November News

The weather is getting chillier and the holidays are fast approaching! We hope everyone is staying afloat with exams and getting ready to celebrate with some holiday cheer. We have plenty of entrepreneurship events planned for the next few weeks and we look forward to seeing you around!

Visit SEAS Entrepreneurship for more info.

In Case You Missed It

If you couldn't make it to October's Third Thursday but would still like to hear what speaker Sean Kelly (SEAS BME ’05) had to say, check out the podcast recording below! Sean is CEO of SnackNation, an Inc. 500 ranked company that delivers healthy snacks to offices across America. On October's Third Thursday, he discussed product-market fit and the best time to get into entrepreneurship.

https://soundcloud.com/user-52166908/third-thursdays-sean-kelly

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.

Fast Pitch
November 15, 2016
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
This pitch competition gives you the chance to practice your 60 second business pitch to experienced judges and the opportunity to win money for your venture! Undergrads, grad students, and faculty from all schools and institutes across Columbia University are eligible
Columbia Venture Competition
March 30, 2017
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!

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!
Upcoming Events

The Changing World of Raising Capital
Thursday, November 3
6:00 PM, Morningside Campus - Pulitzer Hall Lecture Hall (Room 301)
The world of raising capital for start-up companies has experienced a revolution. Prior to the enactment of the JOBS Act in 2012, raising capital for private companies was limited to offline communications and was dominated by the professional venture capitalists. Now the capital raising process has been democratized. Capital can be raised online directly by companies or through intermediaries. It can be accomplished by crowd sourcing to "accredited investors" or, in limited amounts, by crowd funding to everyone. Additionally, companies can raise capital in an "IPO lite" manner by using the new Reg A+.
Come join us on the Columbia University campus for an entertaining evening with a world class panel of the leaders changing the way that capital is being raised for new emerging companies. Co-sponsored by MintzEdge (powered by the law firm of Mintz Levin) and Columbia Technology Ventures, learn what these innovators in the new world of raising capital are thinking and planning. Register here.

Fast Pitch Prep with Kevin Zhang ’13CC
Thursday, November 3
8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Morningside Campus - CEPSR 750
In this first pitch prep session, Kevin Zhang, former president of CORE and fast pitch judge, will guide you in creating a persuasive and compelling elevator pitch that you can use to ignite interest in your company. Kevin focuses on product marketing, partnerships, and analytics as the first business hire at Fundera, a Khosla-backed startup helping Main St entrepreneurs save thousands on loans to grow their small businesses. Kevin is also honored to serve as Alumni Chairman of the Columbia Organization of Rising Entrepreneurs (CORE). Prior to Fundera, Kevin spent time at Bain & Company, AOLVentures, and Addepar. At this event, you'll also learn the where, how, and why of videotaping your pitch as well as how to upload your pitch to our judging system to get feedback before the live Fast Pitch competition on 11/17. Register here.

Venture Capital Investing in the Biotech Startup Space
Wednesday, November 9
5:30 PM, Columbia Medical Center - Faculty Club
Join Columbia Women Investors Network for a discussion exploring venture capital investing in biotech companies with Charlotte Hubbert of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Charlotte brings a wealth of experience in venture capital investing, startups, and emerging biotechnology, having previously served as Vice President with H.I.G. BioVentures and an associate at Accelerator Corporation, where she was involved in the strategic development and management of many companies including Oncofactor, Groove Bipharma, and Acylin Therapeutics. Register here.
Apply to ERA for Winter 2017 Accelerator Program
Deadline November 9
ERA is NYC’s leading accelerator program. Companies get $100K in funding; work daily with full-time staff, venture partners and industry experts; and receive access to NYC’s largest mentor network (300+) and strongest post-program support with an alumni network of 110+ companies. ERA alumni have raised $225M+ with a combined valuation of $1.2B+, and 40%+ of startups from our first class have been acquired. Apply here.

Will Platforms Save Society? Opportunities in Emerging Markets
Thursday, November 10
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM, Morningside Campus - Warren Hall Room 209
Presented by Entrepreneur in Residence Austin Okere, Founder, CWG Plc and Member, World Economic Forum Business Council on Intrapreneurship and Innovation. Register here.

YankTech NYC Demo
Wednesday, November 16
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM, Columbia Startup Lab
YankTech is very excited to announce another demo event at WeWork Soho West in NYC. Free pizza will be provided, so come hungry! Register here.

Design Sprint: Storytelling
Friday, November 18
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Columbia Entrepreneurship Design Studio (490 Riverside Dr.)
Please join us for our Storytelling Sprint to learn about how to create a compelling narrative for yourself and your ideas. Knowing how to tell a compelling story about yourself or your product is one of the most important yet overlooked traits of a successful entrepreneur. Join us to explore how to construct a coherent narrative, expand your creative confidence, and master the art of a good story. The session is equally useful for teams who want pitching help and students who want to learn how to perfect their next presentation. If you have questions, please reach out to designstudio@columbia.edu. Register here.

Fireside Chat with Nina Tandon and Hemai Parthasarathy
Friday, November 18
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Columbia Medical Center - 4th Floor Faculty Club
Join Columbia WIN for a discussion between two leading members of the early-stage biotech community. Nina Tandon, CEO and co-founder of EpiBone, and Hemai Parthasarathy, Scientific Director of Breakout Labs and the Thiel Foundation (and investor in Epibone), will discuss the current state of biotech investing, their lessons on lifescience entrepreneurship, and some advice for those looking to launch their
Urban-X Accelerator Cohort02 Application
Due November 29
Applications are now open for Urban-X's cohort 02, which will kick off in October in NYC. Focusing on the convergence of Smart Cities, Connected Real Estate, Resilient Energy Systems, and the Future of Mobility, Big Data, and Digitalization of Urban Infrastructure, Urban-X is looking for pre-seed startups, founders, and hungry risk-takers working on technology for intelligent cities, urban hyper-growth, and society-scale challenges.
Operated by MINI and SOSV HAX, Urban-X invests in and accelerates startups through a 4 month program, with hands-on mentorship, customer development, hardware engineering, design, partnerships, and fundraising help. Our network of over 100 mentors, prospective partners, customers, and policymakers is incredibly deep. Applications are competitive. Chosen startups will receive $60,000 USD in seed capital investment plus significant in-kind software, hosting, and legal services, as well as the opportunity to hone your solution at HAX’s facilities in Shenzhen and BMW / MINI’s global operations in Munich. Applications are due November 29th and can be found here: https://urban-x.com/apply/

Columbia-Coulter Call for Pre-Proposals
Due December 1
Apply for proof-of-concept funding to support development of promising biomedical technologies. The Columbia-Coulter program is currently accepting Pre-Proposals for the next round of funding and commercialization support. All technologies with the potential to directly impact human health will be considered. Eligible teams must include both an engineer and a clinician, at least one PI must have a faculty appointment at Columbia, and the technology should be an idea or invention based on Columbia intellectual property. If you need an engineering or clinical collaborator, we may be able to facilitate introductions. Please email matchmaking requests to coulter@columbia.edu by November 1, 2016. Visit www.columbia-coulter.org or email coulter@columbia.edu for more information. Pre-Proposals are due December 1, 2016.

Student Startup Madness SXSW Competition
Due December 2
Online applications are now being accepted for Student Startup Madness, a fun and exciting nationwide tournament offering college student startups the opportunity to “live the entrepreneurial dream” – compete against fellow student entrepreneurs and grab the attention of potential investors and leaders in the startup community at the South By Southwest Interactive festival in March 2017.
Student Startup Madness (SSM) is open to all college student digital media startups from any college/university in the United States. To apply, go to http://studentstartupmadness.com/apply-now/. Applications will be accepted
through Midnight (EST), Friday, December 2, 2016. Teams are encouraged to apply for “Early Admission” by Midnight (EST) Friday, October 14, 2016, when 20 of the 64 SSM tournament teams will be selected. For more information and to apply, click here.

**Advanced Tactics Design Workshop: Facilitating Creative Teams**

*Friday, December 9*

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Columbia Entrepreneurship Design Studio (490 Riverside Dr.)

Are you interested in using design thinking to drive a creative team? Join us for our advanced tactic workshop where we will show you how to lead a team through a design process. The focus will be on developing environments that encourage creative behaviors leading to novel ideas. The session is for people who have attended at least one previous Design Studio sprint or equivalent learning experience. If you have questions, please reach out to designstudio@columbia.edu. Register here.

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**Announcements**

**Radiator Labs Announces $2.42 Million in Equity Financing**

Congratulations to our SEAS alumnus, Marshall Cox (PhD EE ’13), and SEAS Professor John Kymissis for recently announcing $2.42 million in equity financing for their company Radiator Labs! Radiator Labs uses a systems-based thermodynamic approach to solve overheating problems in millions of overheated homes across the United States and abroad. Read more about their recent success here!

**EpiBone CEO Featured on Bloomberg**

EpiBone CEO Nina Tandon (PhD BME ’09 and MBA ’12) was recently featured in Bloomberg for her company’s innovative technology that engineers stem cells into bone grafts. EpiBone enhances people’s lives with personalized bone implants, allowing patients to “grow their own bone” by utilizing a scan of the patient’s bone defect and the patient’s own stem cells to construct and cultivate a defect-specific autologous-like bone graft. Watch her speech at the Bloomberg Link Longevity Economy Conference here, or watch her TED talks here!
Nina Tandon on technology that engineers stem cells into bone grafts and its implications for the aging population

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.