Our mission

• The Viterbi School Office of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship will:
  – Educate engineers on strategies to invent, develop, integrate, and sustain technologies that address significant needs
  – Launch ventures with meaningful social and economic impact based on USC faculty, staff, students, and technologies
  – Promote an ethical and inclusive technology innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem

• We are separate from USC Stevens Center for Innovation which is our technology transfer office. For students and postdocs, see the following: https://research.usc.edu/files/2018/01/Student-memo-1.8.17.pdf

• We are completely online!
The tech startup scene in Los Angeles
Cool facts about the LA tech startup scene

- Los Angeles (LA) has the 3rd largest GDP in the world after Tokyo and New York
- LA is the 3rd largest tech ecosystem in the US
- LA is fastest growing tech ecosystem in the US
- LA companies raised $6.4B in 2018
- LA ranks first in 3 industries: gaming, e-commerce, and online media
  - Emerging sectors include: VR/AR, e-sports, transportation, and aerospace
- LA is the manufacturing capital of the US
- LA graduates more engineers than any other US city
- SCilicon Beach is home to >500 technology companies
Curriculum (to name a few classes)

- ENGR 100 Engineering Honors Colloquium
- ENGR 102 Freshman Academy
- ENGR 493 Disruptive Technologies with an Entrepreneurial Mindset (coming FY 21-22)
- ENGR 499 Technology Development and Commercialization
- CE 499 Innovation in Engineering Design for Global Challenges
- ISE 585 Strategic Management of Technology
- CSCI 599 Innovation for Defense Applications
- ITP courses in Innovation: The Digital Entrepreneurship Minor
  - [https://itp.usc.edu/academics/innovation-digital-entrepreneur/](https://itp.usc.edu/academics/innovation-digital-entrepreneur/)
VSI² supports student exploration of technology innovation and entrepreneurship to create impact through:

– Co-curricular competitions and experiences
– Classes and class modules in VSoE
– Office hours that provide personalized mentoring and support to individuals and teams
– Opportunities to support TIE programming
Atoms, Bits, and Cells (ABC) Undergraduate Prizes

• 3 prizes of $1000 per team
  – Atoms: engineering hardware projects
  – Bits: digital projects such as mobile and web apps including AI, ML applications
  – Cells: biomedical or bioengineering projects

• Info Session: end Oct/early Nov
• Applications due in January
• Participate in VSI² workshops
• [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/abc/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/abc/)
Hacking for Defense (H4D)

- CSCI 599 Innovation for Defense Applications (Spring 21)
- Taught by combination of faculty (Prof. Neuman) and military experts
  - Learn about real national security issues
  - You do not need to be a US citizen
  - We sent a team to the Pentagon!
  - Includes networking with military leadership
- [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/h4d/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/h4d/)
Maseeh Entrepreneurship Prize Competition (MEPC)

• Flagship competition
• $50,000 grand prize
• Participate in VSI² workshops
• Free legal services to top teams

• Stay tuned and join us!
  – Applications Open: 9/4
  – Applications Due: 10/4
  – Info Session General: 9/10, 12p
  – Kick-off + Orientation: 10/22, 4p
  – First Workshop: 10/29, 4p
  – Semi-finals: 3/23, 4p
  – Finals: April

To learn more and stay tuned:
https://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/mepc/
Min Family Challenge (MFC)

- Focus: support student use of engineering and technology to develop sustainable and effective solutions for global problems, positively affecting the greater society
- Topic: to be announced
- $50,000 grand prize
- Free legal services to top teams

- Info Session: 9/18, 12p
- Applications due: 11/1
- Participate in VS1² workshops
- Present to investors at our finals event
- [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/mfc/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/mfc/)
Additional Programs

- Mousetrap Fund – prototyping funds for potentially commercializable research
- Viterbi Venture Fund – funding to help teams launch

- There are many other programs on campus in other schools and programs!

- Note: Maker Space nearly completed
10,000 foot view of OTIE

Viterbi
USC and Central Los Angeles

Viterbi Startup Garage
South Bay and Beyond

IN-LA Node/I-Corps Hub*
Southern California and Regional/Nationwide

*Future effort
Viterbi Startup Garage

- Year-round program located in Marina Del Rey
- Home for investor screenings
- Academic year: Home of multiple events
- Summer: Home of Summer Smasher program – immersive student internship experience
- [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/vsg/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/vsg/)

Applications for next cohort due 9/20/20!
Summer Smasher

• Objective: Broaden student experience beyond traditional engineering curriculum
• VSoE interns join startup companies in VSG
• Guided sessions to help maximize your experience

• Info session in late Feb
• Applications ~March
• http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/summer-smasher/
Innovation Corps (“I-Corps”)

- Support to commercialize technologies developed in universities
- $30,000 grant from our Node
- $50,000 grant from the National Science Foundation
- Must have intellectual property (no apps)
- ZAP! can be used to qualify
- ZAP! also enables you to present at annual Technology Scouting Workshop (speakers from Amazon, Boeing, Google, Dow, NASA, Virgin Orbit, J&J JLABS, and more!)
- [http://lanode.org/zap/](http://lanode.org/zap/) (Registration for September cohort closes 9/4!)
More than 550 teams and 15 members!

$279M+ raised
Office Hours

• Not sure where to go?
• Not sure how to start?
• Join us for office hours with mentors and investors
• Email Prof. Trina Gregory – trinagre@usc.edu
Interested in becoming a student worker

• We need help to support our programs during the year and in the summer
  – ENGR 102 engineering entrepreneurship instructors
  – Competitions
  – Summer Smasher TA
  – High school program TA and facilitators
• Look out for our postings!
• Many activities to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Viterbi
• Seeking input on what other programming would be helpful

- VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset in Freshman Academy
- ENGR 461, ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
- Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups
- TIE Summer Program

- Hackathons
- Competitions (incl. MEPC, MFC, ABC Prize, NAE)
- Engineering Honors Program – Innovation Track
- Office Hours

- NSF I-Corps Programing (incl. ZAP, BOOM, LAUNCH, BLITZ, National I-Corps)

- Synchrotron, VSG accelerator program
- Technology Scouting Workshop

- Full-time residency at the Viterbi Start-up Garage
Who we are

Ellis Meng
• Vice Dean for TIE
• Student/Faculty Programs
• Innovation Liaison
• Faculty Inventor

Dave Eastman
• NSF I-Corps Node
• Viterbi Startup Garage
• Fund Manager

Alice Liu
• Assistant Director
• Engineering Honors Program
• Prize Competitions

Precious McClendon
• NSF I-Corps Node TA
• Program Coordinator

Arcelia Navarro
• Facilities Manager
• Viterbi Startup Garage

Jason Ordonez
• Program Finances
• Research Administrator
Our extended family

Trina Gregory
- Assistant Director
- Viterbi Student
- Entrepreneurship Education
- Prize Competitions

Cliff Neuman
- Hacking for Defense
- CSCI 599

Farzin Samadani
- Hacking for Defense
- I-Corps Instructor
- Entrepreneur in Residence for Los Angeles City Hall

Susan Angus
- Min Family Challenge
- Commission on Voluntary Service & Action

Kevin Crosby
- Amazon Alexa Fund
- Viterbi Startup Garage

Pai-Ling Yin
- Competitions Instructor
- Director, Technology Commercialization Initiative in Marshall School of Business

...and many more!
Sign up for our mailing list

- Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/ViterbiTIEinfo
- Or use the QR code
- Get updates on events and competitions
Icebreaker Time!

• Let's get to know one another
• We're going to send you to a breakout room for a few minutes and then bring you back
• Goals:

1. Introduce yourself (name, school, etc.)
2. Tell each other why you came to the info session
3. Answer this question: what is the zaniest new technology or startup that you recently heard about?
Questions? Stay and Network!

Seed
- VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset in Freshman Academy
- ENGR 499, ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
- Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups
- TIE Summer Program

Nurture and Develop
- Hackathons
- Competitions (incl. MEPC, MFC, ABC Prize, NAE)
- Engineering Honors Program – Innovation Track
- Office Hours

Validate
- NSF I-Corps Programing (incl. ZAP, BOOM, LAUNCH, BLITZ, National I-Corps)

Launch
- Synchrotron, VSG accelerator program
- Technology Scouting Workshop

Accelerate
- Full-time residency at the Viterbi Start-up Garage

Summer Smasher
- VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset in Freshman Academy
- ENGR 499, ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
- Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups
- TIE Summer Program

Sign up for our mailing list: https://tinyurl.com/ViterbiTIEinfo

http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu
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viterbi-innovation@usc.edu

Sign up!