Mr. Gowton Achaibar, COO & Head of Operations for Ericsson North America (and NJIT alumnus), speaks at NJIT about Leading in the Network Society. Ericsson is a major employer of NJIT graduates.

Mr. Achaibar began his career at ATT Bell Labs in 1986 after graduating Summa Cum Laude from NJIT. Shortly thereafter, he earned a MS in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Tech and eventually an MBA from Auburn University. In 1995, Mr. Achaibar joined Powertel as CTO, in which capacity he built and operated a wireless network in the Southeastern United States.

When Powertel was acquired by T-Mobile, Mr. Achaibar joined Ericsson, a large multi-national firm in the telecom space, as VP and GM of the North American Services business. After successfully transforming this business, he moved into a role as Executive VP of Sales for North American Key Accounts. In 2008, he moved to India to serve as President and CEO of Ericsson India. Over the course of three years, he strengthened Ericsson’s position in the rapidly expanding Indian market and secured the largest market share in 3G. In addition, he established an Ericsson college partnership that became a successful mentorship program for new engineers looking to join the company.

In 2011, Mr. Achaibar returned to the US as COO and Head of Operations for Ericsson North America. In that capacity, he manages an organization of approximately 14,000 employees and contractors; the organization designs, integrates, builds, and maintains networks across North America. Mr. Achaibar is also a passionate cricket fan. In his early years, he played cricket in NJ and served as President of the NJ Cricket Association. In addition, he jointly edited a cricket magazine called the “US Cricketer” with former Editor of the Jamaican Gleaner, Tony Becca. Mr. Achaibar lives in Texas with his wife and four children.