

The Evolving Disruption

In the late 1700s, the first industrial revolution powered mechanical equipment with water and steam. The second such revolution in the late 1800s employed electricity for the purpose of mass production. The third industrial revolution in the 1970s was based on electronics, information technologies and automation. We are now largely presumed to be living with the emergent fourth industrial revolution that is fusing our physical, digital, and biological experiences with an unprecedented pace of change and disruption across national and trade boundaries. This is a conversation about how a research-intensive university can respond to the evolving disruption — for instance, by integrating an interdisciplinary education with major research investments in areas of predicted disruption.



ABOUT THE SPEAKER

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Ishwar K. Puri is the dean of engineering, a professor of mechanical engineering, and a professor of engineering physics at McMaster University. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. His research has been cited over 4,000 times, with an H-Index of 36. He is a founder and mentor of Nanospin, a startup for server cooling. He obtained a doctorate in 1987 and a master's degree in 1984, both in engineering science from the University of California, San Diego, and a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from the University of Delhi.

Wednesday, March 23, 2016
2 pm, 310 Kelly Hall



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