

## **Entrepreneurship@Cornell Celebration 07**

### **CEN Event: “Where the Smart Money is Going Now, and Where it Might Be Headed”**

**Friday, April 20, 6-9 pm**

**196 Beck Center, Statler Hotel**

*(Cash bar, buffet reception and dessert)*

#### **Panelists:**

##### **Prashant Kantak MBA '98**

Early-Stage Venture Advisor & Consultant

Prashant Kantak founded and led QUALCOMM Ventures, a \$500M strategic venture capital fund of QUALCOMM, with operations in North America and Asia. He was actively involved with investing in over 22 portfolio companies in the US and led investments in several startup companies including Paypal, Air Prime, GTRAN Wireless, PacketVideo, Iridigm, Airvana, Discera and JAMDAT. Aside from his active involvement with the portfolio companies of the fund, he created strategic linkages, co-development and business partnerships between the startup companies and QUALCOMM operating units and partners in the wireless value chain. He was also responsible for various corporate development efforts including technology and business strategy, strategic alliances, partnerships and acquisitions.

Prashant has over 18 years of business and technical experience in the field of telecommunications. He was with QUALCOMM since 1990 in various technical and business management positions. He participated in the early definition and development of CDMA systems and thereafter developed key ASICs for their implementations both on the infrastructure and mobile side. He has also designed and implemented innovative DSP architectures for mobile communications that form the core platform for QUALCOMM's commercial ASICs. Kantak has an MBA from Cornell University and a MS and BS in Electrical Engineering.

##### **Angela K. Mwanza MBA '00**

Vice President

Lehman Brothers

Angela is an Investment Representative at Lehman Brothers Private Investment Management managing a team that advises wealthy individuals and their families, charitable organizations, endowments, and corporations on sophisticated strategies to preserve, grow and transfer wealth. Prior to joining Lehman Brothers, Angela worked in a similar role at Fleet Private Clients Group, having begun her financial services career at the J.P.Morgan Private Bank where she managed the U.S. Mutual Funds Desk.

Angela is on the Dean's Leadership Committee for the Johnson Graduate School of Management, the Advisory Board for [Entrepreneurship@Cornell](#), the Advisory Board for the Rhythm & Blues Foundations, and is also a committee member of the Harlem YMCA and of God's Love We Deliver, a New York City AIDS charity.

Angela holds an MA in Linguistics from the University of Konstanz, Germany and an MBA from the Johnson Graduate School of Management, Cornell University.

### **Donald M. Spero '61**

Managing Director  
New Markets Growth Fund

The New Markets Growth Fund is a \$20 million venture capital fund launched in 2003 under Donald Spero's leadership. It invests in early stage companies in Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. Spero is also Professor of the Practice of Entrepreneurship at the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, where he also served for four-and-a-half years as Director of the Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship. He has also provided seed capital and mentoring for entrepreneurs.

From 1971 to 1992, Dr. Spero served as the founder, president and CEO of Fusion Systems Corporation, supplying high technology manufacturing systems to global customers in telecommunications, semiconductor manufacturing, printing, packaging, automotive and other industries. The company conducted a successful IPO and was later acquired by Eaton Corporation. Dr. Spero led the company's global development and its aggressive approach to protection of intellectual property, on which he authored an article in *The Harvard Business Review*.

Dr. Spero earned his Cornell degree in Engineering Physics and his PhD in Physics from Columbia University. He serves on a number of corporate and non-profit boards.

### **Josh Wolfe '99**

Co-Founder and Managing Partner  
Lux Capital

Josh is a Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Lux Capital, focusing on investments in nanotechnology, semiconductors and life sciences. Josh manages Lux Capital's investments in Nanosys and Cambrios, and serves on the Board of Directors of Crystal IS, Genocera and Lux Research. Before forming Lux Capital, he worked in Salomon Smith Barney's Investment Banking group, where his experience included a \$4 billion hotel merger and a defense against an unsolicited LBO. Josh has also worked in capital markets while at Merrill Lynch on its Financial Futures & Options/Government Strategy desk and at Prudential Securities in its Municipal Finance department.

Prior to venturing into the financial world, Josh conducted and published cutting-edge AIDS/immunopathology research in *Cell Vision* and *The Journal of Leukocyte Biology*, leading medical/immunology journals. Josh graduated with distinction from Cornell University with a BS in Economics and Finance. Widely recognized as one of the preeminent minds in nanotechnology and finance, Josh has been invited to the White House and to advise government organizations and financial institutions on funding strategies.

Josh is a co-founder of The NanoBusiness Alliance, a columnist with *Forbes Magazine* and Editor of the monthly *Forbes/Wolfe Nanotech Report*.

### **Eric Young M Eng '78**

General Partner  
Canaan Partners

Since he co-founded Canaan in 1987, Eric has generated numerous positive investment outcomes from his active investor role in companies such as Argon Networks, Capstone Turbine, [Copper Mountain Networks](#), Diffusion Software, Frame Technology, International Network Services, Kalpana, ONI Systems, [Spectrian](#) and Visigenic Software.

Eric is leading Canaan's portfolio of investments in the power, energy and semiconductor sectors. He became an early investor in energy-related clean technologies in the early 1990s starting with Transphase Systems and Capstone Turbine, the world leader in the microturbine power generation equipment marketplace. Recently, Eric has been advising Zolo Technologies on their development of greener power through optical technologies.

Prior to Canaan, Eric was a Senior Vice President of GE Venture Capital where he initiated a number of successful investments in companies such as Nellcor and Octel Communications.

Eric holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University and a MBA from Northwestern University. He currently sits on the boards of [Captara](#), [Cortina Systems](#), [eBates Shopping](#) and [Lancope](#).