Happy Holidays!

In the last few weeks, we have wrapped up another phase of the opioid challenge. SEAS students, along with the Columbia community tackled the design challenge and 5 teams have been selected as winners of the challenge. Stay tuned for an official announcement from the Dean's Office to learn more about the winning teams and their proposals.

As we head into the winter and the holiday season, we have several interesting events and deadlines coming up. Continue reading for upcoming events and deadlines!

SEAS Highlights: Third Thursday: Immigration & Entrepreneurship (Jan 25), and Columbia Venture Competition (First Deadline: Feb 12)

If there is something specific that you'd like us to include in this newsletter, please fill out our wufoo form here. If you're interested in what's happening at the university-wide scale, check out our friends at Columbia Entrepreneurship, The Lang Center, CTV, CORE and ADI.
Upcoming Events

Harlem Biospace Presents: Riverside Chat @ Columbia University
Thursday, December 7, 2017 6 pm - 8 pm
Davis Auditorium, CEPSR

Join for a panel discussion on VC funding for life sciences in NYC! We have panelists from a life science angel investor group, a venture capital firm, and a pharmaceutical company.

Panelists include: Stephen Goodman (Co-Founder, Mid Atlantic Bio Angels), Jason Park (Principal, Flagship Pioneering), and Niyoshi Patel (Senior Manager of Business Development, Purdue Pharma).

RSVP and Directions Here

Third Thursday: Immigration and Entrepreneurship
Thursday, January 25, 2018 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm
Mudd, Room 524

January's Third Thursday (technically Fourth Thursday instead of Third Thursday due to the late start of the semester) will feature Megan Kludt, an attorney at Curran & Berger, LLP, a boutique law firm specializing in all areas of immigration, including business, achievement, investment, family, and humanitarian bases for immigration status.

Megan is very knowledgable on visa options for students after graduation, and specializes in complex immigration cases in the areas of business, academia, scientific research, and the arts. Additionally, she was selected by the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) to provide emergency legal aid to children at the US/Mexico border and was honored as one of AILA New England's Pro Bono Champions in 2016. Discussion topics include:

- Options and requirements for various visas, such as: J1, O-1B, and H-1B
- Visa options and NYC/NYS immigration resources for foreign startup founders
- How to find out whether or not a startup is qualified to help employees file for work visas
- Shareholding issues that may caused by the immigration status of foreign entrepreneurs in start-up companies
- And more...

For more details and registration, click here

Upcoming Deadlines

SIPA Entrepreneurship Fellowship

Applications are due by Friday, December 22

APPLY HERE

The Entrepreneurship & Public Policy Initiative at SIPA will launch a SIPA Entrepreneurship Fellows program for young entrepreneurs in New York City with an interest at the

The Fellowship is intended for young entrepreneurs who are working full time on startup ventures in New York City and can commit throughout either the Fall or Spring semester for Fellowship-related activities. The Fellowship will start in the Spring semester (January – May) 2018.

If there are any questions or if you would like to nominate fellows, reach out to Dr. Hollie Russon Gilman at hr2377@columbia.edu.

Columbia Venture Competition

First Deadline: Monday, February 12, 2018

The Columbia Venture Competition was first launched in April 2009, and has paid out more than $350,000 in prize money to early-stage ventures all founded by young Columbia entrepreneurs. Over the years the competition has grown in the number of submissions and in competition quality.

The Columbia Venture Competition's five challenges offer a combined pool of $250,000 in cash grants (no strings attached) to any team of current students or recent alumni who prevail in the competition.

Judges come from across the Columbia Entrepreneurship alumni community and have a wide range of expertise and backgrounds. At SEAS, Columbia Engineering's Entrepreneurship Advisory Board is part of the judging committee.

For more information and updates, click here

In the News

Vidrovr raises $1.25M to bring smarter video search to publishers

The startup is announcing that it has raised $1.25 million in seed funding led by Samsung’s early stage investment fund Samsung NEXT, with participation from Verizon Ventures (Verizon owns TechCrunch) and R/GA Ventures, Social Starts and individuals including Bernd Girod. Vincent Tang of Samsung NEXT is joining the startup’s board of directors.

The company started at Columbia University, where Ellis and his co-founder Dan Morozoff were Ph.D. students, and where they developed technology for searching and indexing video content. It was also incubated at Techstars NYC and is part of the first batch of startups at the Verizon Media Tech Venture Studio (that’s where the Verizon and R/GA funding comes from).

READ FULL ARTICLE

SEAS startup part of Honda's 3E Robotics Concept at CES 2018

Committed to creating transformative products through open innovation, Silicon Valley-based Honda Innovations will showcase new Honda Xcelerator partnerships with startups
in the Global Innovator Showcase at CES.

**BRAIQ**, a Columbia University startup, taking a different view of automated driving is one of the Honda Xcelerator partners. BRAIQ bridges the gap between human preferences and artificial intelligence to personalize the driving style of autonomous vehicles. To learn more about BRAIQ, click [here](#). To learn more about Columbia University startups, click [here](#).

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**Announcements**

**Columbia Startup Lab : Open seats for startups**

Columbia Startup Lab is looking for recent alumni who've received their degree in the past five years who are working full time on their venture. Accepted applications will join the current cohort of Lab resident ventures in the 69 Charlton WeWork building in the middle of Silicon Alley. Limited seats available. Contact Ivy Schultz ([is2350@columbia.edu](mailto:is2350@columbia.edu)) for more information.

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**Fall 2017 Regional I-Corps program**

Congratulations to all our teams that participated in the New York City Regional Innovation Node's Fall 2017 Regional I-Corps program. One SEAS Columbia University team, CU WaterMakers (Pablo Cassorla, Adam Atia, Zhouran Zhang and Benjamin Wolkon), focused on the desalinization of water to provide clean water to remote areas.
Opportunities to Get Involved

Mentoring
We're always looking for mentors for our most promising teams. If you would like to share advice and help an aspiring entrepreneur, please register here to be a volunteer mentor. You will have the amazing opportunity to assist a team improve its business idea/model and increase its chances of gaining funding!

Office Hours & Sounding Board
The staff of SEAS Entrepreneurship Programs invites you to our open office hours! Email seaseship@columbia.edu to schedule. We also have an amazing group of alumni serving on our Sounding Board. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity by asking questions about anything related to entrepreneurship, especially as you prepare to enter the Columbia Venture Competition. We have many resources that we'd love to share with you!