

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

At the University of California, Berkeley



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Vodafone CEO Sarin Featured Alumnus at International House Berkeley Reunion

London, England, June 11, 2004 —

Approximately 100 alumni and friends of International House, Berkeley, will gather Saturday, June 19th for a reunion luncheon at the Savoy to hear alumnus Arun Sarin, CEO of Vodafone, reflect on how residency at the multi-national “I-House” helped shape his personal and professional success.

The luncheon is one of several events being held worldwide to celebrate the seventy-fifth year that International House at the University of California, Berkeley, has united students from across the globe to foster intercultural respect and understanding, lifelong friendships, and leadership skills to promote a more peaceful world. Among the 60,000 individuals who have shared housing, meals, and engaged in cross-cultural programs at I-House since it was founded in 1930, are Mr. Sarin, current Member of Parliament Oona King, eight Nobel laureates, and dozens of prominent leaders in government, education, and the arts worldwide.

“Since the world is turning into a smaller and smaller global marketplace, we need to have these very comfortable relationships across cultures”, said Mr. Sarin. “I often think about the friends that I had at I-House. What did they tell me about what their country was like? Each culture needs to be respected...each culture needs to have empathy...that’s what the I-House taught me professionally.” On a more personal note, like hundreds of his fellow alumni Mr. Sarin also encountered his future spouse at I-House, Rummi Sarin, to whom he has been married for over twenty years.

Joseph Lurie, I-House Executive Director, reports “I-House has been bridging cultural divides for nearly seventy-five years now, and events like this in London help us continue to fulfill our mission by re-connecting alumni, forging new friendships, and garnering the critical financial support to safeguard the future of this institution and the living principal that global peace can only be shaped through intimate understanding.”

I-House continues to serve nearly 600 students 365 days a year. A worldwide multi-million dollar fundraising effort launched in conjunction with anniversary events to support student scholarships, building renovations, technology, and cross-cultural programs.

For more information, contact I-House Alumni Relations and Development Director Shanti Corrigan at shanti@berkeley.edu.