


MIT Industrial Liaison Program Faculty Knowledgebase Report

2021 MIT Perth Seminar

November 3, 2021 7:00 am - 10:00
am

7:00 AM	Welcome and Introductions
7:05 AM	Challenges in Western Australia: Government Perspective Peter Klinken Chief Scientist of Western Australia
7:20 AM	Challenges in the Oil and Gas Industry Neil Kavanagh Chief Scientist Woodside Energy
7:35 AM	Challenges in Mining and Metals Production Nigel Steward Chief Scientist Rio Tinto
7:50 AM	The Science of Innovation: How Does MIT Do This So Well? Phil Budden Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management, MIT Sloan School of Management  Phil Budden Senior Lecturer, Technological Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Strategic Management MIT Sloan School of Management Dr Phil Budden is a Senior Lecturer at MIT's Management School, in Sloan's TIES (Tech Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Strategy) Group, where he focuses on 'corporate innovation' and multi-stakeholder innovation ecosystems, especially how corporates can get value from the latter (including start-up enterprises). He works closely with corporate executives and leaders of other large organisations on such strategies, through MIT Corporate Relations/ILP, the Corporate Innovation Program (https://corporateinnovation.mit.edu), Executive Education (https://executive.mit.edu/ci) and MIT's global REAP program (https://reap.mit.edu), as well as custom and consulting work.

8:10 AM Intrapreneurship – Cultivating Internal Innovation

Kevin Desouza
Professor of Business, Technology and Strategy
Faculty of Business & Law, School of Management
[Queensland University of Technology](#)

8:30 AM From The Lab To Incorporation: MIT's Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation
Leon Sandler
Executive Director, [MIT Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation](#)



Leon Sandler
Executive Director
[MIT Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation](#)

As Executive Director of the Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation, Leon Sandler wears many hats: He is responsible for guiding the center's strategic direction, ensuring successful execution of its mission, and managing day-to-day operations.

With a strong background in the assessment of technologies for commercialization, Mr. Sandler leads a process the center calls "select, direct and connect". Through this process, faculty research projects are chosen to receive Deshpande Center grants, based on a project's potential commercial and social impact. Research teams then receive intensive guidance in how to bring their inventions to the marketplace and form new spinout companies.

Among his related duties Mr. Sandler:

- Mentors faculty and student researchers
- Coaches and lectures on technology innovation and entrepreneurship at the MIT Trust Entrepreneurship Center and the MIT Sloan executive education program
- Advises organizations around the world on how to move technologies from the lab to the marketplace
- Serves as the Deshpande Center's fundraiser-in-chief, responsible for keeping the center on a sound financial footing.

To ensure the success of all these activities, Mr. Sandler builds and continually renews a broad network of relationships. These include connections within MIT's well-developed entrepreneurial ecosystem and external ties with venture capitalists, corporate supporters, government agencies, and educational institutions.

Business, Entrepreneurial and Educational Background

Before joining the Deshpande Center in 2006, Leon Sandler held senior positions in general management, marketing, finance and business development at companies such as Boston Consulting Group, Eastman Kodak, Texas Instruments and Digital Equipment Corporation. He founded the consulting firm Monmouth Group, where he provided management, marketing and business development assistance to over twenty early-stage companies. This included co-founding and serving as the CEO of Nuvonyx, a maker of industrial laser systems; serving as CEO of several start-ups; and assisting many ventures as an interim executive or advisor.

Mr. Sandler received his B.S. degree in 1971 and his M.S. in Chemical Engineering in 1973 from Natal University in South Africa, and his M.B.A. in 1977 from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

[View full bio](#)

8:50 AM Panel Discussion – Closing the Gap

9:20 AM Global Open Innovation at Rio Tinto

Jared Osborne
General Manager Technical Development
[Rio Tinto](#)

9:35 AM Transforming Open Innovation at Woodside Energy
Fabio Mancini
Chief Geophysicist
[Woodside Energy](#)

9:50 AM Summary and Closing Remarks