

# RESEARCH IN THE IITs VISION 2020?

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- Global R & D Investments
- Global and National Challenges
- Core Competence
- The Drivers of Research
- The Research Park



#### MURRAY GELMANN

Science is inherently an arrogant pursuit: a small creature on a small planet revolving around a small sun in a medium sized galaxy thinks it can understand the universe!

We in the IITs seem more modest!

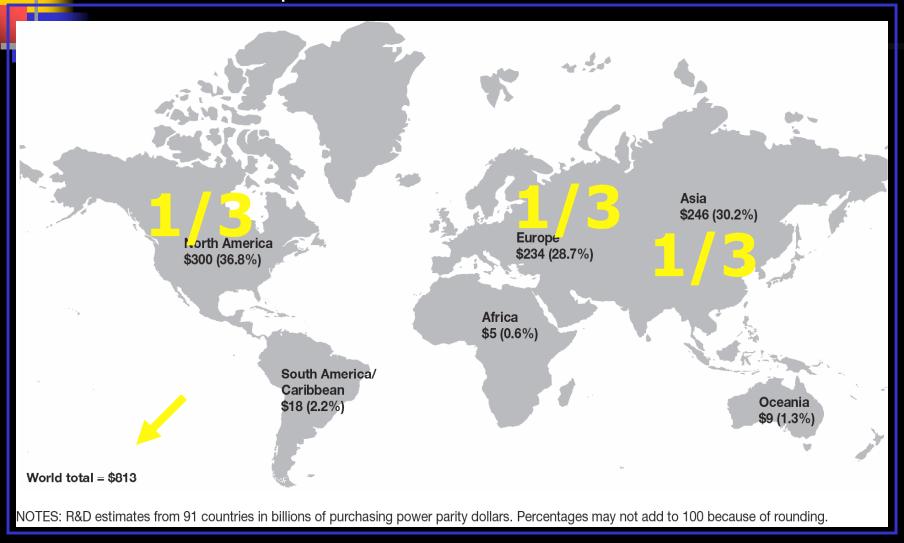


#### LEWIS & RANDALL

When we visit ancient monuments, we are often filed with wonder. We talk in hushed tones....Go back in your mind to the past when it was under construction. You can hear the noise of workmen cursing and swearing ....You realise that these awe-inspiring monuments are the result of ordinary human effort given a direction and purpose by a vision

# GLOBAL R&D INVESTMENTS

R&D Expenditures and Share of World Total



Source: Science and Engineering Indicators, NSF 2008



#### GLOBAL GRAND CHALLENGES

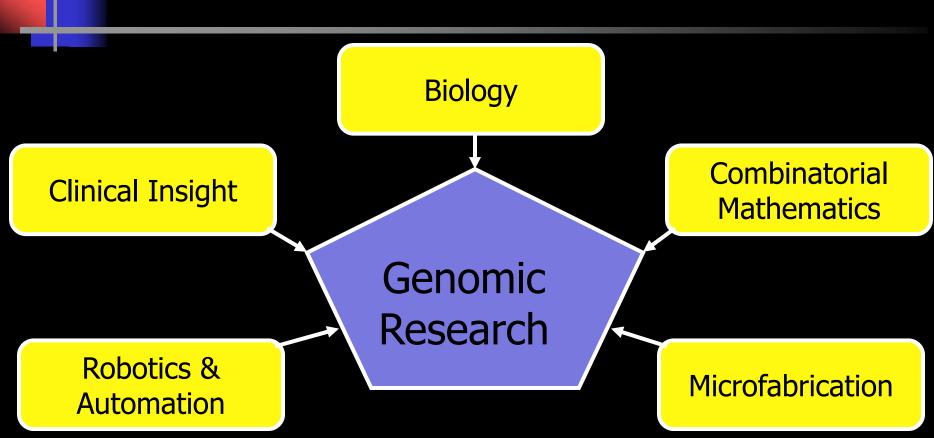
- Climate Change
- Energy and Environment
- Improving Healthcare
- Natural Hazard Mitigation
- Sustainability



#### NATIONAL CHALLENGES

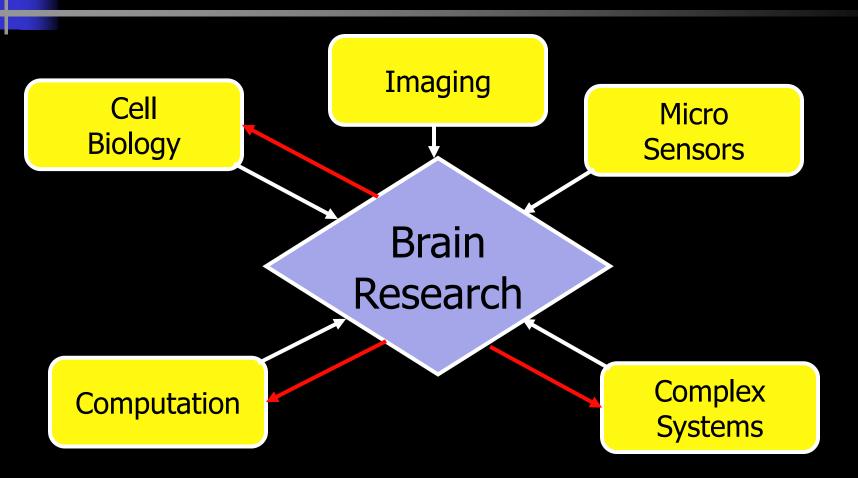
- Food Security
- Water Security
- Manufacturing especially MSME sector
- Infrastructure
- Logistics
- Keeping up with the developed world!

#### GENOMIC RESEARCH



Courtsey Prof. Charles Vest

### **BRAIN RESARCH**



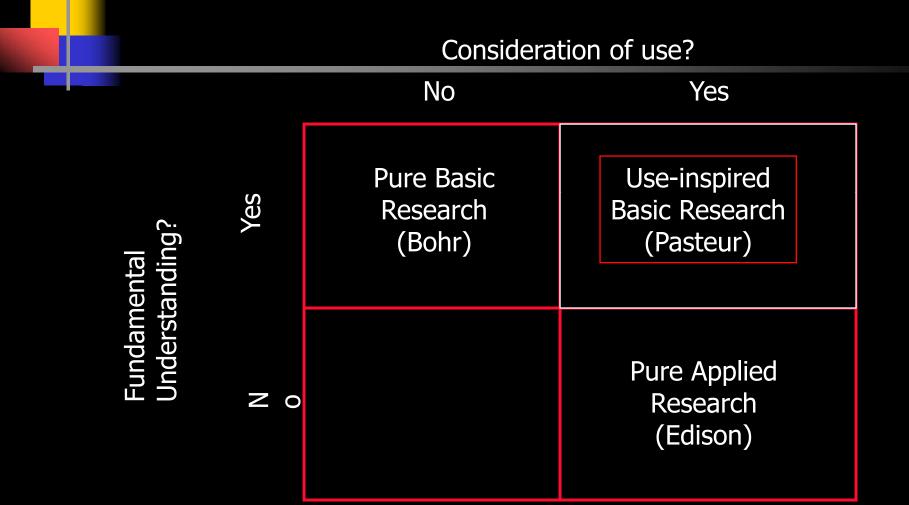
Courtesy Prof. Charles Vest



#### COLLECTIVE INTELLIGENCE

Can people and computers be connected so that <u>collectively</u> they act more intelligently than any person, group, or computer has ever done before?

#### R&D IN "PASTEUR'S QUADRANT"



Adapted from Pasteur's Quadrant, Donald E. Stokes 1997

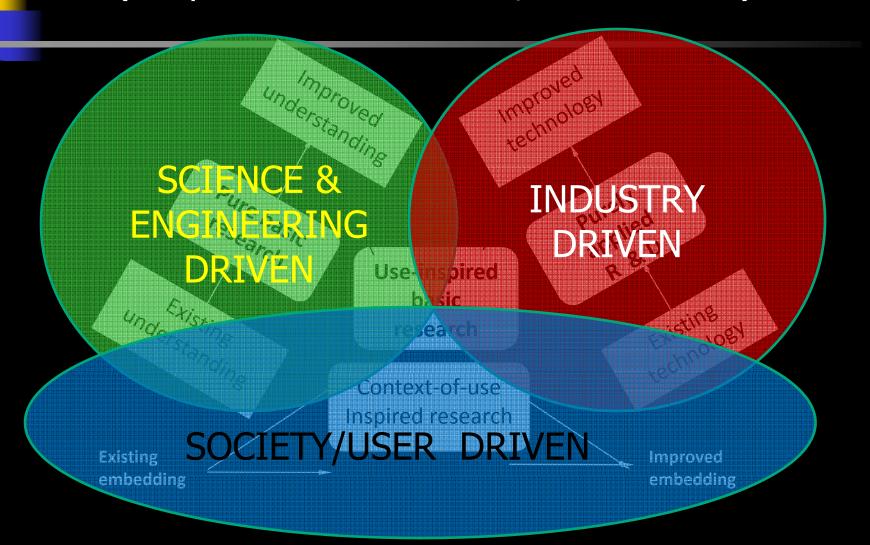


# DRIVERS-TOOLS & EXPECTED RESULTS

- Discovery and Invention Pure basic research improved understanding
- Industry Pure applied research improved technology
- Society Innovation & Entrepreneurship embedded solutions addressing the whole value chain

#### COLLABORATIVE R & D

(adapted from President, U of Twente)





#### CORE COMPETENCE

- Biotechnology
- Nanotechnology
- Information Technology
- Communication Technology
- Complex Systems
- Computational Science and Engineering
- Design and Manufacturing

...Contd.

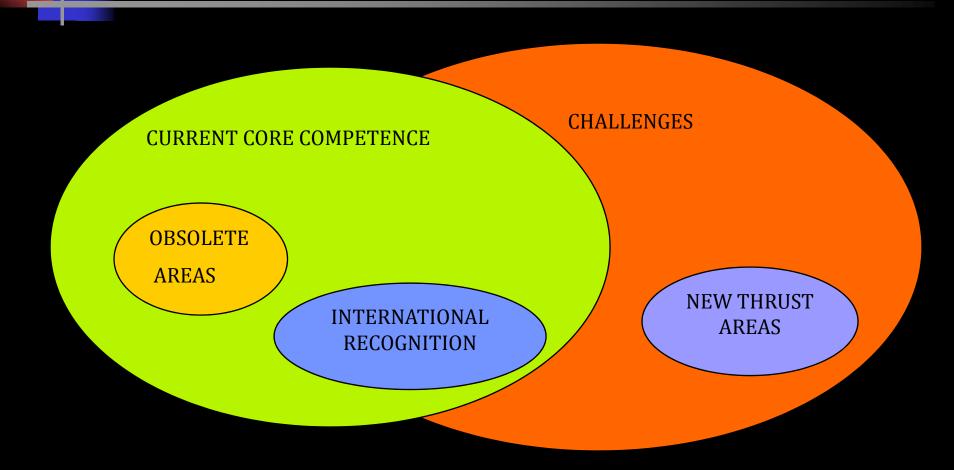


#### CORE COMPETENCE

...Contd.

- Development Studies
- Transportation Engineering
- Energy Technology
- Environmental Technology
- Infrastructure Technology
- Materials Technology
- System Engineering .......

### RESEARCH AREAS



#### MANAGING CREATIVITY

- The 'Magic Garden' approach for Discovery and Invention :hire brilliant minds, provide the atmosphere, leave them alone and ....pray!
- The 'Idea Factory' approach for Innovation: bring unlike minds together and create opportunities for interaction.



#### BRINGING 'UNLIKE' MINDS TOGETHER

A. Internationalisation - different cultures

- B. Interdisciplinarity different disciplines
- C. Research Parks different attitudes



#### A. INTERNATIONALISATION

- Science is universal but scientists have a cultural identity and associated prejudices
- Need mix of unlike minds for innovation
- 25% PG students from other cultures
- 10% Faculty from other countries

#### **B. INTERDISCIPLINARITY**

- Interdisciplinary approach first used as a management tool to solve 'real' problems in specific sectors eg. Bell Labs in 1930s
- "Put mix of academic disciplines to action"
- Freedom at work/forced formal exchange of ideas
- IPR specialists hired to identify opportunities

#### C. RESEARCH PARKS

- Entrepreneurship flourishes in the vicinity of high quality educational institutions
- Innovation promoted by unlike minds:
  - Faculty: sound theoretical knowledge
  - Industrial R&D personnel : convert ideas into marketable products
  - Students: spirited & ignorant of the impossible



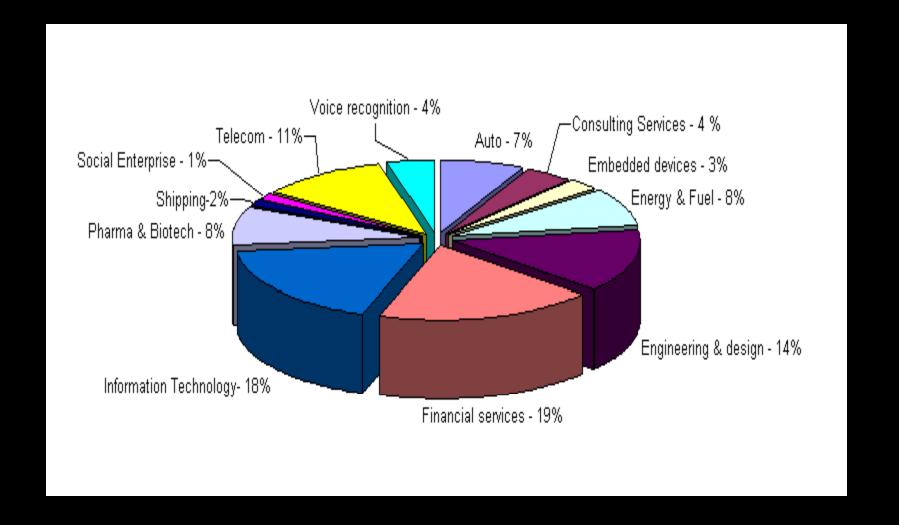


# **GINGER HOTELS**





#### INDUSTRY WISE CLIENTS



#### **INCUBATEES**



#### THE CREDIT SYSTEM!

- R&D projects in IITM (credits per Rs 1M)
- Consultancy to IIT Faculty (credits per Rs 1M)
- Royalty (credits per Rs 100K)
- Sponsored Ph.D / Masters Students (per year)
- Adjunct faculty (per year)
- Teaching by Industry personnel per hour
- Joint guidance PhD/ MS/B.Tech (per year)
- Part-time employment PhD/MS/BTech (per mo)

Minimum credits/year/sqft to stay in the Park!



#### SUMMARY

- Asia's share of global R & D is about a third
- India needs IITs to play a significant role
- IITs need a vision depends on core competence & the global/ national challenges
- Society is willing to support mainly use-inspired research
- Use-inspired research is driven by innovation and enterprise
- Research Parks best promote both

