

The Board of Overseers of  
the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth  
is pleased to award the 2015 Overseers Medal to

**Vijay Govindarajan**  
**Coxe Distinguished Professor of Management**  
**Amos Tuck School of Business Administration**  
**Dartmouth College**

Professor Vijay Govindarajan, affectionately known as VG, is one of the world's most respected and influential scholars of strategy and management. He has written best-selling books, coined business terms commonly used today, advised countless leaders of Fortune 500 companies, and taught and inspired thousands of students from the undergraduate level to senior executives. For the past 30 years, Tuck has been VG's home-base for all this work, and the school has benefited immeasurably in both its stature among business schools and its global reputation as a place where thought leaders thrive.

VG has written dozens of articles in *Harvard Business Review* and other prestigious publications, and is the author of 11 books that run the spectrum from a technical treatise on strategic cost analysis to a parable about innovation implementation that takes place on a farm with talking animals. What binds these articles and books together is an in-depth understanding of strategic practices at the best companies, gleaned from field research, and keen insights into how those practices can be translated to other firms and leaders. "I am inspired by practitioners," VG has said. "I live in the world of ideas, but for me, ideas come from the world of practice."

Because of his passion for the practical, and his clear and elegant teaching style, VG has become a sought-after and trusted source of wisdom on strategy and innovation for many executives. He plays a critical role in Tuck's executive education curriculum, designing and teaching in the Strategic Innovation and Leadership Program and the Global Leadership 2030 Consortium. Recognizing VG's talent and vision in this regard, CEO Jeffrey Immelt D'78 named VG the first Professor in Residence and Chief Innovation Consultant at General Electric in 2008, and he's currently serving as the Marvin Bower Fellow at Harvard Business School.

The awards VG has won for his scholarship and teaching are too numerous to list completely here, but the highlights are instructive. Most recently, he is the recipient of the 2015 Carl S. Sloane Award from the Association of Management Consulting Firms. The Thinkers 50 has ranked him the number three management thinker in the world. *Business Week* named VG to its list of Outstanding Faculty in its guide to the best business schools. And last but not least, he is a member of the *Academy of Management Journal's* Hall of Fame.

VG's accolades are impressive, but perhaps the most important thing to know about him is that he is a warm, compassionate person who has never forgotten his humble roots in

India. In fact, VG's background in a resource-constrained country is what has fuelled his creative approach to innovation. Just one example of this is his co-leadership of a global initiative to design a \$300 house for the world's poor, challenging architects, engineers and business leaders to reach beyond conventional models to solve a notoriously intractable problem. This commitment to pursuing business solutions for the betterment of society is what has earned him his current title as the Coxe Distinguished Professor of Management at Tuck.

In recognition of his passionate, thoughtful and outstanding service to Tuck, and to students and practitioners around the world, the Tuck School of Business Board of Overseers is pleased to honor Vijay Govindarajan with the Overseers' Medal for 2015.

Paul Danos  
Dean  
Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth  
June 13, 2015

Christopher J. Williams T'84  
Chairman, Board of Overseers  
Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth  
June 13, 2015