

SVCE Speaker Events 2015

November 9, 2015

- Topic:** **Market Size: a Venture Capital perspective**
- Where:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 225/229
- Time:** 6-7:30 pm, Monday, November 9, 2015
- Speaker:** Ashmeet Sidana, Founder & Managing Partner, Engineering Capital
- Registration:** [Register Here](#)



Ashmeet is the Founder and Managing Partner of [Engineering Capital](#). His experience includes managing venture capital funds, serving on multiple Boards of Directors, and helping build the industry leading products VMware ESX Server and Silicon Graphics WebFORCE. Before this last decade as a venture capitalist Ashmeet was an operating executive with hands-on operating experience as a CEO and Entrepreneur. Previous investments/Boards include Freewheel (acquired by Comcast), InQuira (acquired by Oracle), Altor (acquired by Juniper), Appurify (acquired by Google) and PrivateCore (acquired by Facebook). Previous investments/Boards (not yet realized) include Zetta.net, SimplyHired and Azure Power. Ashmeet came to venture from VMware, where he ran product management for their flagship product - ESX Server. Before VMware, Ashmeet was the Founder and CEO of Sidana Systems, Inc. He started his career at Hewlett Packard and Silicon Graphics as an engineer. Ashmeet received an MBA from Wharton, MS in Computer Science from Stanford University and a BS in Computer Science from USC. In his spare time he can be found planning his second trip to Mt. Everest.

October 19, 2015

- Topic:** **From Farmers to Entrepreneurs: Lessons from an Innovative Program in Israel**
- Where:** SJSU Student Union Theater
- Time:** 6-7:30 pm, Monday, October 19, 2015

Speakers:

Hanni Arnon, founder & Director, AICAT, Israel

Zohar Levkovitz, founder & former CEO, Amobee



Hanni Arnon is Founder & Executive Director of the Arava International Center for Agriculture Training (AICAT), which is located in Sapir, Israel, in the Negev Desert. Hanni moved to the Arava with her husband in 1981. She founded AICAT in 1994 to bring young farmers from developing countries to the Central Arava, so they could take home knowledge of its arid agricultural techniques and innovative farming practices. AICAT's founding aim was to become a leading authority in professional agricultural studies and to form global collaborations. It has graduated over 10,000 students, and aims to expand its program.



Zohar Levkovitz is the founder and former CEO of Amobee, the leading mobile corporation for far reaching mobile advertising. Within just a few years Amobee reached hundreds of millions of people and began a revolution in the way advertising can truly utilize the mobile medium. Amobee was sold for over \$300M. Zohar was recognized as Entrepreneur of the Year™ 2011 in California, CEO of the Year 2010 in Israel, and Technology Pioneer for the World Economic Forum, all of which attest to his mark on the face of world advertising and the power to affect change. Prior to Amobee, Zohar was at the forefront of mobile and internet technology development for over a decade. As former CTO of Comverse 3G, MMS and WAP Push activities, Zohar led the development and compilation of several architectures and concepts, currently accepted as standards by the global telecom industry. Initially from a small Kibbutz in the north of Israel, Zohar journeyed from copywriter and planner for advertising agencies to technological pioneer in the span of under two decades. He is US Chairman of SpaceIL, an Israeli non-profit competing in the Google Lunar X prize to land a spacecraft on the moon in 2017.

September 14, 2015

Topic:

From Inspiration to Action: An Entrepreneur's Journey

Where:

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 225/229

Time: 6-7:30 pm, Monday, September 14, 2015

Speaker: **Art Agrawal, Co-founder & CEO, YourMechanic**



Art is founder and CEO of YourMechanic, a startup that provides car maintenance at the convenience of the car owner's home or office at 20-30% lower cost than going to a dealer. YourMechanic, Art's second startup, took home the winning title and \$50,000, at TechCrunch Disrupt San Francisco in 2012. Over the past year, Art has raised significant capital from some of the leading investors in Silicon Valley including: Softbank, Andreessen Horowitz, Jeff Clavier, Yuri Milner, SV Angel, and Ashton Kutcher (to name a few). Prior to starting YourMechanic, Art founded a company called Care Workforce, an online marketplace to help hospitals hire temp nurses on demand and lower costs by 10-30%. He studied Liberal Arts at Drexel University in Pennsylvania.

SVCE Speaker Event – April 1, 2015

Topic: **Fireside chat with Dave McClure, 500 Startups founding partner and self described "Geek, Marketer, Investor, Blogger, Troublemaker, and part-time Sith Lord"**

Where: TBA

Time: 6-7:30 pm, Wednesday, April 1, 2015

Speaker: **Dave McClure, Founder & CEO, 500 Startups, in conversation with Steve Bennet, startup CFO, angel investor, & adjunct professor, SJSU**



Bio:

Dave McClure is the founding partner of 500 Startups, a venture capital firm and startup incubator in Silicon Valley with over \$125M under management. He has been an investor in hundreds of companies around the world including Credit Karma, Twilio, MakerBot, Wildfire Interactive, Viki, Mashery, SendGrid, Mint.com, and SlideShare, among others.

Dave has been geeking out in Silicon Valley for over twenty-five years as a developer, entrepreneur, blogger, investor, and Internet marketing nerd. He has worked with companies

such as PayPal, Founders Fund, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twilio, Mint.com, Simply Hired, O'Reilly Media, Intel, & Microsoft.

From 2008 through 2010, Dave managed the FF Angel seed investment program for Founders Fund, and ran the 2009 fbFund incubator program on behalf of Facebook, Accel Partners, & Founders Fund. From 2006 thru 2008 Dave was an advisor & consultant to several startups and helped teach the nation's first-ever class on Facebook and social networking platforms at Stanford University in 2007. From 2005 thru 2006 Dave ran marketing for job search engine Simply Hired. From 2001 thru 2004, Dave was Director of Marketing at PayPal (acquired by eBay in 2002), where he started the PayPal Developer Network program. Prior to PayPal, Dave was a database consultant & programmer for several companies, including Microsoft and Intel. In 1994 he founded Aslan Computing, an Internet & e-commerce consulting group later acquired by Servinet / Panurgy in 1998.

Dave graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a BS Engineering in Mathematical Sciences.

SVCE Speaker Event – March 16, 2015

Topic: **How to build successful start-ups with offshore teams**

Where: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 225/229

Time: 6-7:30 pm, Monday, March 16, 2015

Speaker: **Ms. Reshma Nigam, Founder & CEO, Markable Solutions; SJSU alumna**

View the session



Bio:

Ms. Reshma Nigam is Founder & CEO of Markable Solutions – a digital marketing company. Prior to that she was Co-Founder & CEO of aMarketForce, a leader in B2B sales, marketing and lead generation services. Ms. Nigam has worked with RightWorks Corporation, Xporta and nthOrbit, when they were startups. She was also VP of Medical Market Research for Frost and Sullivan. Her expertise includes digital marketing, business management, business strategy development, start-up marketing, market research,

consulting, sales operations, product launches, global marketing, direct marketing

Ms. Nigam is an advisory board member of the Global Leadership Council at Lucas Graduate School of Business, SJSU. She is also the Chairperson of Art Forum at San Francisco, Bay Area

She holds MBA and BA degrees from San Jose State University, a Post-Grad diploma in Communication and Journalism from the Indian Institute of Mass Communications, and BA in English Literature from India.

SVCE Speaker Event – February 16, 2015

- Topic:** **Entrepreneurial opportunities in an evolving space – The business of Digital Currencies**
- Where:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library, Room 225/229
- Time:** 6-7:30 pm, Monday, February 16, 2015
- Speaker:** **Dr. Naveed Sherwani, CEO, Peernova**
- Registration:** -



Bio:

Dr. Sherwani brings over 25 years of experience in entrepreneurship, technical engineering and general management. Prior to Peernova, Dr. Sherwani co-founded Open-Silicon, a leading provider of ASIC solutions. As the founder and General Manager of Intel Microelectronics Services, he pioneered Open methodology for ASICs. He also founded Brite Semi, a leading ASIC solution provider in China/APAC. He has served on the boards of various companies, including Touchstone Semiconductor, and Integration Associates. He currently chairs the Technical Steering Committee of the Global Semiconductor Alliance (GSA).

Dr. Sherwani is a noted author having authored several books and over 100 articles on various aspects of VLSI Physical Design Automation and ASICs. Dr. Sherwani served as a Professor at Western Michigan University, where his research focused on ASICs, EDA, Combinatorics, graph algorithms and parallel

computing. He received his Ph.D from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.