Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a relaxing winter break and are looking forward to the new semester. We're coming back to school strong, with plenty of entrepreneurship events planned for this coming month. Of special note is Third Thursday, which is right around the corner - this month's talk will focus on immigration and entrepreneurship. Read more about the event below! We hope to see many of you there, and be sure to stay warm in this gloomy weather. :)

Visit SEAS Entrepreneurship for more info.

What To Look Forward To

Entrepreneurship programs aim to connect you with resources to help build your idea or business. We collaborate heavily with other offices and organizations on and off campus to bring you speaker series, office hours, site visits, mentors, funding opportunities and much more. Read below about some of our key events for this academic year.

Third Thursday - Immigration & Entrepreneurship
Thursday, January 26
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Morningside Campus - CEPSR 750
Third Thursday is a recurring open forum and networking and info session for the Columbia University entrepreneurship community. It provides students, faculty, staff, and alumni the opportunity to hear ideas from across campus, form teams, and explore career options. You'll hear from Columbia alumni and other experts on their experiences working in the field, how they've applied their Columbia experience in their careers, and more. This Thursday, we'll be featuring 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.
To learn more about the event and to register, click here!

Columbia Entrepreneurship Bootcamp
Friday, February 3
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Morningside Campus - CEPSR Davis Auditorium
Are you interested in starting your own venture? Join us for a 1 day event as we highlight the essentials of starting a business. You will have the opportunity to listen to professionals who counsel companies and investors address topics such as patents, the process of creating a company, fundraising, and more. We will conclude with a networking reception where you will have the opportunity to meet speakers and fellow guests.

*This is a free event, however, we ask all attendees to register with a $25 deposit due to limited seating.* The deposit will be refunded to all who attend the event. You may cancel your ticket and receive a full refund by Monday, January 30, by 5pm EST.

For more detailed information and to register, click [here](#).

**Columbia Venture Competition**

**Applications due in February**

First launched in April 2009, the Columbia Venture Competition awards prize money to early-stage ventures all founded by young Columbia entrepreneurs. Over the years the competition has grown to be a campus wide event, culminating in the #Startup Columbia Festival. In 2016, the competition featured five different tracks and paid out a total of $250K to winners. The first round applications for CVC 2017 will be due in February - stay tuned for updates on CVC and Ignition Funds for your startups and projects!

**Tamer Fund for Social Ventures**

**Applications due March 1st**

Apply to the Tamer Fund for Social Ventures by March 1, 2017!

The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at Columbia Business School is now accepting applications for the Tamer Fund for Social Ventures. This Fund provides seed grants of up to $25,000 to nonprofit, for-profit, and hybrid early-stage social ventures. Ventures must be led by Columbia University students or alumni, or be advised and have significant involvement by Columbia University faculty or researchers. Tamer Fund seed grants will be made to approximately seven ventures each year.

More information and the online application is available at: [http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/socialenterprise/socialventures/apply](http://www8.gsb.columbia.edu/socialenterprise/socialventures/apply)

**SEAS Entrepreneurship Sounding Board**

**Accepting Applications on a Rolling Basis**

The Entrepreneurial Sounding Board Program offered by SEAS Entrepreneurship is an opportunity for Columbia engineers to schedule one-on-one advisory meetings with industry experts to discuss their own entrepreneurial ideas and challenges. This program allows engineering students to connect with recent alumni for entrepreneurial advice, support, and guidance. Click here to view the Sounding Board Advisors. If one of the advisors listed matches your interests, then please feel free to submit an application to be his or her mentee.
**Work at Columbia Startup Lab!**

Limited space available now!
We’re looking for recent Columbia Engineering alumni who have received their degree in the past five years and who are working full time on their venture. Join the current cohort of Lab resident ventures in the 69 Charlton WeWork building in the middle of Silicon Alley. Columbia-founded startups come from Columbia College and the Schools of Business, Engineering, Law, and International and Public Affairs.

[APPLY NOW!](#)

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**Upcoming Events**

**University and College Entrepreneurs Congressional Internship Program**

**Application due January 30**

The National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer (NCET2) is hosting the University and College Entrepreneurs Congressional Internship Program. This highly competitive program aims to educate and cultivate student leaders in policy issues that impact entrepreneurs and startups. The Program also seeks to build the student’s professional networks in the startup and policy communities in Washington D.C., in Silicon Valley, and at their home university and communities.

University and college students will intern in the offices of members of Congress – in the Senate or in the House of Representatives – with a high level of involvement in startups, tech transfer and/or entrepreneurship, at the pleasure of the office. Before beginning at Congress, interns admitted into the Program will also participate in a one-week Silicon Valley immersion to experience startup culture from entrepreneurs, angel investors, venture capitalists, startup companies and corporations in the valley.

The internship program will run mid-June to mid-August 2017. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).
Spark Workshop: Hacking Community Solar
Wednesday, February 1
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Morningside Campus - Uris Hall: Calder Lounge (1st floor)
Traditionally, many people are unable to participate in solar energy because they rent their home, live in an apartment building, or own properties unsuitable for installing solar panels. With the New York State Shared Renewables Program, customers can, for the first time, join together to share in the benefits of local solar, wind, and other renewable energy projects. Under this program, solar electric panels are installed offsite to produce renewable energy for subscribing members. Each member’s solar production then appears as a credit on their monthly utility bill. Residents of apartments and condominiums can now go solar!

In this workshop, we will be discussing:

- What are some of the financial and structural barriers prohibiting widespread community solar adoption in NYC?
- What are viable community solar solutions?

Register here!

Building Credible Financials for Early Stage Investors
Thursday, February 2
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, 10 East 21st St, 3rd floor
Please join us for an evening with David Ehrenberg, a long-time friend, partner and mentor to Columbia University Entrepreneurship. He started Early Growth Financial Services to provide a service that didn’t exist when he was working at early stage companies – high-quality accounting and strategic financial consulting services on demand.

David will conduct 90-minute interactive workshop, which will lay out

- What angels are looking for in a set of credible financials
- What really impresses them
- What they DON’T want to see

Register here!

2017 Tamer Center for Social Enterprise Annual Reception
Wednesday, February 8
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Morningside Campus - Low Library, Rotunda
The Tamer Center for Social Enterprise cordially invites you to an evening of networking and socializing with fellow alumni, faculty members, students and professionals in the social enterprise sector. We will award Justine Zinkin ’02BUS, CEO of Neighborhood Trust Financial Partners, with the 2017 Social Enterprise Leadership Award honoree, and she will give her remarks during the reception.

Register here!
Lightspeed Partner, Krish Parikh, on Entrepreneurship  
Monday, February 13  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, Morningside Campus - Computer Science lounge

Lightspeed partner, Krish Parikh, will be visiting Columbia on Monday, February 13, from 12-1PM to host a session for students interested in learning about VC/startups/entrepreneurship. Lightspeed Venture Partners is an early stage investor in both enterprise and consumer companies, including Snapchat, Nest, Nutanix, Docker, and GrubHub.

Krish will give insight into what trends VCs are seeing in the tech ecosystem and Lightspeed’s investment philosophy. As summer/graduation approaches and many students are thinking of career options, he will offer perspective on how to think about various career choices including working at large tech companies, starting a company, or joining a startup. Food & beverages will be provided.

Register [here](#).

Applying Data Science to Real-World Problems  
Wednesday, February 22  
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM, Morningside Campus - CEPSR Davis Auditorium

Booz Allen Hamilton’s Dan Liebermann and Ben Arancibia will cover what it takes to get data science done in the real world. They will be sharing stories from the trenches – covering experiences and lessons learned from turning data science theory into reality when the problem (and the solution) are far from known. The talk will heavily engage the audience to hear their perspective, and cover the approach Booz Allen took to solve its clients’ problems. The goal is to get the audience thinking about what they would do in these situations and how they would apply their classroom experience.

An Afternoon with Y Combinator Partners Dalton Caldwell and Kat Manalac  
Friday, February 24  
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Columbia Startup Lab (69 Charlton St. @ Varick)

Join Columbia Entrepreneurship at the Columbia Startup Lab for an Afternoon with Y Combinator Partners Dalton Caldwell and Kat Manalac! Dalton Caldwell was the cofounder and CEO of imeem (acquired by MySpace in 2009), and the cofounder and CEO of App.net. He has a BS in Symbolic Systems and a BA in Psychology from Stanford University. Kat Manalac was Chief of Staff to Alexis Ohanian, cofounder of reddit, before joining YC as its Director of Outreach. Prior to that, Kat was at WIRED Magazine where she managed brand and strategy. Kat has a BS in Communications from Northwestern University.

Register [here](#).

Apply to Work at MetaRe!  

MetaRe, Inc. is a young start-up funded by the New York State Energy Research and
Development Authority. As one of the three fully funded teams in the PowerBridge Program, MetaRe is committed to catalyze the paradigm shift in the roofing industry by introducing out energy efficient roof coating. Through innovative roofing products, MetaRe shares the latest discoveries in nano-photonics with everyone, everywhere. Currently, MetaRe is looking for a highly motivated scientist in the field of Mechanical Engineering to join the team and champion the development of MetaRe Brand roof coating, and supervising the certification processes. To learn more about the position, please email April Tian at mavistian@gmail.com.

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**Announcements**

**Columbia Lands 11 on Forbes "30 Under 30"**

Congratulations to the 11 Columbia alumni named to various Forbes "30 Under 30" lists! Among the 30 Under 30 categories with Columbia representation are: gaming, media, social entrepreneurship, healthcare, science, law & policy, and energy. 2 of the 11 are SEAS alumni. Read more about the individuals and their accomplishments [here](#).

**Vidrovr Inc. Awarded Competitive Grant from the National Science Foundation**

Congratulations to Vidrovr Inc., which has been awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Small Business Innovation Research grant for $225,000 to conduct R&D work on autonomous multimedia video understanding systems. Vidrovr specializes in leveraging various types of information in videos such as, pixels, audio and text to deeply understand and label what is occurring both on and off screen.

Co-founders Joe Ellis and Dan Morozoff are both PhD candidates at Columbia, and have leveraged their technical expertise in building distributed systems with a high capacity for real-time data processing into building Vidrovr. Read Vidrovr's abstract [here](#).

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**Opportunities to Get Involved**

**Office Hours**

The staff of SEAS Entrepreneurship Programs invites you to our open office hours! Email seaseship@columbia.edu to schedule. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity by asking us 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!
If there is something specific that you'd like us to include in this newsletter, please contact us. If you're interested in what's happening at the university-wide scale, check out our friends at Columbia Entrepreneurship, CORE and ADI.