The Innovation Engine Kicks Off May 28th!

The Innovation Engine Accelerator (IEA) is a highly competitive digital media business accelerator located in the Innovation Center. Made possible by public and private support, the IEA is launching its second annual program, providing seed funding and coaching for 12 weeks this summer. We are proud to announce the six teams that have been selected to participate in the 2013 Innovation Engine:

**AccessAble Travel**

AccessAble Travel, a website catering to those requiring special needs, provides user-based reviews and ratings of the accessibility of hotels, airlines, tourist destinations, public attractions and car rental companies.
Ben Weiner, Frances Weiner, and Alex Bill are the founders of AccessAble Travel. Ben and Frances are siblings from Morgantown, West Virginia. Ben graduated in 2013 from Ohio University's Russ College of Engineering and Technology with a master's degree in mechanical engineering. Frances also graduated from Ohio University in 2013 with a degree in psychology. Alex is originally from Chagrin Falls, Ohio and is currently dual majoring in psychology and sociology-criminology at Ohio University. Ben explained that he is most looking forward to gaining real-world experience and learning the business aspect of developing their company during the program. Together, Alex, Ben and Frances hope to open accessibility to major U.S. cities for those with special needs, eventually expanding internationally.

Foleeo

Foleeo is an online portfolio management service for business professionals, companies and organizations to upload collateral work experience, talents and skills onto a single site. Foleeo seeks to revolutionize how people market themselves and how companies recruit talent.

Lillie Ranney and Heather Gruda are the co-founders. Lillie, a native of Columbus, Ohio, studies communications at Ohio University. Heather is an accounting, entrepreneurship and management major from Rochester, Michigan. By the end of the program this summer, Lillie and Heather hope to have a fully developed site and consumer base.

Razor Dynamics

Razor Dynamics provides a method to improve existing navigation for mobile devices. Utilizing an augmented reality interface, Raise Your Dynamics will present a richer representation of location. In a society that is becoming more reliant on location-dependent services, Razor Dynamics seeks to improve the individual experience by creating context-aware, highly accurate navigation solutions for current and future consumer devices. Razor Dynamics seeks to not just answer the question "what's my location?" but to answer the
more important inquiry, "where am I?"

Co-founder Rico Sagardia is originally from Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is currently earning his master's in electrical engineering at Ohio University. Gary Grant, co-founder, is from Nelsonville, Ohio and studies computer science and philosophy at Ohio University. After the program this summer, Rico and Gary have the confidence their work can complement existing platforms such as Google Glass and bring something substantial to military and civilian geographic tracking market.

**Atlas Language Innovations**

Atlas Language Innovations is a company focused on shaping a new frontier in language-learning; directing the rise in indie video game development towards the player's exploration of language. Atlas' flagship game, Voyage, will be released August 2013 on PC and Mac. Voyage will set the player on an uncharted island in the shoes of a shipwrecked sailor. Through the exploration of the island, the meeting of the island's inhabitants, and the solving of puzzles to rebuild the sailor's ship, the game will help build the player's Arabic vocabulary in a way never-seen-before.

Samuel Bockoven and Sergio "Tony" Gonzalez, the co-founders, originally from Dayton, Ohio, attend Ohio University. Sam graduated in 2013 with a degree in linguistics and anthropology and will begin work toward a master's of linguistics this fall. Tony is an undergraduate computer sciences major.

**MyCampus**

MyCampus is a social mobile marketplace that gives college students the ability to buy and sell items, such as tickets, textbooks and furniture, to other students right from their mobile phones. MyCampus includes in-app messaging and a mobile payment system to optimize efficiency and safety. Users also can be alerted via push notification when an item they are seeking is posted for sale by another user. With MyCampus, it's as simple as Snap (snap a photo of the item that you’re selling), Share (share the item to the Campus Marketplace and your social networks), and Sell.

Co-founders Brian Adams of Westerville, Ohio and
Chelsea Browne of Marietta, Ohio both attend Ohio University. Brian is working towards a bachelor's degree in creative entrepreneurship and business development and Chelsea is majoring in marketing. During the program, Brian expressed his desire to make connections that will move his product to the next stage. "I hope to expand my network and meet individuals that have experience in tech startups and learn from mentors that know the industry," he said.

Lydia

Lydia aims to create the next information delivery system, whether it is delivering information from teacher to student, manager to sales representatives, seminar speakers to attendees, or non-profits to their employees abroad. Lydia aims to help deliver this information with a focus on a simplistic user interface design to foster communication with one simple, easy and universal product.

Matt Spolar, Sam Pattantyus and Daniel Williams are the founders of Lydia. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio and a 2011 alum of Ohio University, Matt holds a degree in visual communications-interactive multimedia. He currently teaches user experience and web design in the School for Visual Communication. Sam is also from Cleveland, Ohio and studies accounting and management information systems in the College of Business at Ohio University. Daniel hails from Bellbrook, Ohio and studies environmental and plant biology, chemistry and computer science. He is also earning a certificate in bioinformatics.

Matt, Sam and Daniel expressed their excitement for the individual strides they will take this summer, as well as the progress their company will experience.

Save the Date to attend the Startup Showcase on August 16th at the Ohio University Inn!

Upcoming Events

Lunch & Learn

What ramifications will the Affordable Health Care Act have for your business? Lunch & Learn Thursday, May 16th at Ohio University's Innovation Center. The guest speaker Jonathan Archey, Director of Government Affairs for the Ohio Hospital Association, will discuss how the Affordable Health Care Act affects small and large businesses. Jonathan will provide information on how the Act may pose both opportunities and responsibilities for your business. This event is a great opportunity to ask the questions that many businesses owners have.
Where: 340 West State Street, Room 103  
When: Thursday, May 16th. 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
RSVP: Treina Twyman at twyman@ohio.edu or call (740) 597-1460

YAP (Young Athens Professionals)

Join the Young Athens Professionals for Copperheads baseball and a night of networking on June 13th, at 7:00 p.m. (Gates open at 6:00 p.m.) Admittance is sponsored by the Southern Ohio Copperheads and FREE for YAP members 21+. Look for the sign-in table near the front gate to receive a wristband for complimentary Kiser's BBQ, courtesy of Business Remixed. Beer will be available for purchase. Follow these links for more information about YAP and the Copperheads!

Recent Events

Client Networking Luncheon

The April Client Networking Luncheon hosted by the Innovation Center featured Tracy Kitts of NBIA. Participants learned more about NBIA and about one another. The next Client Networking Luncheon is scheduled for June 13th. Clients are encouraged to join us for a cookout and a chance to win four (4) tickets to a future Southern Ohio Copperheads game!

Business Pitch Competition

Ohio University's Center for Entrepreneurship hosted their annual "Pitch Your Plan" idea pitch competition in conjunction with the Creativity and Research Expo on April 11th. The judging panel consisted of business professionals, venture capital funds and Pitch winners from previous years. Christin Tripp of Ohio University's Department of Economics was one of the judges at the events and recalls it was exciting to see this year's winners present very different ideas. First place went to LiveIn, an Innovation Center affiliate that provides a mobile app innovation. LiveIn also took second place at both the Athens Startup Weekend and the Scripps Innovation Challenge. Tripp states, "LiveIn was extremely polished, professional, and addressed all the important components of a good pitch." Husam Abu Hajar won second place, with a socially innovative plan details ways to remediate acid mine drainage while producing a saleable product. Adventure Falls, a proposed water park resort in Southern Ohio, took third place. "The idea was good, the research that went into formulating it and getting it pitch-ready was evident, and Samantha (last name) enthusiastically responded to questions and feedback." Tripp says.

"It was a very exciting day to be a part of. It was encouraging to witness such creativity and several very well-honed presentations. Even more inspiring was how difficult it was to choose a winner." -Christin Tripp
News

Innovation Center Welcomes New Associate Director

Anna Jensen joined the Innovation Center team as the Associate Director in May of 2013. Prior to this position, she worked as a Business Consultant and Operational Assistance Provider with TechGROWTH Ohio and the Center for Entrepreneurship at the George Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University since 2008. In that role, Ms. Jensen helped companies in all phases of their business life cycle from start-up to succession planning. Through her work with Ohio University's Integrated MBA program, Ms. Jensen guided students through the consulting process to make real and lasting impacts on businesses throughout southeast Ohio.

Anna commented, "I am happy to be joining the team at the Innovation Center and look forward to utilizing my skills to contribute to the environment of business growth at the university and throughout the region. The services provided by the team of professionals here is top notch and unparalleled in the region. I'm pleased to be joining such an outstanding organization."

Intern in Ohio

Intern in Ohio is a new program aiming to match students with employers offering internships. The online matching system is based on job requirements, individual interests and skill sets to identify the best matches within Ohio. Companies ranging from large to small, non-profit to profit, and corporate to government offering internships in various fields are encouraged to utilize this resource to increase their applicant pool. Intern in Ohio is open to all students living in Ohio and can lead to future employment.

Join here!

iEd Worldwide

Cory Frederick, an Innovation Center client, founded iEd Worldwide to educate workers in positions to help others, such as social work and teaching. Frederick was published in WOUB News for influencing the Athens community by helping employers train their workforce about current social issues in our community. iEd Worldwide offers online seminars to educate and train professionals on social issues like bullying, LGBT rights, abuse and diversity.

Read more here!
Ohio Third Frontier Internship Program Benefits Employers and Interns

The program links Ohio students with rewarding internship opportunities at private businesses in Ohio. The Ohio Third Frontier Internship program not only works to make connections, but additionally reimburses up to fifty percent of the intern's wages up to $3,000 for a year long period. Ohio Third Frontier is seeking businesses that can offer work experience in the following fields: Advanced energy; advanced manufacturing; advanced materials; bio-science; information technology; instruments, controls, and electronics; and power and propulsion. Also, the program is open to students pursuing a degree in: physical, biological, agricultural and computer sciences, engineering and mathematics.

Learn more here!

NBIA's New President and CEO

Jasper Welch was selected as the new top executive at NBIA based on his experience as an incubator manager, entrepreneur, and leader. "As a long-term member of NBIA and former incubator manager, Jasper understands the incubation industry," says one of NBIA's Board of Directors, David Terry. Welch hopes to use this opportunity to achieve his goal “to combine my experiences in ways that will promote, support and guide NBIA members, staff and board to achieve our strategic goals while developing and increasing financial stability for the association," says Welch. The Innovation Center welcomes and looks forward to working with Mr. Welch.

Construction at Ohio University

Major construction projects on Ohio University campus and the city of Athens will take place this summer. The projects will affect traffic flow, parking and pedestrians. To ensure travel plans and avoid potential issues check Ohio Department of Transportation's Buckeye website. Also, learn more about road conditions due to construction and weather on OHGO or once closer to Athens follow #OhioUBuilds on twitter for last minute changes and detours!

Tips & Tricks

Be Happier and More Productive by Not Doing!

We've all heard the value of making lists to increase productivity but, according to a recent article from Inc.com, you would do well to add these 8 things to your not to-do list:

1) Check your phone while talking to someone.
2) Multitask during a meeting.
3) Think about people who don't make any difference in your life (think reality TV stars).
4) Be interrupted by multiple popup notification systems
5) Let the past dictate the future.
6) Postpone action until you are sure you will succeed.
7) Talk behind someone's back.
8) Say "yes" when you really mean "no."

Read the full article here, and in the meantime, get out there and not do some things today!

About Us

The Innovation Center provides valuable business incubation resources to fuel the economy in Athens, Ohio and the surrounding region. Created in 1983, the Ohio University Innovation Center was the first university-based business incubator in the State of Ohio and the fourth oldest continuously operating incubator in the U.S. The current 36,000 square foot facility, which opened in 2003, is nearing capacity. For availability, email us or call to set up a tour at 740.593.1818.

Thank you!

Interested in learning more about what the Innovation Center has to offer? Contact us at innovation@ohio.edu.

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Special Thanks to the Innovation Center Staff: Susan Bauman, Bethany George, Joe Jollick, Sandy Colopy, Maggie Lawlor, Linsey Edmunds, Jessie Leaman, Liz Doyle, Corrine Herris
Join Our Mailing List!

The Innovation Center is a department within the Ohio University Vice President for Research Office. To learn more, visit [www.ohio.edu/research](http://www.ohio.edu/research).

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