



Dr. Jayarethanam Pillai

AI Economist, Founder of Praxora Lab

Ph.D., Public Policy and Economics, The Australian National University · Led AACSB accreditation to acceptance, first in Central Asia · MIT-certified in AI product design

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MATTHEW NIMETZ AWARD (2018)

AUSTRALIAN EUREKA AND PRIME MINISTER'S SCIENCE PRIZE (2004)

LECTURER SERVICE AWARD (2013)

BIOGRAPHY

Jayarethanam Pillai is the founder of Praxora Lab. He works as an AI economist, currently serving as an AI and Strategic Foresight Consultant to UNDP across Asia and as Professor of the Practice at Golden Gate University, where he chairs, co-chairs and mentors DBA candidates researching emerging technology. His practice sits at the intersection of artificial intelligence, economic policy and institutional strategy, including technology impact assessment work conducted with the Social Cyber Institute on AI's role in peace and stability.

As Dean of the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Administration at the American University of Central Asia, he led the school to AACSB accreditation acceptance, the first in the Central Asia region, and went on to complete AMBA and CEEMAN accreditation as well. He founded three research centres, including a Centre for AI and Data Science, secured more than \$3.4 million in grant and donor funding across his academic career, and supervised 56 graduate and undergraduate theses, while growing the school's MBA program revenue by 66 percent and its international partnerships from three to ten AACSB-ranked institutions.

He founded Futures Consultancy Group in 2011, offering strategic business and economic advisory to small and medium enterprises, and later directed data science consulting at Aboitiz Data Innovation, leading a team of fifteen data scientists across financial services, energy and logistics. His academic career also spans an adjunct professorship of economics at the University of Guam, Associate Dean of Graduate Programs at Narxoz Business School in Kazakhstan, and a visiting professorship in strategic management at Texas Christian University.

His public commentary applies economic analysis to AI and trade policy: the durable effects of tariffs on global supply chains and currency, and how strategic foresight should inform AI governance as autonomous systems take on more decision-making. He has spoken at international forums including a UNDP-organised knowledge-sharing session with Mongolian government officials on AI for national development, alongside an invited keynote at the accompanying Data and AI conference in Ulaanbaatar.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

AI economics and policy foresight

Applying economic analysis and strategic foresight methods to how artificial intelligence reshapes institutions, trade and governance.

Technology impact assessment

Structured frameworks for assessing the peace, stability and economic effects of emerging technology, developed through work with the Social Cyber Institute and UNDP.

AI for national development

Advising government and UN bodies on applying AI capability for national development outcomes, including engagements with UNDP Mongolia and across the Asia region.

Academic leadership and AI curriculum design

Two decades as Dean, Associate Dean and Department Chair, leading AACSB, AMBA and CEEMAN accreditation processes and integrating AI and data-science content into MBA, EMBA and DBA curricula.

Entrepreneurship and SME strategy

Economic and business advisory for small and medium enterprises through Futures Consultancy Group, and academic leadership in entrepreneurship education across three continents.

SELECTED ENGAGEMENTS

2026 National Workshop on Data Governance and Artificial Intelligence for Public Sector Transformation

Invited Speaker & Workshop Facilitator, closed-door government programme · July 20 to 22, 2026, Colombo, Sri Lanka

2025 Data and AI Conference, Government Palace

Invited Keynote Speaker · Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

2025 UNDP Mongolia AI Knowledge-Sharing Session

Panelist · Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

2023 Socially Responsible AI: Global Trends and Regulations

Invited Speaker & Panel Discussant · BSR / Singapore American Chamber of Commerce, Singapore

2019 Design Your Future: Innovative Approaches at the Narxoz Business School

Speaker · Global Business School Network Conference, Lisbon, Portugal

BOOK A SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

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AVAILABLE FOR

Keynotes · Panels · Corporate presentations · Virtual & in-person

REGIONS

Singapore · Asia · International