And... We're Off

The Fall 2018 semester is off to a rapid and successful start. It is exciting to see new and familiar faces all around campus once again. Many of our programs and events for the fall have kicked off including the India Design Challenge and our September Third Thursday open forum networking meeting. Join us for our Fast Pitch Competition on November 15th.

Continue reading for upcoming events and deadlines!

“This was my first time pitching in a business competition and it was an incredible, eye-opening experience,” said MoLabs' Meghana Noonavath (SEAS ’18). MoLabs won first place in the undergraduate challenge.
SEAS Highlights: Third Thursday (Oct 25), Fast Pitch (Videos Drafts Due Oct 30, Live Event Nov 15)

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, The Lang Center, CTV, CORE and ADI.

Upcoming Events

**Third Thursday: Crafting your perfect pitch!**
*Date: October 25, 2018*
*Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm*
*Location: 750 CEPSR*

Thursday October 25, 2018. These monthly forums provide students, faculty, staff, and alumni with the opportunity to hear ideas from across campus, form teams, and explore career options. Third Thursday for **October 25** will feature Abby Lyall, who will cover "crafting your perfect pitch" as well as a number of other topics in Startup. Abby Lyall manages the cohort operations for Quake's New York office, as well as organizing Quake's UIS, CVP, and internship programs for university students. [Register here](#)

**Fast Pitch Competition**
*Date: November 15, 2018*
*Time: 5:30 - 9:00pm*
*Location: Davis Auditorium*

Fast Pitch is Columbia Engineering's annual elevator pitch competition where teams have 60 seconds to sell their business ideas to a panel of judges. Your elevator pitch could be the most important words that describe your business. If you are not able to hook your investors, partners, or customers within the first minute, then you have likely lost them forever. The Fast Pitch competition will help your team improve your marketing, sales, and promotional capabilities. Teams are judged on their appeal, conciseness, and completeness. Attendance and participation is free. As for the experience, it is priceless! [Register here](#)

**October 30 deadline:** Video pitches (drafts) due at midnight, no professional editing required, just a pitch!

Submit through YouNoodle

*Optional, teams who submit videos will be given feedback and priority to the live pitch event*

**November 15 deadline:** Fast Pitch Competition, 5:30 PM Davis Auditorium

**The 2019 EdTech Design Challenge, Brazil** | The 2019 EdTech Design Challenge is a semester-long design challenge where 12 Columbia University students from across disciplines will work with clients to solve deeply entrenched K-12 education challenges in Brazil. This challenge includes a sponsored trip to Sao Paulo, Brazil in January 2019. October 31: [Register here](#)

**2018 Social Enterprise Conference, Capital for Good**
Join us as we bring together industry leaders, investors, philanthropists, professionals, faculty, students, and alumni to share best practices and engender new ideas surrounding the intersection of capital and society. Speaker presentations will catalyze conversations of change and embolden a generation to take risks in order to create a world in which everyone, regardless of where they were born, has the equal opportunity to succeed in creating a better life for themselves, their families, and their communities. Register here

---

### Upcoming Deadlines

**Columbia PowerBridge NY**

Apply by November 1st 11:59PM

PowerBridgeNY is a proof-of-concept center (of which Columbia University is a partner) that provides up to $150K to validate and commercialize emerging clean energy innovations. All Columbia-employed researchers, post-doctoral candidates, and Ph.D. candidates are eligible to serve as Principal Investigators and may apply for this funding opportunity.

The pre-proposal opens October 1st and is due November 1st. Join us at this info session to learn more about the program! Lunch will be provided.

Please apply here

**Satellite Tracking Design Innovation Challenge**

Deadline: November 8, 2018, 5:00pm

NASA and the Department of Interior’s (DOI) Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) are working together to study the feasibility of accelerating technology development for, what we’ve been referring to, as the next generation of animal tracking. The idea is basically to widen the data pipe allowing for more information from tagged animals, as well as improve the accuracy of tags which rely on Doppler effect for localization. The challenge includes a total prize pool of up to $30,000. Winners to be announced in December.

This challenge is the first in a possible series of challenges addressing Next Generation Animal Tracking. Submissions to this initial challenge will be used to inform potential future challenges looking at solutions for an open system architecture and software integration.

If you have new ideas to improve upon the current system of data reception via cubesats, please register here.

**Columbia Startup Lab**

The Columbia Startup Lab provides 71 Columbia alums with the co-working space, programming, and network they need to take their ventures to the next level. The Lab has a few openings for SEAS alumni.

Apply now and jump start your startup.
News and Stories

CYBER NYC Initiative
Columbia will have a leadership role in launching and running the NYCEDC’s CyberNYC initiative, alongside partners including Cornell Tech, CUNY, NYU, Jerusalem Venture Partners, SOSA, iQ4, and Fullstack Academy.

On behalf of CyberNYC, CTV will be leading the effort helping to accelerate promising early-stage cybersecurity technologies out of the City's academic research labs and into the market, building on Columbia’s experience with similar programs for clean energy, medical devices, therapeutics, and media.

You can read more about the initiative in this coverage from Tech Crunch.

The Urban Works India Design Challenge is Underway!

On Saturday October 6, students met in the Design Studio for a day-long session to understand the context of the problems in urban India and to ideate and form teams. By midnight, 17 teams had submitted slides to join the competition.

Open Startup Tunisia Update
On Sunday, October 21, 6 out of 21 student teams were selected to advance to round 2 of the Open Startup Tunisia (OST) competition in Tunisia. In September SEAS and OST hosted a 3 day bootcamp in Tunis to help students launch their startup ideas, The six student teams selected to advance:
Athena-io, Farcha, Co-health, Hapi, Bechawet and Tun-up. The winning OST team will be selected in January 2019 to participate in the Columbia Venture Competition in April 2019.

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!