Canadian Faculty 2019
Singularity University (SU) was co-founded in 2008 at the NASA Research Park in Mountain View, California.

We are not a “traditional academic university,” but rather a think-tank and an ecosystem of world-renowned technology experts, social entrepreneurs and leading futurists.

We help inform, inspire and transform individuals and organisations to create a more abundant future and shape our collective future.

SingularityU Canada is a Canadian not-for-profit that was founded in 2017 in an effort to bring this important global movement to Canada.
WHAT WE DO

SingularityU Canada is a customizable platform for guided exploration. A forum that brings uncommon partners together to engage in strategic conversations about our (possible) future.

We create ongoing engagement so you can get ahead of the curve with the mindset, skillset and network you need in order to harness the power of new disruptive business models before they’re used against you.
Meet Our Faculty
Allyson has assisted hundreds of social ventures in becoming economically sustainable and increase their social impact.

She has developed and helps lead the social innovation programs at MaRS which has included Social Innovation Generation (SiG); the Centre for Impact Investing; Solutions Lab; and Studio Y which is helping develop leaders for the success in the innovation economy. She leads the programming in cross-sectoral collaboration. Allyson is currently leading an initiative to determine how best to engage corporate Canada in solving our most complex challenges. She is a member of the federal Social Innovation and Social Finance Strategy Co-Creation Steering Group which is preparing a strategy for the government of Canada to advance and support innovation with high impact social outcomes. Allyson is the Social Entrepreneur in Residence at the University of Waterloo and a lecturer in Social Entrepreneurship and CSR. She is also on the Dean’s Council at the Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson University and is an educator/mentor in many programs related to social innovation & entrepreneurship.

Allyson Hewitt
Social Impact Faculty

See Allyson Hewitt at The Inaugural Thinkers in Residence Q&A
Ryan is the CTO of Clearpath. He drives research and development of the OTTO industrial self driving vehicle software and guides the continued expansion of Clearpath’s world-leading efforts in supporting robotics researchers.

He is also a co-founder of the Robot Operating System developers’ conference and is a member of a variety of industrial and academic steering committees. He is on the Board of Directors for the Open Source Robotics Foundation and Next Generation Manufacturing Canada.

He has completed a bachelor’s degree in mechatronics engineering and a master’s degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Waterloo, and has over two dozen pending patents in the field of intelligent systems. His previous work experience included UAV user experience and control systems design at Aeryon Labs followed by deployment and systems analysis on fleets of robots at Kiva Systems (now Amazon Robotics).

See Ryan Gariepy’s interview on Bloomberg News
She is the founder and Director of the Impact Centre, an institute that aims to bring science to society, and the inaugural Academic Director of University of Toronto Entrepreneurship. Her research interests centers on the interactions and properties of very large molecules, which has impact on nanotechnology, biomaterials and biodiagnostics. Her research has led to 8 science-based companies, which she has co-founded with her students, including: Axela, Vive Crop Protection, Pueblo Science and Phantin. In 2003, she originated Entrepreneurship101, an introduction for students who want to be entrepreneurs, which has expanded to thousands registered annually. Professor Goh has given invited lectures on her scientific research results, on their translation to useful products, and on the process of innovation and the training of scientist-entrepreneurs.

Dr. Maria Cynthia Goh
Nanotech Faculty

See Prof. Cynthia Goh discuss her work at U of T's Impact Centre
He is the author of numerous books on architecture and urbanism, including See Through Ledoux; Architecture Theatre, and the Pursuit of Transparency; Monolithic Architecture; and Figures: Essays on Contemporary Architecture. El-Khoury’s leads RAD-UM, a research lab for embedded technology and robotics aiming at enhancing responsiveness and resilience in buildings and smart cities. The work of his firm, Khoury Levit Fong (KLF), has won international awards.

El-Khoury’s work has been featured in national and international media outlets that cut across disciplines ranging from WIRED Magazine to the Wall Street Journal to the Space Channel to BBC World. He has shared his work through teaching, visiting professorships and lectures at dozens of institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Rodolphe El-Khoury

Future Cities and Architecture Faculty

Dr. el-Khoury is Dean of the University of Miami School of Architecture. Trained as both a historian and a designer, he divides his time between scholarship, research, and practice.

Learn more about Dr. Rodolphe el-Khoury work at the University of Miami School of Architecture
Anuj Chandarana

Future of Work Faculty

He has been with Google, in data-based HR teams, for 10 years and recently joined the Google Canada management team, leading HR for Sales. Prior to joining Google, he taught in the area of Accounting & Finance at the Richard Ivey School of Business and also consulted with Mercer HR Consulting. He holds MBA and HBA degrees from the Richard Ivey School of Business.

Anuj is HR Business Partner at Google Canada.
Dr. Adam is a creative scientist and food futurist who combines a background in engineering, biology, and technology with his passions for eating and design in the exploration of global eating futures.

He is a thinker and maker who creates defining multi-sensorial food experiences including products, new technologies, immersive dining installations, and interactive workshops. As Founder and Creative Scientific Director of Future Food Studio, Dr. Irwin Adam leads multi-disciplinary teams in re-imagining how we interact with food at every scale. Major projects have included Museum of Ice Cream (NYC/LA), wndr Museum (Chicago), Food Loves Tech (NYC), and Sensorium (Toronto). Brand collaborations include Pepsico, Unilever, General Mills, Campbell’s, Kraft, & ABI InBev with projects in the US, Canada, Middle East, and Europe.

He holds a B.Eng. and M.Eng. (Chemical Engineering) from McGill University and a PhD (Biomedical Engineering) from the University of Toronto. His current research focuses on cross-modal personalized eating.

See Dr. Irwin Adam’s Walrus Talk: Your Mouth is Transforming the World
Jane is a senior advisor with MaRS Cleantech. She is a recognized leader in sustainable innovation and has extensive experience growing successful companies at the intersection of business and sustainability.

She co-founded, grew and profitably sold a full-service renewable energy company, and leverages over 20 years of experience in venture capital, cleantech and sustainability to help build businesses that matter. Throughout her career she has worked directly with entrepreneurs and executives on project and equity financing, mergers and acquisitions, strategic planning and business development. She helped launch Columbia Business School’s first environmental finance course, which continues to be taught in the school’s MBA and EMBA programs, as well the School of International and Public Affairs. Jane is a co-founder of the CanadaCleantech Alliance, a board director at the Water Technology Acceleration Project (WaterTAP) and sits on advisory boards for StandUp Ventures, the MaRS Catalyst Fund, Shell’s Quest Climate Grant and the Pembina Institute’s UnGALA.

See Jane Kearns’ Warus Talk: The Economy versus the Environment: A False Debate
Matthew is the Founder of Aion, a world-leading blockchain protocol designed to solve the most prevalent challenges limiting blockchains mainstream adoption: Scalability, Interoperability and Governance.

Prior to his current role, Matt founded Deloitte’s first blockchain team, Rubix, and is currently an active Founding Board Member of the Enterprise Ethereum Alliance and a Founding Director of Blockchain Technology Coalition of Canada.

Matthew is a leading advocate for the potential social benefits of decentralized technologies and is working actively to establish fair and responsible rules and principles for the future governance of this important new industry. He believes blockchain is a revolutionary technology that will usher in a new future and economy based on abundance rather than scarcity.

See Matthew Spoke's Talk at the World Blockchain Forum
As Vice-President at Magnet Forensics, Neil leads strategic engagement with leaders from policing, national security and government agencies to support their digital transformations in the realm of cyber-investigations.

He previously served with the Government of Canada in senior roles at Global Affairs Canada and the Prime Minister's Office.

Neil is a Fellow with the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto. He serves on the Board of Directors of the YMCA Canada. He is also a contributor to the Globe and Mail and Policy Options Magazine. He holds a master’s degree from the London School of Economics and a bachelor's degree with honours from Carleton University.

See Neil Desai’s video on Infrastructure and Procurement Challenges in Canada
By connecting medicine, biomedical research, and entrepreneurship, Philip is striving to positively impact the health of a billion people. In 2017, Philip led a team which developed a crowdsourcing competition to End Alzheimer’s, raised $25 million USD to run the competition, and was selected as the top priority XPRIZE for launch in 2018. He has invented, patented and licensed a medical device and was part of two biomedical start-up companies. In 2014 Philip was the recipient the Outstanding Young Scientist award at the Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI) international conference. In 2016 he spent the summer in Silicon Valley at Singularity University where he applied exponential technologies to medical innovation. Philip speaks internationally on the topic of Disruptive Technology and the Future of Healthcare.

Dr. Philip Edgcumbe (PhD) is a Canadian scientist, biomedical engineer, medical innovator, doctor in training (MDPhD) and entrepreneur.

See Dr. Philip Edgcumbe’s Talk at Katapult Future Fest: Crowdsourcing for Better Healthcare.
Anne is Faculty at Singularity University at NASA Ames in Silicon Valley, teaching global leaders how exponential technologies can solve problems that impact over a billion people. She has been an active part of the global blockchain community since 2012, working with and advising notable companies including Jaxx, Ledger Labs, the ixo Foundation, and Bunz, and is currently the Vice Chair of the board of Blockchain Canada. She previously worked with Doctors Without Borders Canada in Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and currently serves on their board of directors. Anne has a Bachelor of Life Sciences from Queen's University, an MBA from McMaster University, and a Fintech Certificate from MIT. She was honoured as one of CBC’s 12 Young Leaders Changing Canada and one of the Fifty Most Inspirational Women in Technology in Canada.

Anne is passionate about harnessing blockchain and decentralized technology to transform the lives of people in developing countries.

Anne Connelly
Blockchain Faculty

See Anne Connelly speak about blockchain technology, exponential technology, and social impact.
Sanctuary is structured to explore both cutting edge technology and the ethical issues that arise from creating human-like machines. The company strives to create a micro-society in which synths can develop and be granted a safe haven as they transition into full acceptance by our wider society. Suzanne earned a PhD in Physics and Electronics at the University of Birmingham, UK, with postdoctoral research on superconducting microprocessors. Suzanne continued to refine her skills in electronics by hand building more than 30 robots over the subsequent years. After leading a group working on quantum machine learning applications at D-Wave Systems, she realised that bringing together classical robot control and cutting-edge machine learning algorithms could potentially help us achieve human-like intelligence in machines within our lifetimes.

Suzanne Gildert is founder and CEO of Sanctuary AI, a company with a mission to create ultra human-like robots – “synths” – that are indistinguishable from us physically, cognitively and emotionally.

Suzanne Gildert is founder and CEO of Sanctuary AI, a company with a mission to create ultra human-like robots – “synths” – that are indistinguishable from us physically, cognitively and emotionally.

See Suzanne Gildert’s S.U. Summit Talk: Should Robots Have Rights?
His desire to improve access to healthcare – deepened by his global volunteer experiences – inspired him to co-found Cloud DX, a Kitchener-based company utilizing unique sensors and raw data analytics to tackle grand challenges in health care. Sonny and Cloud team DX were recently bestowed with the “Bold Epic Innovator” award in the Qualcomm Tricorder XPRIZE competition for their Vitaliti solution. He is formerly a Canadian Space Agency astronaut candidate, trained Flight Surgeon and alumnus of the International Space University, where he was a member of a team that tested and deployed the IRIS experiment on the International Space Station.

Dr. Sonny Kohli is a practising Canadian Internist and Critical care physician, and faculty at McMaster University.
In his native of Israel, he spent five years as a Technology Captain in the Israeli intelligence. He is well-versed to the changes occurring in the tech world, as he was exposed to cutting-edge technologies during his time in the military. He left to join a startup, Wise Solutions, that identifies unique cybersecurity solutions to help large enterprises protect themselves. There, he built a technical team and mentored several young companies in product and sales development.

In Canada, Oren joined Deloitte’s national innovation office, where he was responsible for identifying disruptive technologies and trends. He encouraged Deloitte to open Singularity U Canada. Today, Oren leads SingularityU Canada where his focus is on helping leaders and organizations take a step back and build an understanding of how exponential technologies are fundamentally changing the way we live and work.

Oren is a catalyst for innovation and exploration. A seasoned speaker, leader and entrepreneur, Oren’s passion has long been the intersection of technology and big ideas.

Oren Berkovich
CEO, SingularityU Canada
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