



MIT Enterprise Forum of DC & Baltimore Presents

Celebrating Startups!

Annual Gala 2011
Embassy of France
March 29, 2011

Program

Main Hall

6:00-6:30 pm Appetizers & French Wine w/ Pianist Peter Lavagnino
6:30-7:40 pm Dinner
7:15 pm Welcome by **François Delattre**, Ambassador of France to the United States

Auditorium

7:45-9:15 pm Moderated by Halima Aquino, MITEF Chapter Chair

Introduction to the MIT Enterprise Forum
Halima Aquino, MITEF Chapter Chair

MIT Enterprise Forum Entrepreneurial Success Stories
Moderated by Ira Gershkoff, MITEF Chapter Vice Chair
Scott Sklar, CEO, The Stella Group
Ven Chava, CEO, AirArts

President Barack Obama's Startup America Initiative
Thomas Kalil, Deputy Director for Policy, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), The White House

Startup America Partnership
Scott Case, CEO, Startup America Partnership

Main Hall

9:15-10:00 pm Coffee & Dessert
Roland Celette, Cultural Attaché at Embassy of France

French Connection Trivia Competition
Fredric Abramson, CEO, AlphaGenics

Closing Remarks
Halima Aquino, MITEF Chapter Chair



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Success Stories



Scott Sklar

Founder/CEO, The Stella Group

Scott Sklar founded and heads The Stella Group, Ltd., a strategic marketing and policy firm advancing the utilization of clean, distributed energy applications. He also promotes alternative energy through his leadership of the Solar Energy Industries Association and the National BioEnergy Industries Association. Prior to founding The Stella Group, he was Political Director of the Solar Lobby and served at the National Center for Appropriate Technology. For nine years, Sklar was an energy and military aide to Senator Jacob K Javits (NY) and co-founded the Congressional Solar Coalition—the group that drove the early 1970's legislation for renewable energy. He serves as Steering Committee Chair of the Sustainable Energy Coalition, sits on the national Boards of Directors of the Business Council for Sustainable Energy and the Renewable Energy Policy Project, and was recently appointed to the Department of Commerce's Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Advisory Committee. Sklar is an Adjunct Professor at George Washington University.



Ven Chava

Co-Founder/CEO, AirArts Inc.

Ven Chava is a seasoned technologist and executive in mobile wireless networks and applications field. Ven has held senior leadership positions in Fortune 500 as well as successful startup companies such as Sprint, Nextel, Sybase 365, SkyBitz and Hughes. Ven is currently working on developing 4G mobile device development as well as commercializing an exciting new technology called TalkingTag™ Digital Labels, which can be used to record voice memories and notes on photo albums, greeting cards, gifts, Post-It® notes and many other lifestyle objects. Ven's past experience includes developing and launching many innovative and revenue generating products including the world's largest IP based SMS messaging inter-carrier network that contributed to over 70% of the data ARPU for wireless carriers in the US. Ven has spoken widely in the industry covering various mobile broadband and infrastructure topics.



Thomas Kalil

Deputy Director for Policy, Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), The White House

Thomas Kalil is currently serving as the Deputy Director for Policy for the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and Senior Advisor for Science, Technology and Innovation for the National Economic Council.

Tom is on leave from UC Berkeley, where he was Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Science and Technology at UC Berkeley. He was responsible for developing major new multi-disciplinary research and education initiatives at the intersection of information technology, nanotechnology, microsystems, and biology. He also conceived and launched a program called “Big Ideas @ Berkeley,” which provides support for multidisciplinary teams of Berkeley students that are interested in addressing economic and societal challenges such as clean energy, safe drinking water, and poverty alleviation.

In 2007 and 2008, Tom was the Chair of the Global Health Working Group for the Clinton Global Initiative, where he developed new public and private sector initiatives in areas such as maternal and child health, under-nutrition, and vaccines. Tom was also a Senior Fellow with the Center for American Progress, where he co-authored A National Innovation Agenda, one of the four pillars of CAP’s Economic Plan for Plan for the Next Administration. He was also a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Nanomix, and has served on three committees of the National Academy of Sciences, including the Committee to Facilitate Interdisciplinary Research.

Previously, Tom served as the Deputy Assistant to President Clinton for Technology and Economic Policy, and the Deputy Director of the White House National Economic Council. He was the NEC’s “point person” on a wide range of technology and telecommunications issues, such as the liberalization of Cold War export controls, the allocation of spectrum for new wireless services, and investments in upgrading America’s high-tech workforce. He led a number of White House technology initiatives, such as the National Nanotechnology Initiative, the Next Generation Internet, Bridging the Digital Divide, e-learning, increasing funding for long-term information technology research, making IT more accessible to people with disabilities, and addressing the growing imbalance between support for biomedical research and for the physical sciences and engineering. He was also appointed by President Clinton to serve on the G-8 Digital Opportunity Task Force (dot force).

Prior to joining the White House, Tom was a trade specialist at the Washington offices of Dewey Ballantine, where he represented the Semiconductor Industry Association on U.S.-Japan trade issues and technology policy. He also served as the principal staffer to Gordon Moore in his capacity as Chair of the SIA Technology Committee.

Tom received a B.A. in political science and international economics from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, and completed graduate work at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He is the author of articles and op-eds on S&T policy, the use of prizes as a tool for stimulating innovation, nanotechnology, nuclear strategy, newborn health, vaccines, the impact of mobile communications in developing countries, U.S.-Japan trade negotiations, U.S.-Japan cooperation in science and technology, the National Information Infrastructure, distributed learning, and electronic commerce.



Scott Case

CEO, Startup America Partnership

Timothy “Scott” Case is a technologist, entrepreneur and inventor and was co-founder of Priceline, the “Name Your Own Price” company that was one of only a handful of startups in US history to reach a billion dollars in annual sales in less than 24 months. As Chief Technology Officer, he was responsible for building the technology that enabled Priceline’s hyper-growth.

Most recently, Scott was named CEO and to the Board of the Startup America Partnership, where he’ll invest his energy to drive American entrepreneurship to create jobs and sustain our nation’s global leadership.

Prior to joining the Startup America Partnership, Scott served as CEO of Malaria No More, where he worked to inspire individuals and institutions in the private sector to end deaths caused by malaria. Previously, Scott helped build a portfolio of intellectual property at the Walker Digital Invention Laboratory, and is a named inventor on dozens of U.S. patents including the underlying portfolio for Priceline. Scott also co-founded Precision Training Software, a software company that developed the world’s first PC-based simulated flight instructor and photo-realistic flight simulator.

Scott serves as the Chairman of Network for Good, a national nonprofit that has distributed more than \$475 million to 60,000 nonprofits and provides online fundraising and communications services to over 5,000 nonprofit organizations. He is also on the Advisory Board of By Kids for Kids, Tickets-for-Charity and ThreeJars.



Startup America Partnership

The Startup America Partnership is an alliance of the country’s most innovative entrepreneurs, corporations, foundations, and other private sector leaders working to dramatically increase the prevalence and success of high-growth enterprises in the U.S. The Partnership is the private sector’s response to President Obama’s Startup America campaign, which was launched at the White House on January 31, 2011, to celebrate, inspire, and accelerate high-growth entrepreneurship throughout the nation.

Co-funded by the Kauffman and Case Foundations, the Startup America Partnership is a private, nonprofit entity dedicated to increasing the number of new high-growth firms that are creating economic growth, innovation, and quality jobs; celebrating and honoring entrepreneurship as a core American value and source of competitive advantage; and inspiring and empowering an ever-greater diversity of communities and individuals to build great American companies.

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MIT ENTERPRISE FORUM WASHINGTON DC & BALTIMORE

The MIT Enterprise Forum (MITEF) is a global organization of volunteers supporting technology innovation. MITEF has 28 chapters worldwide, and welcomes everyone interested in advancing information technology, biotechnology, clean energy, homeland security, and all of the other technologies that enrich our lives. The MITEF Washington DC/Baltimore chapter is a vibrant organization that brings entrepreneurs, investors, professional service providers, and the rest of the entrepreneurial ecosystem together for events in Arlington VA, Rockville, MD and Baltimore. These events feature networking, early access to breakthrough technologies, business strategy, and working together to help early-stage companies succeed. Join us now at www.mitefdc.org.

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Prizes given courtesy of:

Office of Science and Technology, Embassy of France (3 bottles of Champagne)
French American Cultural Foundation (1 case of wine)