March Madness

Welcome back and we hope you had a relaxing and fun spring break. We have several exciting events and deadlines in the coming weeks. Continue reading to learn more about the upcoming events, amazing opportunities to win prizes through various venture competitions, exciting career development opportunities, and more...

SEAS Highlights: Third Thursday (Mar 22), Start Me Up Bootcamp (Applications Due: Mar 28), Columbia Startup Lab (Applications Due: Mar 28)

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

Third Thursday: Nikos Theodosopoulos, BS'84
Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 5:30 pm
Mudd 524
March Third Thursday will feature Nikos Theodosopoulos, who currently serves as an independent director at: ADVA Optical Networking SE (Frankfurt Exchange: ADV) where he is also Chairman of the Supervisory Board, Arista Networks (NYSE: ANET), and Harmonic Inc. (NASDAQ: HLIT) where he is also Chairman of the Audit Committee. Nikos also runs an independent board and advisor practice as part of NT Advisors LLC, which he founded in 2012. Furthermore, Nikos is an active angel investor and is a member of the New York Angels, which is one of the top ten most active angel groups in the world.

For more details and registration, [click here](#).

### Spark Workshop: Open Impact Innovation

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 6 pm**  
**Uris Hall, Room 140**

Large corporations leverage the best collaborative innovation technologies to generate billions of dollars in new business. By bringing together thousands of minds from around the world to engage on tactical, strategic, and operational problems, they're able to identify novel solutions.

What if these same technologies could be leveraged in problem solving for social impact? What if nonprofits of any size, anywhere around the world, could tap into the expertise and resources of those same minds?

Endeavour Innovation is a single, central, open impact innovation platform available to nonprofits at no cost. They are creating the capacity to engage with anyone, anywhere around the world, and at any time for social impact.

Join this spark workshop to help Endeavor Innovation explore resources, connections, and potential solutions to help their social venture. For more details and registration, [click here](#).

### The Business Side of AI: A Conversation with Bill O'Farrell & Avi Goldfarb

**Monday, April 2, 2018 at 6 pm**  
**Warren Hall, Room 310**

Join us for a conversation with Professor Bill O'Farrell and Professor Avi Goldfarb exploring the path to success for launching and growing an AI startup.

Professor Bill O'Farrell was most recently co-founder and CEO of Body Labs, a computer vision and AI company focused on providing the human body as a digital platform for a broad range of markets, including online apparel sales, gaming, health and fitness and AR/VR applications. Amazon purchased Body Labs in September 2017.

Professor Avi Goldfarb is the Ellison Professor of Marketing at Toronto's Rotman School of Management. His research focuses on the impact of information technology on marketing and on the economy.

The discussion will be moderated by Lang Center Faculty Director Olivier Toubia, Glaubinger Professor of Business. For more details and registration, [click here](#).
Startup Columbia Festival
Friday, April 6, 2018. Doors open at 8:45 am
Miller Theater

Join the 5th-Annual #StartupColumbiaFestival, meet unicorn founder Marco Zappacosta ’07CC, CEO of Thumbtack, listed among the FastCompany 2018 Most Innovative Companies. We will drill down on the coming of the New Space Revolution, Democratization of Leadership, Data Ethics, and How Blockchain will Liberate the Netizens.

Lunch will be served by 20 different Columbia food and beverage founders at the Columbia Food Founders Fare. We’ll be giving away $200,000 to the Columbia Venture Competition Winners.

Early Bird Tickets on Sale Now. For tickets and more information, click here

Senior Design Expo
Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 12 pm
Roone Arledge Auditorium

Join the expo to learn about the various amazing design projects completed by students of the SEAS class of 2018. For more information, please email sap2197@tc.columbia.edu

Upcoming Deadlines

ERA Summer 2018 Accelerator
Applications Close: Thursday, March 29, 2018
Program Start: Monday, June 11, 2018

ERA Summer ’18 NYC Accelerator Program ($100K in seed funding; NYC’s leading accelerator; Largest mentor network in NYC (350+); Work daily w/ full time staff + venture partners; NYC’s strongest post-program support w/ alumni network of 135+ companies).

For more details and application, please click here

BMEidea
Applications Close: Wednesday, April 4, 2018
APPLY NOW

VentureWell's national BMEidea competition offers university biomedical entrepreneurs the chance to win up to $10,000 and receive critical early-stage validation of their ideas.

Mass Challenge
The MassChallenge program helps entrepreneurs solve the world’s biggest challenges. The program accelerates the highest-impact, highest-potential startups through a selective, zero-equity program that connects participants to up to $2M in cash prizes, an established international community of startups, world-class mentoring from industry experts, tailored programming, and unrivaled access to corporate partners.

AAAS-Lemelson Invention Ambassadors Program

The AAAS-Lemelson Invention Ambassadors Program is now accepting applications and nominations for the 2018-2019 Class of Invention Ambassadors. The program strives to inspire a diverse generation of inventors dedicated to solving global challenges, inform on the components needed to create inventions that solve global problems, and influence policy makers, thought leaders, and the public. Ambassadorships are 12 months long.

Halcyon Incubator Fall 2018 Fellowship Application

Halcyon Incubator is now accepting applications for their Fall 2018 Fellowship! Halcyon provides aspiring social entrepreneurs and change makers like you with a place to live and work in DC, a $10,000 stipend, mentoring, leadership coaching, and access to potential investors. Halcyon takes 0% equity and is committed to supporting you along your entrepreneurial journey.

In the News

Columbia University Start Me Up Bootcamp

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Join a select group of entrepreneurs for an exciting day of lectures and learning designed to build successful business.

Eligibility

- Each team consists of at least three members: The Entrepreneurial Lead (EL), The Technical Lead (TL), and The Industry Mentor (IM)
- The technology should be within a STEM-related industry that has potential commercialization ability and is scalable.
- The technology can be funded by any government agency but must be disclosed to the Columbia Technology Transfer Office.
Students must complete five customer discovery interviews with potential customers before the event kickoff and must complete 15 additional customer discovery interviews by the final presentation day.

*Looking for resources on how to conduct successful customer discovery interviews? Check out the book Talking to Humans by Giff Constable*

**Benefits**

- Concentrated time to focus on commercialization activities
- Build relationships with experienced entrepreneurs and investors who can help you bring your product to market
- Identify commercial potential for your technology to increase probability of grant success and/or raising venture capital
- Develop entrepreneurship skills and learn about business model development. Students engage in the customer discovery process by spending time outside the lab and talking to customers, partners and competitors.

For more details and event timeline, please [click here](#)

**NailiT Business Project**

NailiT is a self-service, portable and automated device that allow users to seamlessly paint their nails with colors, designs, and images of their choice. NailiT delivers instantaneous results from a click/push button; can be used in areas with or no internet connection, and can be plugged or powered by a battery, providing users with extraordinary convenience at a cost effective price.

For more details and questions, please email Armel Mangal at Amanga18@gsb.columbia.edu

---

**Career Development**

**UPenn Venture Looks for a Front-end Javascript Co-founder**

A Penn venture is looking to find a family member (front-end javascript) tech co-founder / engineer to work with. Currently, we have two people, one works on business, one works on back-end. **Recipicious** is a the recipe sharing community that allows you to know how to cook the unforgettable dish from your favorite restaurant. You can see more about us on [social media](#). If you are just interested or have any questions, follow us or contact me to chat more. Reply on FB or email zhuoruif@sas.upenn.edu directly!

**Digital Developer Partner**

**Elanit Linder** is an aging professional at Columbia School of Social Work. Elanit has identified a problem in the aging community, has a business solution and is seeing a digital developer for a partnership. More for information, check out Elanit's profile at [linkedin.com/in/elanit](https://linkedin.com/in/elanit) and books on Amazon.
Software Engineering Intern
Trek Medics International

SUMMARY – Trek Medics International (www.trekmedics.org) is a nonprofit tech organization that builds and improves emergency medical systems in resource-limited settings through innovative mobile phone technologies. We are looking for a highly productive and reliable programmer who can join our software development team and contribute in one of three areas:

- **Backend functionality** – The Backend dispatches and coordinates first responders and IoT devices via text messages and automates the entire process from incident alert to patient handover at a facility
- **Frontend features** – The Frontend allows managers, supervisors and dispatchers to communicate and coordinate the platforms operations
- **Mobile App layout and design** – The Mobile App allows first responders to receive alerts and communicate their actions with the Beacon platform

READ FULL JOB DESCRIPTION

Technical Intern/Summer Fellowship
Kinnos

SUMMARY – We are looking for a dedicated technical full-time intern who will conduct experiments to advance our color changing technology into new product applications. If you’re truly interested in stopping the spread of disease, aren't afraid to get your hands dirty, and have a knack for picking up new science and engineering concepts quickly, then we’ll hold up our side of the bargain and give you a meaningful project with real deliverables that you can be proud of working on. To apply, please send a note to team@kinnos.us along with your resume/CV.

READ FULL JOB DESCRIPTION

Announcements

Columbia Startup Lab : Open seats for startups
APPLICATION DEADLINE: Wednesday, March 28, 2018

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, apply here.
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](mailto: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!