



## MEETING RECAP

### Tech Trek – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

October 9 - 10, 2018

Thanks again to our friends at Carnegie Mellon University for their support of the Corporate Entrepreneur Community.

**Carnegie Mellon University**  
[www.cmu.edu](http://www.cmu.edu)

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# TECH TREK: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Through partnerships among academia, city government, foundations and private companies, the city of Pittsburgh has developed an innovation ecosystem that is driving economic growth and drawing new businesses (and residents) to the region. Learn about Pittsburgh's transformation from an industrial based economy to a digital and technological hub, as described for us by **Pittsburgh's Mayor, Bill Peduto**.
- Carnegie Mellon University is leading the global development of autonomous vehicles. **Raj Rajkumar, of CMU**, and **Bryan Salesky, the CEO of Argo AI**, which recently received a \$1B investment from Ford, shared their experiences and expectations for this technology.
- Artificial Intelligence is changing the way that companies interact with data, their customers, and their supply chain. **Zico Kolter from CMU** offered his insights about AI and examples of how AI is and will be integrated into business.
- **Professor Param Vir Singh** gave the group an overview of cryptocurrencies and blockchain, and the affect they will have on financial transactions and the processing of big data.
- We had the unique opportunity to tour the **National Robotic Engineering Center (NREC)** and to see firsthand the wide range of industries embracing robotic technology.
- **David Passavant, the CEO of numo**, gave us a behind-the-scenes perspective of **PNC Bank's Fintech Incubator**. numo was created with a unique structure and level of autonomy, especially in such a highly regulated industry. David shared with us the journey of getting PNC leadership to green light this program, and the governance model they have developed.
- Read coverage of the **Corporate Entrepreneur Community's Tech Trek** event [as reported by the Pittsburgh Business Times](#).

## WHY THE CORPORATE ENTREPRENEUR COMMUNITY? WHY PITTSBURGH?



**STEVE LIGUORI**

Managing Partner, Corporate Entrepreneur Community

Our community of innovation change agents from large complex companies work together to help each other be more effective in their roles and have a greater impact at their companies.

Tech Trek 2018 is an experiment of the Corporate Entrepreneur Community. Our members want to understand the new technologies that are changing the way they do business and the ecosystems that power them.

We are all interested in learning more about partnerships between universities and private companies, and the role that government can have in supporting these collaborations.

Pittsburgh is a model of a new innovation ecosystem and we were excited to partner with Carnegie Mellon University to explore these disruptive technologies, and partnerships more closely. Thank you to Carnegie Mellon University and to all of our featured speakers for sharing your insights with our community!

**QUICK STORY OF:****PITTSBURGH'S REBIRTH**

**BILL PEDUTO**  
Mayor of Pittsburgh

As Pittsburgh's economy has changed, Mayor Peduto has had a direct hand in ensuring that the transformation is centered around community-based development plans. His goal is to tie the health of the economy directly to the health of the city itself.

Mayor Peduto spoke with our group and shared the story of Pittsburgh, an exceptional story of reinvention. What was once a smokestack economy that collapsed and led to an almost 30% unemployment rate, - has become - with hard work and a great effort at rebuilding - a new and thriving ecosystem of technology, incubators, and public-private partnerships. Economies in the Industrial Revolution were built on peoples' backs, while current innovations are built in peoples' minds.

Progressive urban planning has been fueled by contributions from Carnegie Mellon University and coupled with contributions from the manufacturing sector, supplying Pittsburgh with an infrastructure that makes it a desirable place to live, and do business.

It is worth noting that Pittsburgh closely follows and learns from other cities that have gone through similar transformations: Planning for critical issues such as access to healthcare, education, and affordable housing is key to how the city embraces its new growth and prosperity.

**TAKE AWAY**

The public-private partnership we see in Pittsburgh today, is a shining example of a city attracting the best and the brightest talent and organizations, leading to innovations, growth, jobs.

The full meeting recap is available to members only.