Office of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship

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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
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• 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
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 that 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 in 2022)
- ENGR 499 Technology Development and Commercialization
- CE 486 Innovation in Engineering Design for Global Crises
- 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/
• 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 VSI\(^2\) workshops
- [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/abc/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/abc/)
Hacking for Defense (H4D)

- CSCI 599 Innovation for Defense Applications (Spring 22)
- 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!
- Info Session General: 9/10, 12:30p
- Applications Open: 9/10
- Applications Due: 10/24
- Kick-off + Orientation: 11/18, 4p
- First Workshop: 12/2, 12p
- Semi-finals: 4/7, 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
- UN SDGs as a framework
- $50,000 grand prize
- Free legal services to top teams

- Info Session: 9/8, 2p
- Applications due: 11/1, 11:59p
- Participate in VSI² workshops
- Present to investors at our finals event
- [http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/mfc/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/mfc/)
Additional Programs

- Viterbi Venture Fund – funding to help teams launch

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

- Note: Check out the new Baum Family Maker Space!
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
Viterbi Startup Garage

- Year-round incubator for early-stage technology startups 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/
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/](http://viterbiinnovation.usc.edu/summer-smasher/)
Innovation Corps (“I-Corps”)

- Support to commercialize technologies developed in universities
- $50,000 grant from the National Science Foundation
- Must have intellectual property in deep tech (no apps)
- ZAP! Training can be used to qualify for the national program
- 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/)
630+ teams and 20 members!

$1.4B+ raised

UCRiverside
UCSB
UCI University of California, Irvine
CSUN California State University Northridge
ASU Arizona State University
University of Nevada, Reno
UC San Diego
University of Washington
The University of Arizona
La Cleantech Incubator
The State University of New York
The University of Utah
The University of New Mexico
Colorado School of Mines
UNLV
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!
We are here to help you – join us!

- Many activities to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Viterbi
- Seeking input on what other programming would be helpful
- Take advantage of all the other programs across the campus too!
The OTIE team

Atoms Bits and Cells Competition

Trina Gregory

Engineering Honors Program, Student Programs, and Courses

David Gerber  Trina Gregory  Denise McKenzie  Cliff Neuman  Farzin Samadani
The OTIE team

Min Family Challenge

David Gerber
Trina Gregory
Susan Angus

Maseeh Entrepreneurship Prize Competition

Denise McKenzie
Rob Schoeben
Hovig Tchalian
The OTIE team

**Viterbi Startup Garage**
- Dave Eastman
- Arcelia Navarro

**Viterbi Venture Fund**
- Dave Eastman

**NSF I-Corps**
- Dave Eastman
- Precious McClendon
- Arcelia Navarro
- Jason Ordonez
Sign up for our mailing list

- Sign up here: https://tinyurl.com/ViterbiTIEinfo
- Or use the QR code
- Get updates on events and competitions
- Please be on the lookout for future Tech Startup Networking events brought to you by USC Viterbi TIE Office
Questions? Stay and Network!

Seed
Nurture and Develop
Validate
Launch
Accelerate

Summer Smasher

- VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset in Freshman Academy
- ENGR 100, 493, 499, CE 486, ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
- Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups
- TIE Summer Program
- Competitions (incl. MEPC, MFC, ABC Prize, NAE)
- External pitch competitions
- Engineering Honors Program – Innovation Track
- Office Hours
- NSF I-Corps Programing (incl. ZAP, BOOM, LAUNCH, BLITZ, National I-Corps)
- Summer Innovation Fellowship
- Synchrotron, VSG accelerator program
- Technology Scouting Workshop
- Faculty seminars
- Full-time residency at the Viterbi Start-up Garage
- Viterbi Venture Fund

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

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