



Azim Premji University Colloquium Series

presents a Lecture

"Riding Singularities with Second Half Technologies"

Speaker

Vijay Chandru, Chairman, Strand Life Sciences

Date: February 10, 2017 (Friday)

Time: 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm

Venue: Seminar Hall, 10th Floor, Pixel A, Azim Premji University

About the Lecture

We are in an exceptional era in which we have the confluence of at least three technologies (mechanical automation, computing & communications and molecular biology) that have reached exponential scale. We call them second half technologies invoking the metaphor of exponential growth embodied in the fable of *Paal Payasam* and rice grains doubling on the squares of a chessboard. How do we work, progress and prosper in this context of brilliant technology innovations that are appearing out of the woodworks at an alarming rate? Recombinant innovation seems to be a key strategy that translational research and entrepreneurship in India can look forward to in the next decade.

About the Speaker

Vijay Chandru earned his doctorate in Decision Sciences at MIT in 1982 and joined the faculty of Engineering at Purdue soon after. He served as a professor at Purdue for the next ten years before returning to join the faculty at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. He was elected a fellow of the Indian Academies of Science and Engineering. He is the current president of the Operations Research Society of India for a two year term 2017-2018. Professor Chandru serves as an adjunct faculty member of BioSystems Science & Engineering and a visiting professor of the Robert Bosch Centre for CyberPhysical Systems at IISc. He was a co-inventor of the "Simputer" which was India's visionary contribution to handheld computing that was launched in 2001. He now leads India's leading precision medicine company *Strand Life Sciences*, the first example of faculty entrepreneurship in India. He was awarded the President's Medal of INFORMS (Institute for Operations research and Management Science,

USA) and Technology Pioneer of the World Economic Forum in 2006. *India Today* included him in the list of 50 Pioneers of Change in 2008.