandelbaum, lecturer, GSB, and managing director, Emerson Collective.



“ECS has been an amazing experience so far, shaping the way I think about my future choices. Three key things that stuck with me: 1. Do the thing which you think you cannot do. From challenges comes growth and unexpected opportunities. 2. The importance of storytelling: people buy – or support or vote for, insert whatever verb – stories, so make it a good one. 3. The best email is the one you send. Do not overthink things. Execute with speed, though never at the expense of quality.”



Gennaro Liccardo
2025-26 ECS PhD Fellow

Research

We advance ground-breaking research on technology entrepreneurship and innovation.

Leading-edge scholarly research from STVP creates a deep understanding of start-up performance and growth, technology innovation, and entrepreneurial policy. Our rigorous approach provides accessible insights that entrepreneurs apply in practice, while also improving the theoretical understanding of entrepreneurship.

OUR IMPACT

60+

PhD Graduates
affiliated with STVP

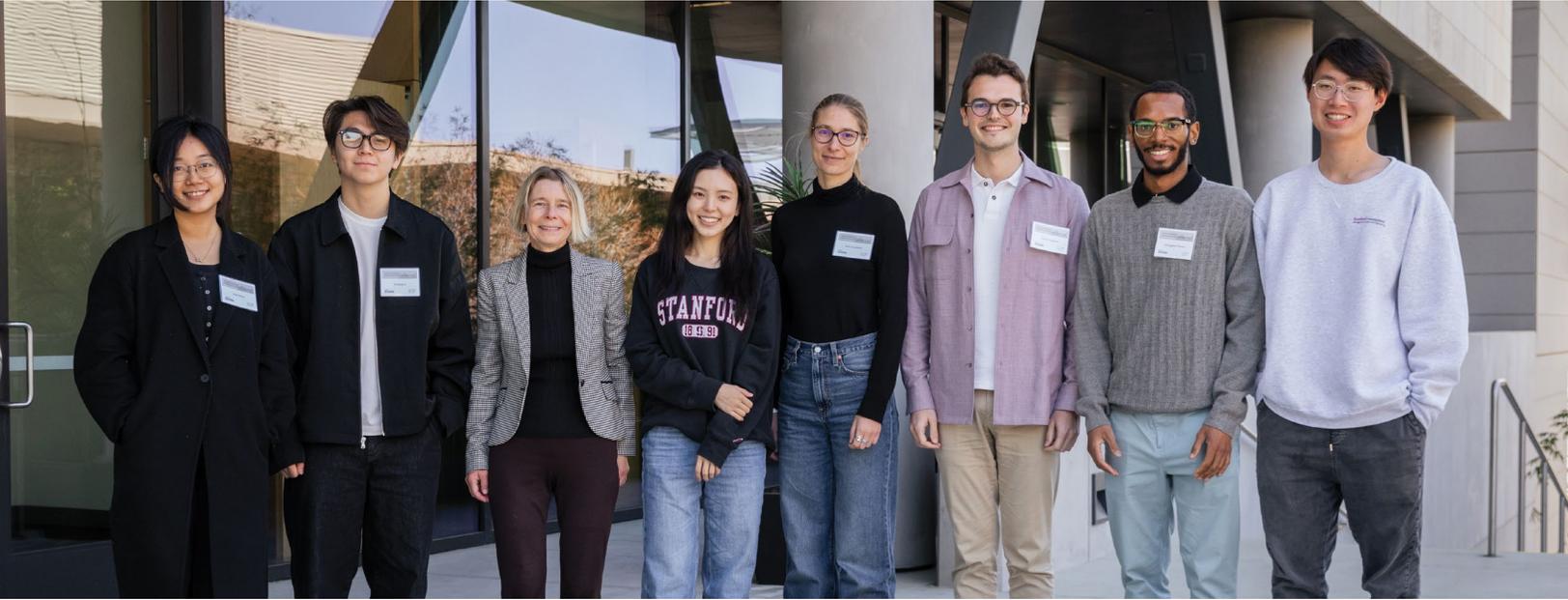
14

Research Papers
published by STVP faculty
leaders in 2025

17K

Citations
of research by STVP
faculty leaders in 2025





ABOVE STVP researchers participated in the inaugural SIER research workshop. Professor Riitta Katila (third from left) leads STVP research, and PhD students Yulia Venichenko, Fabian Tingelhoff (visiting), and Christopher Flowers (fourth, third, and second from right, respectively) presented.

Decoding Entrepreneurial Well-Being

Through SIER, STVP explores the intersection of technology, psychology, and leadership to illuminate what makes entrepreneurs thrive.

Entrepreneurship is an act of human endurance. To that end, STVP and Stanford Biodesign, in collaboration with the Stanford School of Medicine, have launched the Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs' Resilience & Well-Being (SIER), a major new effort to research and support the mental well-being that enables innovators to thrive.

The inaugural SIER research workshop showcased three STVP-affiliated researchers who are breaking new ground on this topic. "Together, these research projects analyze resilience and well-being at three levels – the individual, the team, and the leadership," explained Professor Riitta Katila, STVP faculty director.

At the individual level, Fabian Tingelhoff, a visiting researcher, presented his work on meditation with virtual reality (VR) headsets. He found that while VR has little effect on those already in a positive state, for individuals experiencing stress, the technology has a significant positive impact on mental clarity and physical relaxation. One participant noted, "Usually I am struggling to structure all my thoughts, but after [VR], it was so much easier."

At the team level, Christopher Flowers, an STVP PhD student, shared his research on belonging in the workplace. His interviews with over 60 tech workers revealed that interpersonal safety cues are defined differently for Black vs. White employees. For Black workers, work-related signals like being advocated for were more powerful indicators of belonging than general friendliness.

Finally, PhD student Yulia Venichenko shared her early work on the "paradox of psychological safety," exploring how leaders must balance safety – which fosters openness and learning – with fear-driven urgency, which can increase execution speed.

This pioneering research deepens our understanding of the entrepreneurial journey, ensuring STVP continues to shape innovators who are not only successful, but also resilient and whole.

The SIER initiative is made possible by the Li Ka Shing Foundation.

Read more about this research at goto.stanford.edu/stvp-sier-projects.

Research Highlights



ABOVE From left, STVP Professors Chuck Eesley, Kathleen Eisenhardt, and Riitta Katila.

To Boost Rural Economies, Help Talent Return Home

While digital platforms offer potential for rural entrepreneurs, their businesses often struggle due to a lack of local talent. In the paper “Take Me Home, Country Roads: Return Migration and Platform-Enabled Entrepreneurship” (in *Organization Science*), STVP Faculty Director Chuck Eesley and PhD alum Wesley Koo ask what happens when you make it easier for skilled workers to move back home.

The researchers studied a policy change in a Chinese province that reduced the barriers for urban migrants to return to their rural hometowns. The finding was striking: rural e-commerce businesses in the affected province saw an average performance gain of 19% compared to those in other provinces that didn’t share the policy.

The study found the primary driver was knowledge transfer from the returnees to local entrepreneurs. However, these benefits were not distributed evenly. Male-led businesses experienced a performance gain three times larger than female-led businesses, highlighting how social dynamics can dictate access to new knowledge. The research suggests that unlocking the full potential of rural entrepreneurship requires more than just talent mobility; it also demands an awareness of the local social dynamics that shape who ultimately benefits.

Decentralization: A Revolution or a Mirage?

For companies wrestling with the right organizational design, a sweeping new review offers a clear starting point: focus on the specific problem you are trying to solve. The paper, “Decentralization in Organizations: A Revolution or a Mirage?” (in *Academy of Management Annals*), provides this practical advice by tracing a century of organizational structures.

The authors, STVP Faculty Director Riitta Katila, Co-Director Emerita Kathleen Eisenhardt, and PhD student Philipp Reineke, identify four key “disruptions” away from traditional hierarchy: the multidivisional form, which manages complexity (think: DuPont, GE); the organic form, which fosters agility and innovation (nimble

startups); the community form, which scales shared knowledge (Wikipedia); and the platform, which mobilizes entire ecosystems (Apple, Google).

The core insight is that decentralization is neither a revolution that replaces the old, nor a mirage that changes nothing. Instead, it is an evolutionary process. New forms often retain bureaucratic elements, coexist with older structures, and can even become more centralized as they mature.

By providing this first-ever integrated map of decentralization, the research establishes a theoretical framework for the field while offering practical advice for firms looking for the right design..

For Academic Founders, Pivoting the Core Is Key to Success

As a startup mentor, have you ever wondered how to give effective feedback to your entrepreneurs? A new study, “From critique to catalyst: How academic entrepreneurs transform negative feedback into pivots and performance” (in *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*), supported by STVP and the Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs’ Resilience & Well-Being (SIER), tackles this question.

Analyzing 316 academic-led teams using the Lean Startup method – a method developed at STVP by Steve Blank and later adopted by the NSF (see story on p. 3) – STVP Faculty Director Riitta Katila and PhD alumni Carrington Motley and Michael Leatherbee found that when the core of the business idea was criticized, entrepreneurs responded with significant, productive changes. In contrast, critiques of the idea’s periphery resulted in little change.

Targeting feedback to the core – no matter how painful – proved to be a key ingredient for success: only changes to the business idea’s core were positively associated with subsequent commercialization. The lesson for founders and their mentors is clear: cultivate resilience by focusing critique on what matters most – the core.

The findings also suggest that the Lean Startup Method is more than a business tool; it is a framework that fosters entrepreneurial resilience by teaching founders how to productively engage with negative feedback.

PhD Students

Working with Management Science & Engineering research faculty, the PhD students affiliated with STVP study crucial questions that face entrepreneurs, investors, and policy-makers around the world. They go on to become thought leaders in entrepreneurship and innovation.



WAJEEHA AHMAD

Wajeeha's research interest lies at the intersection of digital platforms,

entrepreneurship, and platform regulation, particularly in examining the role of digital platforms in enabling responsible entrepreneurship and innovation, and creating shared prosperity. Before STVP, she received a BS in mathematics and a MS in technology and policy from MIT.



YIKAI CAO

Yikai's research interests focus on the impact of policies on corporate financing and the

intersection of AI with innovation and entrepreneurship. Prior to STVP, Yikai earned a bachelor of engineering in industrial engineering and a bachelor of science in statistics from Tsinghua University.



CHRISTOPHER FLOWERS

Christopher's research interests lie at the intersection of organizational behavior,

psychology, and entrepreneurship, specifically in investigating how personal identities and experiences influence entrepreneurial success. Christopher received a BS in computer science from Howard University. Prior to STVP, Christopher worked in IT consulting, venture capital, and product management. He is also a Stanford Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE) Doctoral Fellow.



CUEHYON KIM

Cuehyon holds a bachelor's degree in economics and business administration with high

honors and a master's in management from Yonsei University. Prior to STVP, she gained work experience at leading management consulting firms, including the Boston Consulting Group and Bain & Company.



YUXIANG LIU

Prior to STVP, Yuxiang gained work experience in EdTech startup, venture capital, and insurance product

analytics. Yuxiang holds a BS degree in applied mathematics and statistics and data science from the University of California, Los Angeles.



JOSH LYMAN

An entrepreneur at heart, Josh has worked with several startups, publicly traded companies, and nonprofits with the

focus on growing and investing to create a better world. He researches investing into and starting new ventures, with a focus on venture capital, entrepreneurship, corporate innovation, and the intersection between large corporate companies and startups.



ASHLEY OLDS

Ashley's research focuses on the defense materiel ecosystem, examining procurement inefficiencies

and strategies to lower barriers to entry for new industries. Her work is informed by over 16 years of military experience. She holds a BS in computer science from the United States Military Academy and an MPA from Harvard University.



PHILIPP REINEKE

Prior to joining STVP, Philipp worked as a pre-doctoral research associate at INSEAD

Paris. He also worked in different startups and management consultancies. Philipp holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the WHU - Otto Beisheim School of Management and a master's degree with distinction in organizational behavior from the London School of Economics.



YULIA VENICHENKO

Yulia holds a BS in engineering from National University of BioResources and

Nature Management, Ukraine, as well as an MS in scientific computing from Heidelberg University, Germany. Before studying with STVP, Yulia worked as a research associate at INSEAD Paris. She also worked as data scientist at CERN robotics group, Geneva.



GUANKAI ZHAI

Guankai's research focuses on entrepreneurship in emerging economies, examining how small firms

navigate supply chain fragility and institutional uncertainty. This interest stems from his experience co-founding a hardware startup. He holds a degree in computer science from Cornell University.



XILAN ZHANG

Before joining STVP, Xilan completed her bachelor's degree in economics and finance at Tsinghua

University. Previously, she worked as a research professional at the Becker Friedman Institute for Economics at the University of Chicago and as a data analysis intern at a tech startup in China.

RECENT GRADUATE



ZAHRA HEJRATI

Dissertation:

"Intertwined Beginnings: How Opportunity, Teams, and Networks Co-Evolve

in Early Venture Formation"

VISITING RESEARCHER



FABIAN TINGELOFF

University of St. Gallen, Switzerland

Community

We scale responsible innovation practices with stakeholders in communities around the world.

STVP is leading an inclusive, global movement that elevates the standards of entrepreneurship. Working with diverse communities of entrepreneurship educators, startup teams, investors, and policymakers, we strengthen ecosystems together.

OUR IMPACT

500+

Educational Institutions
utilize Entrepreneurial
Thought Leaders content

100K+

Subscribers
to STVP's eCorner
YouTube channel

1,000

Annual Participants
in executive education
programs from STVP faculty





ABOVE From left, President Jonathan Levin, Dean Jennifer Widom, and Google co-founder Sergey Brin close out the School of Engineering Centennial with a special Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders seminar. (Photo: Saul Bromberger)

A Centennial Conversation

Google co-founder and Stanford alum Sergey Brin joined a special edition of ETL that served as the capstone to the School of Engineering Centennial.

The culmination of the 2025 Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders (ETL) series was a conversation featuring Google co-founder and Stanford alum Sergey Brin with President Jonathan Levin and Dean Jennifer Widom. Conceived by Stanford Adjunct Lecturer and ETL instructor Emily Ma of Google DeepMind, the event served as the capstone for the School of Engineering Centennial and drew a packed house to Hauck Auditorium.

Seated next to the original Google server (normally housed in the Huang Engineering Center just outside STVP's office), Brin talked about the ways being at Stanford shaped his thinking and trajectory. Noting that many large companies struggle to stay innovative, President Levin probed into Google's enduring success: "How do you think about fostering a culture of innovation?"

Brin's answer pointed directly to the company's academic origins and a willingness to take risks. "We have had a long list of failures at the same time, so part of it is just trying," he said. "Because of the academic

roots, maybe we were more inclined to try hard things. And coming into this last decade or so, especially, the hard things have become more and more valuable." This ethos is crucial during the current AI boom, he explained, because "it has happened to be the case that the deep, hard tech has become increasingly important."

Fielding questions from ETL students, Brin also shared insights on his personal history of overcoming challenges. When asked about limiting beliefs, he discussed his childhood move from the Soviet Union to the US. "I have had the experience of expanding my world that seemed very painful at the time, but later paid off, just because of my personal history," he said. "Those challenging transitions can pay off."

Intellectual challenges have also proven to be crucial for Brin. He shared that he had retired just before the pandemic with the vision to "sit in cafes and study physics." Ultimately, however, the value of a technical, creative outlet was too important to ignore, drawing him back to Google to work on what became Gemini.

Watch Sergey Brin's ETL episode at goto.stanford.edu/sergey-brin-etl.

ETL ENTREPRENEURIAL THOUGHT LEADERS

The Stanford Seminar for Aspiring Entrepreneurs

For nearly 25 years, the Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders series has served as the gateway to entrepreneurship for tens of thousands of Stanford students while inspiring entrepreneurs and innovators around the world.

In spring 2025, the *Stanford Daily* reported that MS&E 472, the Stanford seminar course associated with ETL, was Stanford's fifth most popular graduate course, and the seventh most popular course overall. This level of engagement reflects the relevance of the series as our speakers explore timely themes in entrepreneurial resilience, artificial intelligence, deep tech, and more. Here's a sampling of speakers who visited in 2024-25.



Jane Chen, Embrace Global
(November 2025)

“My first year in India was so overwhelming.... In a team meeting, I started crying, and afterwards I was mortified. It was all men reporting to me at that time. My head of operations approached me and said, ‘Jane, thank you so much for being vulnerable, because when you’re vulnerable, it gives us all permission to be vulnerable as well.’”



Tina Seelig, Stanford Knight-Hennessy Scholars
(October 2025)

“Luck is a long game, and the choices you make today determine the choices that you will have in the future. You get to choose every single day – you get to choose how you want to engage with the opportunities in your midst.”



Stanley Tang, DoorDash
(April 2025)

“What’s the company you are trying to build here? Are you trying to optimize for an IPO, or are you trying to build something much bigger and longer lasting – something that would empower local business and local economy around the world? For me, that’s a forever internal mission.”



Eric Volmar, Stanford Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation
(November 2025)

“I got to work on some of the biggest topics on the biggest stages with some of the best people I’ve ever known in my life. You have that chance as well. Now, it may not be serving in government – there are so many ways to serve for society’s big missions. But the key point here is that it will involve policy, and it will involve new forms of capital.”

For full talks from these and other speakers, visit stvp.stanford.edu/series/etl.

Inaugural SIER Talk Features Reid Hoffman



To launch its inaugural Distinguished Lectureship, the Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs' Resilience & Well-Being (SIER) welcomed LinkedIn co-founder and Stanford alumnus Reid Hoffman.

In a wide-ranging conversation with Tina Seelig, STVP director emerita, Hoffman shared strategies for navigating the “valley of the shadow” moments that nearly all startups face. He emphasized two pillars of resilience: a strong personal network for perspective and solidarity, and a mission-driven culture that provides purpose during hardship.

Commitment to a shared mission, he argued, offers a vital emotional buffer against the fear of failure, transforming how founders view setbacks. “If we fail, we failed at trying to do something that was really important,” Hoffman explained.

The event, which drew hundreds from across the Stanford community to the Huang Engineering Center, marked a powerful start for SIER, an initiative co-led by STVP and Stanford Biodesign to research and support founder well-being.

Watch the SIER Distinguished Lectureship at sier.stanford.edu/events/distinguished-lectureship.

Steve Blank Honored for Revolutionizing Entrepreneurial Strategy



Adjunct Professor Steve Blank, the “Father of Modern Entrepreneurship,” received the prestigious Strategy Leadership Impact Award from the Strategic Management Society for his work transforming how startups are built.

In his acceptance speech, Blank shared the fundamental insight that sparked the Lean Startup movement: the realization that startups are not just smaller versions of large companies.

“Large companies were executing known business models, but startups? Startups were searching for business models,” he explained. “This distinction between startup search and large company execution had never been clearly articulated. We needed to reframe entrepreneurship as a strategic process, not a financial one.” (Read more on p. 3.)

Recognizing that founders lacked a shared methodology for their search, Blank dedicated himself to creating one. His development of the Customer Development Methodology and Lean Startup frameworks has since revolutionized how entrepreneurship is taught and practiced at Stanford and around the world.

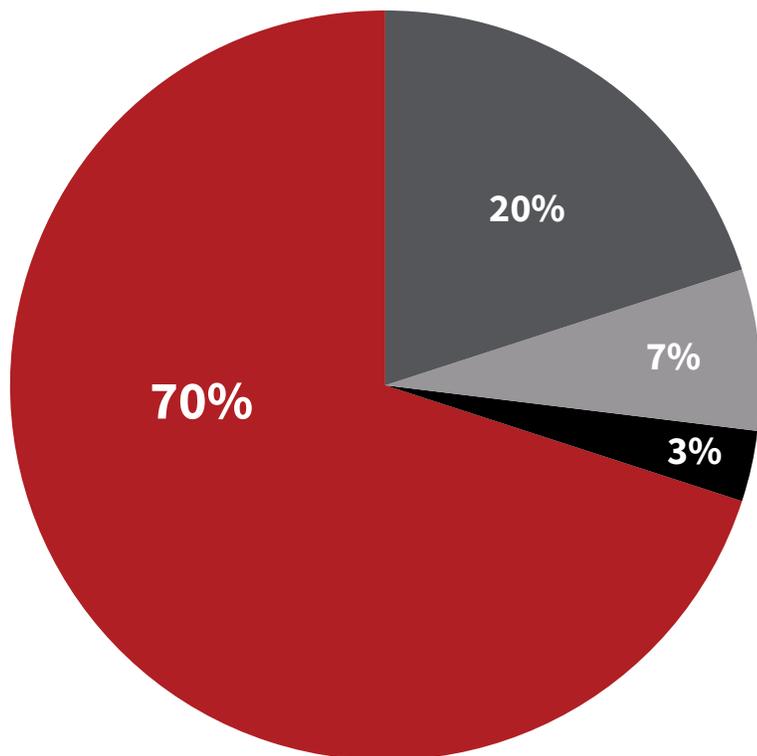
Support

Thank you to the alumni, friends, and organizations who generously support STVP. Your support is critical to fueling our impact.



WHERE OUR SUPPORT COMES FROM

STVP relies on the generous financial support of alumni, friends, and organizations for more than 90 percent of our operating budget each year.



Revenue Sources

-  Institutional Gifts
-  Individual Gifts
-  University Funding
-  Earned Income

Empower the Future of Innovation

Since 1997, STVP has connected education, research, and the innovation community to lead a global movement in entrepreneurship education and practice.

Join us in transforming the future of technology entrepreneurship through visionary programs, labs, and initiatives. Your contributions in the following areas will drive powerful opportunities for students, faculty, and global innovators to create and scale responsible innovations with global impact.

Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders (ETL) Series

Help supply entrepreneurs globally with insights from industry giants through our weekly lecture series, featuring luminaries who have shaped the future of technology, business, and philanthropy.

Global Entrepreneurship

Fuel worldwide innovation by enabling explorations of regional startup dynamics, and building a network of entrepreneurs who cross borders and cultures to solve pressing global issues.

Climate & Sustainability

Confront the climate crisis head-on by empowering entrepreneurs with the knowledge and skills to drive sustainable solutions, collaborate globally, and innovate for a greener planet.

Ethics in Entrepreneurship

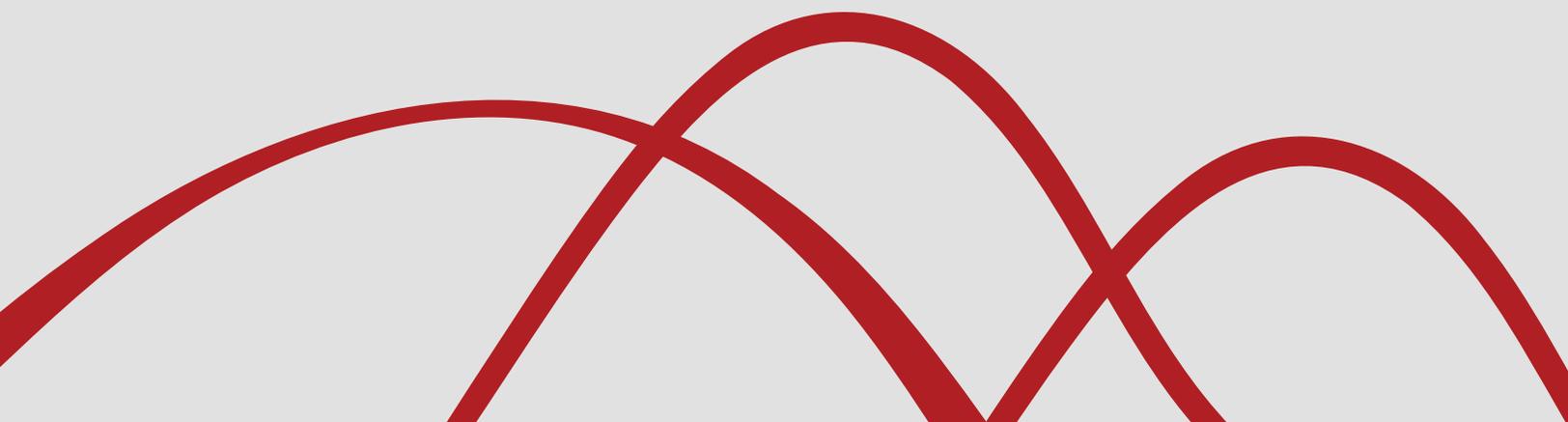
Shape a new era of responsible innovation by fostering ethical decision-making in entrepreneurs who will tackle global challenges with integrity.

Stanford Initiative for Entrepreneurs' Resilience & Well-Being (SIER)

Elevate entrepreneurial success by nurturing resilience and mental well-being, supported by pivotal research and tailored programs.

GOING FURTHER WITH YOUR SUPPORT

Contribute your time or resources to help us educate leaders who will solve the major challenges of the 21st century. Please contact stvp@stanford.edu to learn more about how your generosity can have a meaningful and enduring impact, or visit stvp.stanford.edu/giving-to-stvp to make your gift today!



People

Center Leadership

Tom Byers

Professor, MS&E and Faculty Director, STVP

Chuck Eesley

Associate Professor, MS&E and Faculty Director, STVP

Kathleen Eisenhardt

Professor, MS&E and Co-Director Emerita, STVP

Riitta Katila

Professor, MS&E and Faculty Director, STVP

Michael Lepech

Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering and Faculty Director, STVP

Tina Seelig

Executive Director, Knight-Hennessy Scholars and Director Emerita, STVP

Ashlea Wallington

Executive Director, STVP

Affiliated Faculty

Tom Byers

Management Science & Engineering

Joseph Desimone

Chemical Engineering

Chuck Eesley

Management Science & Engineering

Kathleen Eisenhardt

Management Science & Engineering

Ashish Goel

Management Science & Engineering

Pamela Hinds

Management Science & Engineering

Riitta Katila

Management Science & Engineering

Arvind Karunakaran

Management Science & Engineering

Michael Lepech

Civil & Environmental Engineering

Amin Saberi

Management Science & Engineering

Alicia Sheares

Management Science & Engineering

Robert Sutton

Management Science & Engineering

Melissa Valentine

Management Science & Engineering

Staff

Irene Hsu

Finance and Administrative Manager

Mandy Llerena-Weiks

Program Manager

Holly McCall

Program Manager

Anthony Ruth

Director of Strategic Communications

Pamela Sziebert

Director of Product and Programs

Ashlea Wallington

Executive Director

Adjunct Faculty

Ravi Belani

Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders Seminar, Entrepreneurship: Principles & Perspectives

Jeff Epstein

The Lean Launchpad

Steve Blank

The Lean Launchpad, Hacking for Defense

Joe Felter

Hacking for Defense

Mo Fong

Accel Leadership Program

Jack Fuchs

Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions, Xfund Ethics Fellows

Mar Hershenson

The Lean Launchpad, Xfund Ethics Fellows

Rebeca Hwang

Technology Entrepreneurship

Vimbayi Kajese

Entrepreneurship without Borders

Perry Klebahn

Launchpad: Design and Launch Your Product or Service

Trevor Loy

Entrepreneurial Management & Finance

Michael Lyons

Venture Creation for the Real Economy

Emily Ma

Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders Seminar, Entrepreneurship: Principles & Perspectives

Fern Mandelbaum

Emerson Consequential Scholars

Ann Miura-Ko

Mayfield Fellows Program, Secret Foundations of Scalable Startups

Pedram Mokrian

Venture Creation for the Real Economy, Technology Entrepreneurship

Valerie Red-Horse Mohl

Entrepreneurship for Social and Racial Equity

Heidi Roizen

Threshold Venture Fellows

Scott Sandell

Principled Entrepreneurial Decisions

Jeff Schox, Esq.

Patent Law and Strategy for Innovators and Entrepreneurs

Lynda Kate Smith

Global Entrepreneurial Marketing

Anand Subramani

Introduction to Product Management

Eric Volmar

Entrepreneurship Inside Government

Steven Weinstein

The Lean Launchpad, Hacking for Defense

Victoria Woo

Global Entrepreneurial Marketing

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Stanford University and Alchemist Accelerator

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Livewell Neurosurgery

Dan Dorosin

Fenwick & West

Jack Fuchs

Stanford University and Blackhorn Ventures

Tess Hatch

Stifel Bank

Mar Hershenson

Stanford University and Pear VC

William Hsu

Mucker Capital

Grace Isford

Lux Capital

Steve Loughlin

Accel

Emily Ma

Stanford University and Google

Andy Miller

Google

Ann Miura-Ko

Stanford University and Floodgate

Andrew Nelson

University of Oregon

Emily Redmond

Perplexity

Josh Reeves

Gusto

Kit Rodgers

Rambus

Juliet Rothenberg

Google



Professor and STVP Faculty Director Chuck Eesley speaks at MS&E's 25th anniversary.



STVP Co-director Emerita Kathy Eisenhardt (second from right) debates whether there are limits to firm scale at the Strategic Management Society conference.



STVP Faculty Directors (from left) Tom Byers, Tina Seelig (emerita), and Mike Lepech at the inaugural SIER Distinguished Lectureship.



Christopher Flowers, STVP PhD student, at the inaugural SIER research workshop.



Anthony Ruth, director of strategic communications, presents on STVP's approach to ethical entrepreneurship at the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers conference.



STVP faculty, PhD students, and staff celebrate the end of the academic year at the Stanford Golf Learning Center.

STVP

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