



in partnership with



## Registration Open for June 11 Connections 2014, Hosted by IT-oLogY in partnership with Connect South Carolina

**Media Contacts:** Rachel Barnett  
[rbarnett@IT-oLogY.org](mailto:rbarnett@IT-oLogY.org)  
803.354.5735

Jennifer Cobb  
[jcobb@connectednation.org](mailto:jcobb@connectednation.org)  
(615) 828-1017

**For Immediate Release**  
May 6, 2014

*Second annual conference to highlight the latest in hardware, software, infrastructure, broadband; presentations slated by Garima Prasai, chief evangelist for the IBM Watson Group*

### [Register Here](#)

**Columbia, SC** – Registration for the second Connections event, Connections 2014, is now open as hosts IT-oLogY and Connect South Carolina prepare to share advances in hardware, software, infrastructure, and processes across a variety of industries and highlight efforts to increase broadband access, adoption, and use. Garima Prasai, chief evangelist for the IBM Watson Group, has been confirmed as the event's first presenter.

Garima joined IBM in June 2013 and has been involved in the launch efforts of Watson's first commercial product offering, Watson Engagement Advisor, and has been involved in market development and sales. As a key member of the core strategy group that productized the Watson Ecosystem, Garima helped build the Ecosystem business model while owning client relationships as partner engagement manager for partners such as Welltok, IBM's first Ecosystem and capital funded partner. Garima is also a member of IBM's Blue Spark team, a millennial leadership development program under Mike Rhodin. Garima works with IBM's research and executive teams to leverage cognitive technology to solve complex business challenges and deliver real competitive advantage for clients globally.

“We couldn’t be happier with the lineup that is taking shape for Connections 2014,” said IT-oLogy Director of Grow IT Initiatives Jim Stritzinger. “This event is designed for technology professionals and highlights innovative uses of technology across a variety of industries. Our goal is to have everyone walk away seeing something that they’ve never seen before.”

“We are excited to again partner with IT-oLogy to host this year’s Connections event,” said South Carolina Community Technology Advisor Lindsay Conrad. “We are looking forward to sharing our work in communities around the state and highlighting just how beneficial life with broadband can be.”

IT-oLogy Connections 2014 in partnership with Connect South Carolina will be held on Wednesday, June 11, from 9 am – 5 pm EDT at the IT-oLogy Theater located at 1301 Gervais Street, Suite 101, in Columbia, South Carolina. For more information, please contact Stritzinger at [jim.stritzinger@it-ology.org](mailto:jim.stritzinger@it-ology.org) or (803) 978-1558 or Conrad at [summit@connectsc.org](mailto:summit@connectsc.org) or (803) 743-5851.

###

**About IT-oLogy:** IT-oLogy is a non-profit collaboration of businesses, academic institutions, and other organizations dedicated to growing the IT talent pipeline and advancing the IT profession. IT-oLogy has three major initiatives: Promote IT (K-12 schools), Teach IT (Higher Education) and Grow IT (Professionals and Businesses). For more information about IT-oLogy, visit [www.it-ology.org](http://www.it-ology.org) or contact Rachel Barnett at [rachel.barnett@it-ology.org](mailto:rachel.barnett@it-ology.org) or 803-354-5735.

**About Connect South Carolina:** As the State Broadband Initiative grantee, Connect South Carolina is leading the effort to increase high-speed Internet access, adoption and use to ensure South Carolina’s competitiveness in the connected global economy of the twenty-first century. Connect South Carolina is a public-private partnership designated by the state to work with all broadband providers to create South Carolina’s first interactive map of broadband coverage. This work serves as a foundation for addressing remaining service gaps while also engaging state, regional and local leaders in workforce development activities designed to bridge South Carolina’s digital divide. For maps, research or to get involved with efforts in your community please visit: [www.ConnectSC.org](http://www.ConnectSC.org).

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).