

Growth, Innovation, Economies of Scale and the Pace of Life; Developing a Quantitative, Predictive, Science of Cities, Companies and Sustainability

14 March 2016 | 3:00– 5:00pm | MND Auditorium
Networking & Registration from 3:00pm
(guests to be seated by 3:30pm) | Free Admission
Prior registration required [here](#).



Why do companies eventually die whereas cities grow and life accelerates? How is this related to innovation, wealth creation, social networks, and global sustainability? As centers of power, engines of innovations and wealth creation, cities are also prime sources of crime, pollution, disease, climate change and consuming resources. Despite their extraordinary complexity and diversity, there is no integrated, quantitative, predictive, mechanistic framework for understanding cities' dynamics, growth and organization. Ideas for developing such a theory will be discussed and extended to companies to address the implications for growth, development, and long-term sustainability.

Speaker:



Dr Geoffrey WEST

Distinguished Professor and Past President
Santa Fe Institute

Geoffrey West is a theoretical physicist whose primary interests have been in fundamental questions in physics, especially those concerning the elementary particles, their interactions and cosmological implications. West served as SFI President from July 2005 through July 2009. Prior to joining the Santa Fe Institute as a Distinguished Professor in 2003, he was the leader, and founder, of the high energy physics group at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where he is one of only approximately ten Senior Fellows.

Moderator:



Mr Aaron Maniam

Director, Industry Division
Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI)

Aaron Maniam is currently Director (Industry) at MTI, responsible for coordinating economic policies on manufacturing, services and tourism. He first joined the Singapore government in 2004, working in the Foreign Service. Later, he was posted to the Strategic Policy Office (SPO), where he began working on scenario planning and analysis of long-term issues relevant to Singapore. After that, he was appointed the first Head of the Centre for Strategic Futures, while retaining his SPO portfolio. He was subsequently appointed Director of the Institute of Policy Development at the Civil Service College (CSC), where he started the CSC Applied Simulation Training Laboratory, and led efforts to develop public sector understanding of complexity and governance issues.

About CLC

The Centre for Liveable Cities was set up in 2008 by the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, based on a strategic blueprint developed by Singapore's Inter-Ministerial Committee on Sustainable Development. Guided by its mission to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities, the Centre's work spans four main areas - Research, Capability Development, Knowledge Platforms and Advisory. The CLC Lecture Series is a platform for urban experts to share their knowledge with other practitioners. For more information, please visit: <http://www.clc.gov.sg>

**For enquiries, please contact Grace LAU at grace_lau@mnd.gov.sg
DID: +65 6645 9580 Fax: +65 6221 0232**