Successful 14-week Empower Accelerator program at StartUP FIU

This fall StartUP FIU launched its first 14-week accelerator program, The Empower Accelerator. The program received more than 300 applications for its initial two cohorts; each cohort is intended to accept no more than 20 companies. The program is state-funded and is at no-cost to participants. Additional accelerators, focused specifically on technology, food, and the arts, will come online in 2017. The 19 teams included students, alumni, staff and local residents with no affiliation to FIU. Members of this inaugural cohort were also on-site at the Beacon Council’s Connect & Grow initiative to leverage the opportunity to spread the word about their nascent organizations and invite feedback on their developing products and brands.

Pitch Day, Fall 2016

More than 300 attendees from both the FIU and South Florida community participated in FIU’s first Pitch Day, featuring 14 companies from the inaugural cohort of StartUP FIU’s incubator program. Among the 30 venture capitalists and angel investors in the room, 9 were chosen to serve as panelists, and given the opportunity to ask questions to gain a deeper understanding of the companies. The investors expressed interest in follow-up conversations with several of the companies. The second cohort for The Empower Accelerator program will begin in January 2017.

The 2017 HULT Prize Competition

On December 9, 2016, StartUP FIU held its first Hult Prize competition. The Hult Prize is an international competition boasting a $1 million prize, offered through The Hult Prize Foundation in partnership with Former US President Bill Clinton and the Clinton Global Initiative. The Foundation is a start-up accelerator for budding young social entrepreneurs emerging from the world’s universities. For our part, StartUP FIU hosted a university-wide competition to select one team to represent FIU at regionals, as well as to win a spot in StartUP FIU’s Empower Accelerator program. Each team was asked one question, “Can we build sustainable, scalable social enterprises that restore the rights and dignity of 10 million refugees by 2022?”

Of the 10 teams that participated, We-Women stood out from the rest with a clear and feasible business plan that held the greatest promise of having a more immediate impact. This team’s mission is to solve a problem faced by women refugees all around the world—the lack of feminine hygiene products. Their solution uses the leaves of banana trees to produce hypoallergenic and environmentally friendly menstrual pads, with an added twist—buy a pad, give a pad. Thus providing refugee women with a product that will allow them to go to school, work and be productive members of society. StartUP FIU will work with We-Women to prepare for the regional semifinal rounds of competition to be held in Boston on March 3, 2017. The overall winner of the 2017 HULT Prize will use the cash prize to help bring their idea to fruition.
Upcoming Events

January 2017
- Jan 4 – 7, 9 am to 5 pm, GL 100, FIU Conference on Geometry, Topology and Applications
- Jan 18, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, High-Capacity Optical Communications Using Multiplexing of Multiple Orbital-Angular-Momentum Beams, presented by Alan Willner
- Jan 18, 7 to 8:30 pm, The Deering Estate Visitor Center Theater, Algae as Beacons of Environmental Change in South Florida, featuring Stephen E. Davis III, Evelyn Gaiser, Kelly Rein and Ana Tronholm

February
- Feb 3, 11 to 12 noon, TBD, Different Mechanisms for Lesion Bypass by TLS DNA Polymerases, presented by Wei Wang from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
- Feb 10, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, Socially Interactive Robots for Pediatric Therapy, presented by Ayanna Howard
- Feb 22 – 24, 8 am to 5 pm, Kovens Conference Center, Miami International Child and Adolescent Mental Health Conference (MICAMH), hosted by the Center for Children and Families—registration required

March
- Mar 3, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241, Trillion Sensors Technology: Research, Commercialization and Education, presented by Albert Pisano

Awards Received—November 2016
FIU researchers were awarded $3,994,115 in November 2016. Below is a listing of awards received.

Allan Rosenbaum
Initial
Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs
Public Administration
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs
TDC XXIII Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities $14,400

Allan Rosenbaum
Initial
Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs
Public Administration
Miami-Dade County Port of Miami
XXIII Inter-American Conference of Mayors – Seaport $52,063

Atorod Azizinamini
Increase
College of Engineering and Computing
Civil and Environ Engineering
U.S. Department of Transportation
Tier 1 University Transportation Center U.S. DOT Strategic Goal Focus Area $61,880

Barry Philip Rosen
Continuation
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
COM Cell Biology and Pharm
National Institutes of Health
The Human Arsenic Methylation Pathway $322,099
**Brian Fonseca**  
Increase  
Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs  
J Gordon Inst Pub Pol and Citi  
CACI International Inc.  
CERDEC Flight Activity (CFA) System Engineering Support $175,000

**Carlos Arturo Espinal Tejada**  
Initial  
Robert Stempel College of Public Health Social Work  
Health Promo and Disease Prev  
Merck & Co. Inc. MSD Pharmaceuticals  
Workshop of experts on Antimicrobial Resistance from Latin America/Caribbean $30,000

**Carlos Arturo Espinal Tejada**  
Initial  
Robert Stempel College of Public Health Social Work  
Health Promo and Disease Prev  
Novartis Latin America Services Inc.  
Workshop on Health access and policies in Latin American and Caribbean Countries $9,000

**Casey P Steadman**  
Initial  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
The Wolfsonian  
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
2016-2017 Miami Dade County-Major Cultural Institutions $290,199

**Casey P Steadman**  
Increase  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
The Wolfsonian  
FIU Foundation  
Knight Museum of Ideas Fund $62,990

**Cheng-Tin Gan**  
Initial  
College of Engineering and Computing  
Civil and Environ Engineering  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Feasibility of Using Video Image Detectors for Ramp Signal Operations $175,000

**Cheng-Tin Gan**  
Initial  
College of Engineering and Computing  
Civil and Environ Engineering  
Florida Department of Transportation  
District 4 ITS Research, Computer, and Miscellaneous Support (WO #462-06) $150,000
Chenzhong Li  
Supplemental  
College of Engineering and Computing  
Biomedical Engineering  
Everglades Foundation  
Paper based Disposable Biosensors for Trace Analysis of Organophosphate  
$20,000  

Debra Lundy  
Initial  
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management  
Sch of Hosp and Tourism Mgmt  
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
2016-17 FEST South Beach Wine & Food Festival  
$79,297  

Eric Bishop-Von Wettberg  
Increase  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Biology  
University of California Davis  
Deducing the genomic footprint and functional impact of chickpea  
$194,914  

Henry Briceno  
Continuation  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Southeast Env Research Ctr  
Islamorada, Village of Islands  
Water Quality Monitoring Program for the Village of Islamorada, Florida Keys  
$74,036  

Jacqueline Bueno Sousa  
Agreement  
College of Business  
COB Deans Office  
Rebuild Miami LLC  
Small Business Development Agreement between the FIU BOT and Rebuild Miami LLC  
$2,500  

James Fourqurean  
Supplemental  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Biology  
National Aeronautics & Space Administration  
Aquarius Reef Base: NEEMO_XX_NASA  
$35,613  

Jeremy Kiszka  
Initial  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
SEAS  
Integrated Statistics  
Humpback whales of the southeastern Caribbean  
$6,980
Joann Arnowitz  
Initial  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU  
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
FY 2016-2017 (MCI) Season Activities  
$166,351

John Stuart  
Initial  
College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts  
CARTA Deans Off  
City of Miami Beach  
City of Miami Beach Junior Cultural Anchor Grant 16-17  
$4,550

Jordana Pomeroy  
Initial  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
Frost Art Museum  
Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
MCI FY2016-2017 Season Activities  
$164,103

Julio E Ibarra  
Increase  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
CIARA  
National Science Foundation  
Campus Cyber Infrastructure- CC*DNI  
$199,213

Kathleen Marie Quardokus Fisher  
Initial  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Earth and Environment  
Fort Hays State University  
GEO Opportunities for Leadership in Diversity (GOLD): Hearts of GOLD  
$62,901

Kenneth G Furton  
Increase  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Chemistry  
Office of Naval Research  
Exploring the Effects of the Generalization-Discrimination Balance and Odor  
$870

Kenneth G Furton  
Initial  
Academic Affairs - Other Units  
Provost and Exec VP Acad Aff  
Colgate-Palmolive Company  
Colgate Project Phase II: Hispanic Pilot Study  
$56,800
Kenneth J Lipartito  
Initial  
Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs  
History  
Institute of Museum and Library Services  
Strategic Plan for Black Precinct and Courthouse in Overtown  
$49,398

Leonard Scinto  
Increase  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Earth and Environment  
South Florida Water Management District  
Settling and entrainment properties of STA particulates  
$190,983

Lidia Kos  
Initial  
College of Arts, Sciences & Education  
Biology  
Moffitt Cancer Center  
The role of metabotropic glutamate receptor 1 signaling in leptomeningeal melanoma  
$50,000

Malek Adjouadi  
Initial  
College of Engineering and Computing  
Elec and Computer Eng  
University of Texas El Paso  
BPC-AE: Computing Alliance of Hispanic-Serving Institutions  
$47,109

Mark Patrick Traynor  
Initial  
Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management  
Sch of Hosp and Tourism Mgmt  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Cochran Fellowship Program on School Meals Program (Panama) - Central America  
$90,763

Mohammed A Hadi  
Initial  
College of Engineering and Computing  
Civil and Environ Engineering  
Florida Department of Transportation  
Testing of a Vision-Based Warning System on Transit Vehicles  
$212,273

Richard Olson  
Initial  
Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs  
Politics and Intl Relations  
Florida Division of Emergency Management  
FIU's Hurricane Loss Reduction for Housing in Florida  
$700,000
Shanna L Burke
Initial
Robert Stempel College of Public Health Social Work
School of Social Work
Neuroscience Centers of Florida Foundation
Development of a Battery of Measurement Instruments to Assess Dementia Spectrum $2,500

Sharon R Simon
Increase
Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Nursing Undergraduate
Health Resources & Services Administration
Veterans to BSN Program $51,680

Shimelis Gebriye Setegn
Continuation
Robert Stempel College of Public Health Social Work
Environmental and Occupational Health
University of Puerto Rico
Human Impacts to Coastal Ecosystems in Puerto Rico $49,116

Stacy Lynn Frazier
Continuation
College of Arts, Sciences & Education
Psychology
National Institute of Mental Health
Emotion Regulation for Urban Youth: Minimizing Risk for Anxiety and Depression $34,490

Thomas A Frankovich
Initial
College of Arts, Sciences & Education
Southeast Env Research Ctr
National Park Service
Linkages of Water Quality, Submerged Aquatic Vegetation $80,000

Tiffany Troxler
Increase
College of Arts, Sciences & Education
Southeast Env Research Ctr
U.S. Geological Survey
Linking Satellite and Soil Data to Validate Coastal Wetland "Blue Carbon" $24,984

Zhaohui Fu
Increase
Academic Affairs - Other Units
GIS Center and Digital Collection
City of Coral Gables
Immigration Narrative $60
Funding Opportunities
ORED has a new, improved and interactive webpage for funding opportunities. Please visit http://research.fiu.edu/funding/#current.

Limited Submissions
Current limited submission opportunities are available at http://research.fiu.edu/funding/limited-submissions/.

Contact ORED Senior Leadership

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