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Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Larta Institute (<http://www.larta.org/rshukla.asp>), based in Los Angeles, California. The organization has provided entrepreneur education design, commercialization and management services, technology transfer expertise, technology assessments, and business assistance to public and private clients since 1994.

Under his leadership, Larta currently manages one of the largest innovation pipelines of companies emerging from research funded by the largest agencies of the U.S. Federal government (NIH, USDA, NSF, Army), research universities across the country and from a network of global partner nations including Japan, Canada, New Zealand, and most recently, Malaysia, and education and training programs (including the well-regarded Larta University). Assistance covers the full range of possible commercialization outcomes, including licensing, funding, partnership and acquisition.

Larta's hallmark commercialization programs are delivered through its nationwide and global network of domain and functional experts, industry executives and scientific advisors covering the life sciences (including pharmaceuticals, medical devices, Healthcare IT, diagnostics, biotechnology, clinical tools and bioinformatics), advanced materials, alternative energy and agricultural biotechnology. He has personally mentored scores of companies in the Institute's programs, specifically in Information Technology, including healthcare IT, medical devices, agriculture and creative industries.

He has consulted with multilateral organizations like the OECD and the World Bank and governments across the globe on their initiatives and policies impacting small and medium sized enterprises. His paper on the Network Centric Model of Entrepreneurial Assistance was one of 12 selected from across the world and featured by the Kauffman Foundation at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress in Liverpool in 2012. The Network Centric model is employed in Larta's work. He has also written extensively on venture capital, the life sciences, entrepreneurship and globalization.

He is currently an advisor to the Alternative University in Bucharest, Romania, and to several non-profit initiatives in enterprise education in Asia and across the U.S. He speaks frequently before private and public audiences in the U.S. and overseas, and has been a frequent guest of regional and national governments in Scandinavia, Western Europe, the Far East and all over the United States.

Shukla holds a Masters in Social & Political Sciences from Cambridge University, England, and a Masters in Communications Arts and Sciences from Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles.