Phil Budden: MIT CV

Phil Budden is a Senior Lecturer at MIT's Management School, in Sloan's TIES (Tech Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Strategy) Group, where he focuses on innovation, especially for corporate and government executives.

Focusing on the executives in both the private/corporate and public/government sectors, Phil demystifies the process of ‘innovation’, setting it as a spectrum of activities ranging from incremental ‘little i’ innovation (in the 10% range) out to transformational ‘big I’ Innovation (in the 10x range). The innovation challenge for those in larger enterprises - with an established ‘business as usual’ (BAU), legacy IT systems and complex structures – is often how to capture some of the agility and risk-tolerance of startup entrepreneurs.

In line with the MIT approach to ‘innovation ecosystems’, Phil combines academic, historical and real-world perspectives in his teaching about how the 5 different ecosystem stakeholders - including Entrepreneurs, Universities and 'Risk Capital' providers, alongside Corporate enterprises and Government policymakers - can all contribute to successful innovation in regional ecosystems around the world.  These ecosystems in turn provide sources of innovation for the various stakeholders, especially the corporate and government ones which often have challenges as larger enterprises.

Phil was a diplomat for twenty years, and then an international corporate banker, before joining the Faculty of MIT’s Management School full time. As such, he supports a variety of MIT’s global programs, and enjoys sharing his insights with international audiences.

Phil holds a BA and MA in History from Lincoln College, the University of Oxford; an MA in History and Government from Cornell University; and a PhD (DPhil) in History and International Political Economy from the University of Oxford.