

Richard and Sandi Conniff Leaders in Business Ethics Speaker Series

The Richard and Sandi Conniff Leaders in Business Ethics Speakers Series in conjunction with The Silicon Valley Center for Entrepreneurship is proud to present:

"Overcoming Bias in Venture Pitching"

Monday, February 22, 2021, 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm, via zoom

Featuring:



Manan Mehta

Manan Mehta is a Founding Partner of Unshackled Ventures, a fund for immigrant-founded companies. Prior to Unshackled Ventures, Manan ran marketing for ed-tech startup Kno (acq. by Intel 2013) that raised over \$90M of funding from top VCs including a16z and First Round Capital. Before Kno, Manan was an Investment Banker with \$3B in transactions, including the \$1.9B acquisition of Skype. Manan is a 1st generation American and received a double major at UCLA.



Larissa Russell

Larissa Russell is the CEO and cofounder of Pod Foods, a full-service b2b marketplace connecting grocery retailers and brands. We are disrupting the \$200bil+ industry of wholesale grocery distribution by enabling intelligent retail with logistics, visibility and data throughout the grocery supply chain. Russell and her cofounder Fiona Lee experienced the challenges of wholesale distribution first hand when they started a cookie company called Green Pea Cookie, which produced cookies out of peas. They were named Forbes' 30 Under 30 in Retail and eCommerce in 2020.



Monisha Varadan

Monisha wears multiple hats. She works full time at Google, building partnerships for products like Chrome, News and Search. She is a Founding Partner of Zephyr Ventures, which invests in growth businesses. She is also a lecturer and Entrepreneur-in-Residence at INSEAD, where she completed her MBA. She has co-authored articles, including one on bias within the VC industry published in *Harvard Business Review*.