Silicon Valley tech luminaries lined up for EIE17

- *RocketSpace founder and Scot Duncan Logan and DFJ partner Steve Jurvetson to feature at Scotland's largest investor showcase*
- *2017 startup cohort could produce "Scotland's next big tech success stories"*

Edinburgh, 16 February 2017 - Informatics Ventures (IV), Scotland's premier technology entrepreneur support programme, has lined up two of Silicon Valley's most respected luminaries as participants in this year's EIE17 with DFJ partner, Steve Jurvetson, and RocketSpace founder and CEO, Duncan Logan, confirmed as keynote addresses at Scotland's largest investor showcase which takes place at the EICC on the 10th and 11th of May.

With 60 of Scotland's most promising tech companies pitching to an audience including investors from Scotland, London, the rest of the UK, Europe, Asia and North America, EIE is set for its biggest year ever as the nation's leading startups seek funds ranging from £100,000 to over £5 million and investors get the chance to meet a crop of companies from which Scotland's next big tech success stories could emerge.

The Engage Invest Exploit, or EIE, series has run since 2008 and has been a springboard to approximately £400 million in funding with FanDuel, Celtic Renewables, Mallzee, Two Big Ears and MindMate just a few of the startups to have come through the Informatics Ventures-run programme in recent years. This year's cohort of startups include Organised Health, a health tech startup that deploys cutting-edge robotics technology and a sports tech venture, Global Rugby Network, who combine software with wearables and count international rugby union associations among its client base.

Duncan Logan, CEO and founder of RocketSpace, the San Francisco-headquartered tech campus that has helped accelerate the growth of well-known startups including 18 unicorns like Blippar and Uber, and will be expanding to London, Australia and China over the next twelve months, said: "On the back of the incredible successes of Skyscanner and FanDuel, Scotland has shown that it is capable of building tech companies at scale and I'm hugely excited to be in Edinburgh in May to share some of my own experiences with the next generation of founders, some of whom I am sure will go on to be the success stories of the future."

DFJ partner Steve Jurvetson looks for unconventional companies in deep learning, commercial space, synthetic biology, genomics, robotics, and sustainable transportation—purpose-driven companies that will transform massive industries. His current board responsibilities include D-Wave, Flux, Planet, SpaceX, Synthetic Genomics, and Tesla Motors (NASDAQ: TSLA). He was the founding VC investor in Hotmail (Microsoft), Interwoven (NASDAQ: IWOV), Kana (NASDAQ: KANA), and NeoPhotonics (NYSE: NPTN). Steve was also the first VC investor and board member at deep learning company Nervana, acquired by Intel in 2016.

Steve Ewing, Director of Operations at Informatics Ventures, said: "EIE 2017 will be the biggest and boldest EIE to date and it's fantastic to welcome Duncan Logan and Steve Jurvetson to the event this year. It's an amazing opportunity for investors and startups alike to meet and hear from two of the highest calibre players in Silicon Valley."

Duncan Logan and Steve Jurvetson round out the keynote addresses at EIE17 alongside Scottish Enterprise Chairman, Bob Keiller, and Aberdeen Asset Management co-founder and chief executive, Martin Gilbert.

Informatics Ventures is supported by Scottish Enterprise and The University of Edinburgh and corporate sponsors Johnston Carmichael, Marks & Clerk, MBM Commercial, RBS, Scottish Equity Partners and Talent Spark (powered by Eden Scott).