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From the JIBC Editor-in-Chief

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Brief Biographic Description: Professor Agarwal an international expert on ICT, Internet Governance and Policy. He has lectured around the world on IT Strategy, eCommerce, eGovernance and Technology Policy. Other than his full time responsibilities, he is serving as Board Member to World Entrepreneurship Forum (WEF); High-Level-Adviser to UN GAID and member of numerous editorial boards/review panels. He is currently President Cambridge Global Partners (CGP), an international consulting firm operating in four continents. He works as an researcher at University of Edinburgh in United Kingdom.

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Happy New year 2014.

I spent my new year at the center of mother of global 'innovation' clusters – San Francisco Bay area. It all started with the great Californian gold rush of 18th century (1848-1855). The original gold rush official lasted seven years but it laid the foundation of modern gold rush of 20th century. Thanks to entrepreneurs like Larry Page, Sergei Brin, Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg bay area become the hotbed for technology innovation. To become a successful innovation cluster a city/area/geography not only needs proximity to innovative talent and ideas, it is much more complex than it seems:

- Firms (to innovate and develop innovative products)
- Finance (banks, VC firms, HNIs)
- Universities (to develop talent for firms and research)
- Consumers (to consume)
- And supportive government

San Francisco has excellent talent pipeline coming out of universities like Stanford and Berkeley. Brilliant firms whose consumers are spread all over the globe and admirable support from the government. In my opinion, Bay area is #1 innovation cluster in the world. Many cities have tried to imitate the bay area model with varied success. For instance, In United Kingdom, the Oxford – Cambridge – London arc is the nearest competitor in Europe followed by several clusters spread in Germany. Most of these clusters are top ranked in their own countries, still trying to catch up the success of Silicon Valley. Can you think of the best innovation cluster in your country? Think about, what the government should do to make them more vibrant and viable? Send your comments to me, I will include them in the next editorial.

In this issue we have 12 papers from Europe, Asia, Middle East and Africa. This is the first time we have received a paper from Czech Republic titled: The Use of Contextual Information to Detection of Fraud on On-line Auctions. Another interesting article dealing with internet security is from United Kingdom, titled: Strengthening E-Banking security using Keystroke Dynamics. The issue is presenting excellent research from all across the globe. I am sure you will enjoy reading. Please do share your comments and suggestions to us or send directly to the authors.

I wish to thank our authors, readers and editors specially Nahum Goldmann, Robert Xin Luo, Joshua Fogel, Francis Chlarie and Anne Marie Jennings for providing continuous leadership in another successful issue of JIBC.

As always, thanks for supporting JIBC.

Nikhil Agarwal