



## **Steve Blank**

### **Adjunct Professor, Engineering School at Stanford**

Steve Blank is a Silicon Valley entrepreneur based in Pescadero, California.

Mr. Blank spent the first two decades of this career as an executive then founder of eight technology startups, in enterprise software, semiconductors, supercomputers, consumer electronics, high performance graphics, video games and military intelligence.

Today, Mr. Blank is an Adjunct Professor at Stanford in the Engineering School and is a Senior Fellow of Innovation at Columbia University. He teaches Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Lean Methodologies. His books on innovation (*The Four Steps to the Epiphany* and *the Startup Owners Manual*) has been credited with creating modern entrepreneurship methodologies.

Partnering with the National Science Foundation he developed the curriculum for commercializing research in the U.S. called the Innovation Corps (I-Corps), and later developed versions for the NIH and ARPA-E. The classes are now taught in 98 schools in the U.S.

Later, he worked with the National Security Agency to develop a version - I-Corps@NSA - for the intelligence community.

His next class- *Hacking for Defense* - allowed students in universities to work on real DoD problems and deliver solutions. With the support of DIU it is now offered in 30 universities.

Mr Blank served in the U.S. Air Force 1972-1976, and was a public official in California serving on the Coastal Commission from 2007-2013.

Mr. Blank is known amongst entrepreneurs and students as one of "The Godfathers of Silicon Valley" His books, blog, and interviews are often referred to or featured in world news publications such as Reuters, the New York Times, Forbes, Inc, TechCrunch and The Wall Street Journal. Mr. Blank has hosted numerous sold-out speaking events and conferences about entrepreneurship and the customer development methodology.