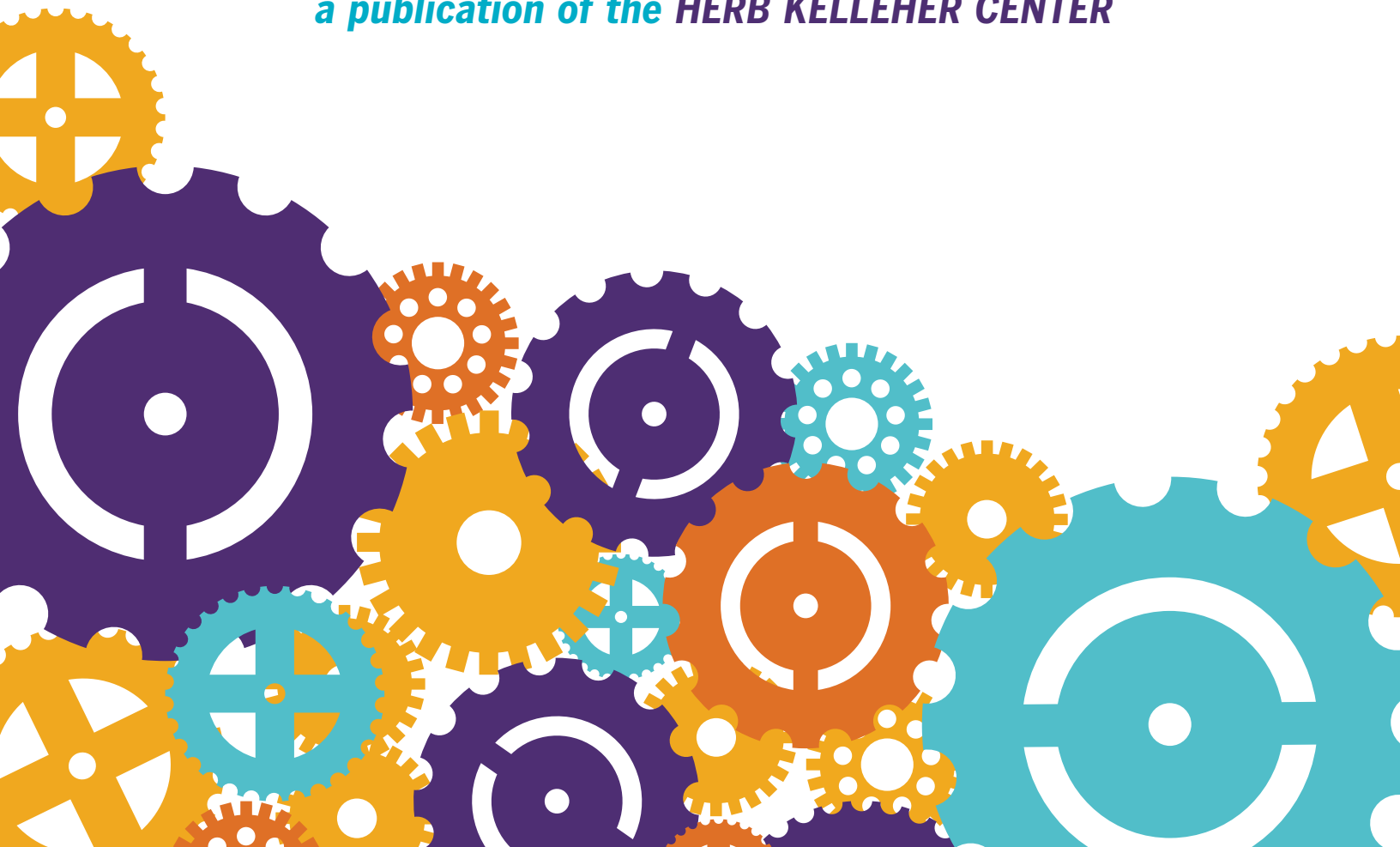




# A GUIDE TO UT AUSTIN'S STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

*a publication of the* **HERB KELLEHER CENTER**



**AUSTIN** is the **No. 1** city for startup activity.

The 2016 Kauffman Index

**MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS** has one of the **top-ranked** entrepreneurship programs in the world.

U.S. News and World Report, 2016

**UT AUSTIN** ranks **No. 8** in the world for educating startup founders who successfully raise money for new ventures.

Business Insider, 2016

**UT AUSTIN** is **No. 18** among public universities nationwide.

U.S. News & World Report, 2016



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION

## TWO WORDS SYNONYMOUS WITH UT AUSTIN

As a top-notch research institution devoted to changing the world, The University of Texas at Austin believes it's critical to foster the entrepreneurial spirit that runs deep in all of our colleges and schools. The ultimate measure of our success is preparing leaders and transforming society. That's why we've found dozens of ways to educate our student entrepreneurs, encourage local startup community engagement, support tech commercialization, and serve as an intellectual hub for pioneering research and enterprise.

Our cutting-edge programs, resources, events, and opportunities have helped establish UT Austin as an essential engine of the booming innovation and knowledge economy, and we're proud to be at the forefront of the intersection of higher education, innovation, and entrepreneurship. As the flagship university for the world's 12th-largest economy, our scale, resources, and pioneering spirit uniquely position us to drive change and accelerate the pace of progress. We are limited only by the scope of our vision.



# THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

## COCKRELL SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

### 1. Innovation Center

The Innovation Center accelerates the impact of faculty and student discoveries and inventions by helping teams create startups. Led by Bob Metcalfe, Ethernet inventor, and Louise Epstein, Managing Director, the Center consists of experienced entrepreneurs dedicated to helping professors and students transform their ideas and discoveries into innovations that will impact the world and change lives. The Center invites you to schedule a visit to get frank and confidential answers to your technology and commercialization strategies. We answer questions and provide advice and connections to propel your success.

- Entrepreneurial Advisors
- Idea to Product Student Competition (I2P)
- Professor stARTup Studio
- Innovation Grants
- Longhorn Startup

[louise.epstein@utexas.edu](mailto:louise.epstein@utexas.edu)  
<http://www.engr.utexas.edu/innovation>

### 2. Longhorn Maker Studios

The Cockrell School of Engineering, with significant support from companies and alumni, has worked to build facilities, integrated curriculum and other programs that challenge students to be engineers and inventors with an entrepreneurial mindset. Students use the facilities to learn about mechanical and electrical technologies, perform prototyping activities, complete coursework, support clubs, and pursue their own projects, but no experience is necessary to get started. You just have to show up. Students have designed and built art, drones, original clothing, original robots, new products, and many other things. The facilities include more than 30 3-D printers of various types for prototyping, laser cutters for wood, and acrylic sheets (that are available for purchase at cost), support for a variety of electronic device development, a complete wood shop, a plasma torch to cut steel, and manual and CNC shop equipment for complex metal or polymer parts. The program is building into the new EER building and will have a total lab and classroom space of about 30,000sf. Professional and student staff with broad experience in the design, building and testing parts, machines, and systems are always

available to help. The program is open to collaboration on projects from across campus, and the goal of this and related programs in Fine Arts and Architecture is to make this type of facility available to the entire campus community.

[Roger.Rose@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:Roger.Rose@austin.utexas.edu)  
<http://makerspace.engr.utexas.edu/about>

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## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

### 1. Center for Arts and Entertainment Technologies (CAET)

The Center for Arts and Entertainment Technologies (CAET) in the UT College of Fine Arts is designed to facilitate the creation of new works and inventions that explore, expand, and transform the arts and technology.

The centerpiece of the program is the Bachelor of Science degree in Arts and Entertainment Technologies, an interdisciplinary major where students will learn in an environment that emphasizes hands-on, project-based learning with creative technologies.

CAET is a multipurpose research and educational program dedicated to technology and content entrepreneurship in the arts and entertainment industries. It has a performative focus that explores the intersection of advanced production technologies and live performance. This focus is unique among arts and technology centers and will inform program design, research, facilities, and admissions criteria.

[bpennycook@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bpennycook@austin.utexas.edu)  
[caet.finearts.utexas.edu](http://caet.finearts.utexas.edu)

### 2. Center for Integrated Design

A campus-wide initiative to integrate design thinking into the curriculum across the university, the center works with faculty in fine arts, business, engineering, architecture, and computer science to allow students to study design from a multidisciplinary perspective and earn either a certificate or degree. The idea is to encourage students to use the university's many different resources to learn about design as a problem-solving system, a concept that the professional world has already embraced.

[doreen.lorenzo@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:doreen.lorenzo@austin.utexas.edu)  
<https://integrateddesign.utexas.edu/>

### 3. The Foundry

UT Libraries and the College of Fine Arts teamed to launch The Foundry, a makerspace that allows students to turn creative ideas into reality with 3D printers, mills, a laser cutter, embroidery and sewing machines, a virtual reality area, and a professional recording studio. Funded in part by a generous grant from the Hearst Foundations, the Foundry is open to all UT students. To learn more about accessing the services join the Canvas course.

[traviswillmann@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:traviswillmann@austin.utexas.edu)  
<http://finearts.utexas.edu/tags/foundry>

### 4. Portfolio in Arts and Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship

The Portfolio in Arts and Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship is a certification program that provides students with cross-disciplinary theoretical and practical training related to the management and governance of arts and cultural organizations, and/or the business dimensions of an entrepreneurial artistic career. Further goals are to promote greater interaction among students, faculty, and others working in areas related to these fields; provide increased visibility and offerings in the field on campus; and promote interaction between Austin's cultural community and UT students, faculty, and others with an interest in arts and cultural management and entrepreneurship. The portfolio is jointly sponsored by the College of Fine Arts and the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, and engages faculty from across the university.

[artsportfolio@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:artsportfolio@austin.utexas.edu)  
[utexas.edu/lbj/portfolio/arts](http://utexas.edu/lbj/portfolio/arts)

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## COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES

### 1. Startup Science

In partnership with the Herb Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship, the College of Natural Sciences launched a new science entrepreneurship program for CNS students in fall 2017. Through a two-course sequence, this program explores innovation, entrepreneurship, and new venture mechanics in the sciences. Class participants have access to curated lectures centered on science and health entrepreneurship, one-on-one mentoring from world-renowned entrepreneurs, guaranteed

access to exclusive entrepreneurship workshops & speaker series, and tours of Austin-area startup incubators. Completion of the two-course sequence results in a entrepreneurship certification. Both courses also satisfy two of the requirements for a new Entrepreneurship minor, which will become available to students in the upcoming academic year.

[staciar@utexas.edu](mailto:staciar@utexas.edu)  
[cns.utexas.edu/students/entrepreneurship](http://cns.utexas.edu/students/entrepreneurship)

### 2. Freshman Research Initiative and CNS Inventors

The pioneering Freshman Research Initiative (FRI) gives more than 900 first-year students the opportunity to dive into scientific research right from the start by allowing them to initiate and engage in a real-world research experience with faculty and graduate students. FRI Labs are "Launch Pads for Discovery" where students explore unanswered questions in science, math, and technology. FRI students engage in research in disciplines across the sciences including computer sciences, biotech, healthcare, astronomy, and mathematics. There are two companion programs, the Accelerated Research Initiative, which offers a parallel experience to transfer students, and CNS Inventors, which offers a pathway for CNS students to experience what it means to translate research into societal impact. The Inventors Program matches teams of CNS students with industry and faculty mentors and nurtures the team as they attempt to commercialize a research idea. The program is intended to demystify key industry and commercialization practices and better prepare science students for industry related jobs.

[staciar@utexas.edu](mailto:staciar@utexas.edu)  
[cns.utexas.edu/fri](http://cns.utexas.edu/fri)

### 3. Longhorn Startup Seminar and Lab

The Longhorn Startup Seminar is a lecture-based course in the fall semester that features prominent entrepreneurs telling the stories of how they founded their companies and answering any questions participants may have. Students pitch their own ideas to the class and participate in "speed-dating" events to meet potential co-founders and get advice from mentors. The Longhorn Startup Lab is an intensive project-based course in the spring semester that identifies student entrepreneurs who are building scalable technology companies and offers real course credit for working on



their startups while still in school. These students receive weekly one-on-one mentoring sessions with successful entrepreneurs and free coworking memberships at Austin's Capital Factory. The semester culminates in a Demo Day where the students present their companies to the Austin community. Any student from any college can register for the seminar or lab.

[joshuabaer@utexas.edu](mailto:joshuabaer@utexas.edu)  
[longhornstartup.com](http://longhornstartup.com)

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## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

### 1. The Drug Dynamics Institute

Provides novel and innovative solutions in the modeling, evaluation, and development of therapeutically active agents utilizing state of the art translational research tools and methods. At TherapeUTex, our goal is to aid and guide the progression of drug products and technologies through the drug development process by providing preclinical services including material characterization, drug formulation and delivery, in vitro and in vivo preclinical and proof-of-concept studies, histological preparation, stability studies and lab-scale formulation, and production. Our scientists, together with collaborating scientists from academia and industry, provide broad expertise in pharmaceutical and biotech fields, with the flexibility to customize projects tailored to our clients' needs.

[info@drugdynamicsinstitute.com](mailto:info@drugdynamicsinstitute.com)  
<http://sites.utexas.edu/ddi/>

### 2. UTech Dorm Room

The College of Pharmacy's Drug Dynamics Institute (DDI) and Austin Technology Incubator (ATI) collaborated to establish a wet lab space to fill a growing need in Austin's bioscience community. Wet lab space is a critical resource for life sciences entrepreneurs and small startups. The UTech Dorm Room, managed by DDI, encourages technology startups and companies to locate in Austin. Generous grants from the city of Austin and the St. David's Foundation make possible the UTech Dorm Room, located in the College of Pharmacy's north building.

[info@drugdynamicsinstitute.com](mailto:info@drugdynamicsinstitute.com)  
<http://sites.utexas.edu/ddi/utech-dorm-room/>

## DELL MEDICAL SCHOOL

### 1. Design Institute for Health

A collaboration with the College of Fine Arts, the Design Institute for Health is a first-of-its-kind initiative dedicated to applying a creative design-based approach to the nation's healthcare challenges — and rapidly integrating that perspective into medical education and community health programs. The Design Institute enables innovation by connecting people and providers with new capabilities (such as digital health technologies) and existing capabilities (such as specialized clinical centers) to better meet the needs of the community, patients, hospitals, physicians, nurses, employers, and other stakeholders.

[dih-info@dellmed.utexas.edu](mailto:dih-info@dellmed.utexas.edu)  
[dellmedschool.utexas.edu/design-institute](http://dellmedschool.utexas.edu/design-institute)

### 2. Innovation, Leadership, and Discovery block

During medical students' third year, they'll have a nine-month Innovation, Leadership, and Discovery block that will give them the opportunity to craft their own medical-school experience, earning a dual degree or undertaking an independent discovery project in one of three areas of distinction, such as Healthcare Innovation and Design.

[dellmedschool@utexas.edu](mailto:dellmedschool@utexas.edu)  
[dellmedschool.utexas.edu/curriculum/year-3](http://dellmedschool.utexas.edu/curriculum/year-3)

### 3. Texas Health Catalyst

A program of Dell Medical School in collaboration with the Cockrell School of Engineering, College of Natural Sciences, College of Pharmacy, and Office of Technology Commercialization, Texas Health Catalyst aims to:

- Identify promising translational research across UT that has the potential to become a health product
- Provide timely and customized guidance on the research and development pathway from the perspective of those who have seen products go to market and impact health
- Grant seed funding for exceptional projects that may otherwise not have a source for support

[TexasHealthCatalyst@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:TexasHealthCatalyst@austin.utexas.edu)  
[dellmedschool.utexas.edu/texas-health-catalyst](http://dellmedschool.utexas.edu/texas-health-catalyst)

## **DIVISION OF DIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

### **Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium**

Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) provides undergraduates with the resources to discover their passion and purpose and project their graduate study path. IE is a philosophy and vision of education viewing academics as innovators and agents of change. It focuses on creating cross-disciplinary and multi-institutional collaborations designed to produce intellectual advancements with a capacity to provide real solutions to society's problems and needs. IE is academic engagement for the purpose of changing lives.

[cherwitz@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:cherwitz@austin.utexas.edu)  
[ut-ie.com](http://ut-ie.com)

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### **ENERGY INSTITUTE**

The Energy Institute fosters interdisciplinary interactions among colleges and schools across campus while serving as a portal for external audiences interested in learning more about energy research carried out at UT. The institute leverages the expertise of faculty to study critical energy policy questions, and is dedicated to broadening the educational experience of students by creating a community of scholars around energy issues of importance to Texas, the nation, and the world.

[tedgar@energy.utexas.edu](mailto:tedgar@energy.utexas.edu)  
[energy.utexas.edu](http://energy.utexas.edu)

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### **LYNDON B. JOHNSON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

#### **RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service**

Prepares the next generation of nonprofit and philanthropic leaders through graduate education and research. Research areas address pressing issues in philanthropy, nonprofit management, social entrepreneurship, and global civil society. Students are trained through a university-wide graduate program in nonprofit studies and seasoned professionals advance skills and expertise through executive education tailored to their needs. The RGK Center's collective work, ranging from graduate course offerings to international exchange programs, new books and publications, is all focused

on helping the nonprofit leaders of today and tomorrow make informed and innovative contributions to the public good.

[sbrand@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:sbrand@austin.utexas.edu)  
<http://rgkcenter.org>

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### **MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

#### **1. Herb Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship, Growth, and Renewal (HKC)**

The mission of the Herb Kelleher Center is to create the finest academic research and teaching center focused on entrepreneurship, growth, and renewal in the United States. To that end, the center brings together university resources, leading entrepreneurs, innovative industry partners, students, and faculty from multiple disciplines and multiple colleges and universities to:

- Develop and communicate new knowledge about entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial process
- Publish case studies in current entrepreneurship
- Develop and deliver outstanding program in entrepreneurship
- Encourage and facilitate the development of successful entrepreneurs

[hkc@mcombs.utexas.edu](mailto:hkc@mcombs.utexas.edu)  
<https://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/centers/kelleher-center>

#### **a. Entrepreneurs-in-Residence**

The HKC Entrepreneurs-in-Residence (EIR) program was developed to bring highly successful entrepreneurs on campus to work with faculty, staff, and students seeking advice on launching their own entrepreneurial venture. The EIR role provides students, faculty, and staff access to advice and ideas from an individual who has been very successful in the field of new venture creation and innovation. EIRs are ready to meet with and provide guidance for those looking to launch a startup.

#### **b. The Longhorn Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program**

(LEAP) is an experiential leadership program that provides a hands-on experience to BBA and MBA students in accelerating a new venture through advice and assistance on the entrepreneurial process. Students work in volunteer teams with startups in under-served

communities in their local area over the course of a semester, to accelerate the startup's development under the guidance of a Herb Kelleher Center Entrepreneur-In-Residence.

## 2. Master of Science in Technology Commercialization

The university's Master of Science in Technology Commercialization (MSTC) is a one-year master's program from the McCombs School focused on the intersection of business, technology, and innovation. Meeting on alternating weekends on campus and online, Texas MSTC students learn the business skills to profitably launch new innovative technology products into the marketplace, either within a corporation or a venture of their own, all without career interruption. The program is taught by top-ranked McCombs faculty, and focuses on experiential learning designed to teach the skill-set needed to compete in a global economy continuing. Launched in 1996 out of the IC<sup>2</sup> Institute, it combines cutting-edge technology, hands-on entrepreneurship, and world-class education, resulting in the creation of innovative ventures and products.

**MSTC@mcombs.utexas.edu**  
<https://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/mstc>

## 3. Texas Venture Labs (TVL)

Jon Brumley Texas Venture Labs (TVL) is a campus-wide initiative to accelerate startups in taking their innovations to market and to transform graduate students into entrepreneurs and business leaders. The TVL Accelerator provides an opportunity for startups to take their ventures to the next level with the unique benefit of leveraging UT Austin resources and talent. TVL also provides a venue for investors to engage with research and startups from The University of Texas at Austin.

The TVL Practicum is a competitive class at McCombs that connects local startup companies with talented and entrepreneurial graduate students from the M.B.A., law, engineering, pharmacy, and natural sciences programs. These students participate in semester-long consulting projects solving important problems alongside the company's founders.

The TVL Investment Competition (TVLIC) is designed to mimic the real-world process of raising venture capital. Graduate students present their ideas for new businesses and receive prize money and invaluable feedback

from entrepreneurs and investors.

The TVL Scholarship Competition provides financial help to entrepreneurial students and an opportunity to earn their M.B.A. while accelerating their startup. The TVL Scholarship Competition is a unique business pitch competition where potential M.B.A. students pitch their business plan for a chance to win a scholarship to the McCombs School of Business.

TVL Venture Partner Program gives graduate students the opportunity to work on their startups the first year after graduation. Graduates work for Texas Venture Labs in a full-time position and receive salaries and benefits while working on their own ventures. The mission of this program is to help launch more student-started companies out of The University of Texas at Austin.

**InfoTVL@mcombs.utexas.edu**  
[mcombs.utexas.edu/Centers/Texas-Venture-Labs](https://mcombs.utexas.edu/Centers/Texas-Venture-Labs)

## 4. Venture Fellows

Venture Fellows was founded in 1999 to provide McCombs School of Business M.B.A. students with the opportunity to work with venture capital and private equity funds through internships during two semesters as a part of their curriculum. Sixteen to 18 students participate in this program each year. Venture Fellows is a self-governing, non-profit organization managed by McCombs M.B.A. students and Department of Finance faculty. In addition to the internships, the Venture Fellows program includes a two-semester, weekly, in-class academic component with a curriculum that focuses on entrepreneurship, venture capital investing, corporate restructuring and reorganization, and private equity investing. Approximately 25 percent of the students who have participated in the Venture Fellows program are active in the venture capital or private equity industries today.

**info@venturefellows.org**  
<https://www.venturefellows.com>

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## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

### Center for Sports Leadership & Innovation

Launched on December 15, 2014, the Center for Sports Leadership & Innovation represents the university's commitment to live up to its



core purpose: To transform lives for the benefit of society. The mission of CSLi is to cultivate character development, leadership skills and long-term welfare of Texas student-athletes. CSLi has developed four programs to empower and educate our leaders of tomorrow:

- Captain's Academy is a leadership training program designed to enhance the capacity development for high school sports captains. Available to any high school team sports captain in the Austin Independent School District, over 250 high school captains have completed the program to date.
- CSLi Fellowship Program has built a community of exemplary students from across the 40 Acres, exposed them to pressing sports issues and cultivated each Fellow's ability to lead in their respective organizations and into the next stage of life. The fellows are important to the function of CSLi, and are essential to the progress, creativity and innovation of the programs.
- #iLEAD Panel Series brings together some of the worlds brightest minds and accomplished professionals to discuss the most pressing, and oftentimes, controversial issues in sports. Previous panelists include former Longhorns, Kevin Durant and Nate Boyer, and World Cup and Olympic Champion, Mia Hamm.
- CSLi and UT Athletics have crafted a curriculum on financial literacy and sound decision-making. The 3-hour course is offered to all students at the University of Texas and every freshman student-athlete is required to attend. In addition, the core focus of The CSLi Financial Literacy Initiative is to explore new and innovative ways to educate our students about money management.

[Daronroberts@utexas.edu](mailto:Daronroberts@utexas.edu)  
[Taylorbrown@utexas.edu](mailto:Taylorbrown@utexas.edu)  
<http://sportsleadership.utexas.edu>

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## OFFICE OF THE PROVOST/INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

### 1. Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders Initiative

Coordinated through the International Office, UT Austin serves as a host institution for the Mandela Washington Fellowship Program, the flagship program of the U.S. Department of State's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) that empowers rising entrepreneurs across sub-Saharan Africa. The competitively selected

fellows for this program have established records of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive change in their organizations, institutions, communities, and countries. During the six-week program on the UT Austin campus, the 25 selected entrepreneurial fellows are immersed in academic coursework, community service, leadership development, and networking opportunities across the City of Austin.

[globalacademy@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:globalacademy@austin.utexas.edu)  
<https://world.utexas.edu/global-academy/programs-and-partners/grant-and-foundation/mwfyali>

## 2. Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative

The Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLA) empowers entrepreneurs and innovative civil society leaders to strengthen their capacity to launch and advance their entrepreneurial ideas and effectively contribute to social and economic development in their communities. UT Austin serves as a host institution for the Latin American entrepreneurs that are selected for this U.S. Department of State program. The competitively selected fellows for this program spend four weeks in Austin, are placed with a host company/entrepreneurial enterprise, and participate in on-campus workshops focused on business and leadership.

[globalacademy@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:globalacademy@austin.utexas.edu)  
<https://world.utexas.edu/global-academy/participants/programs/ylai>

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## OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH

### 1. IC<sup>2</sup> Institute

The IC<sup>2</sup> Institute was founded in 1977 as a "think and do" tank to test the belief of its founder, George Kozmetsky, that innovation, creativity, and capital can catalyze regional economic development through the active and directional collaboration among the university, government, and private sectors. The Institute supports original research in innovation and entrepreneurship policy, structures and practice through internal projects, funding of UT faculty and support of student researchers. Further, it links research into programmatic activities to support entrepreneurs and startups on campus, in Austin and Internationally.

[info@ic2.utexas.edu](mailto:info@ic2.utexas.edu)  
<http://ic2.utexas.edu>

### **a. Austin Technology Incubator (ATI)**

The Austin Technology Incubator is the startup incubator of the University of Texas at Austin. A program of the University's IC2 Institute, ATI has a 28-year track record of helping founding teams achieve success. The Austin Technology Incubator works with 20-30 IP-based or "deep" technology companies per year and impacts the Central Texas economy on average by >\$88M/year, creating ~650 jobs/year according to a recent 10 year study and helped create the IT/Wireless, Clean Energy, Life Sciences and Water and Sustainability technology initiatives in Austin. The 2016 ATI cohort of 19 companies raised a total of >\$220M and three experienced exits, including one IPO. Half of these companies were based on innovations from The University of Texas at Austin.

**msanders@ati.utexas.edu**  
<https://ati.utexas.edu>

### **b. Global Commercialization Group**

The Global Commercialization Group creates and delivers technology commercialization training and international business development programs around the world. Innovators in Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East have received assistance from GCG in bringing their technology-based products and services to international markets.

**global@ic2.utexas.edu**  
<http://ic2.utexas.edu/global/>

### **2. Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC)**

Office of Technology Commercialization is responsible for the efficient transfer of university discoveries to the marketplace for the benefit of society. To support the university's research mission, OTC:

**info@otc.utexas.edu**  
<https://research.utexas.edu/otc/>

### **3. Southwest NSF Innovation Corps**

The Southwest I-Corps Node (SW I-Corps) advances the United States' national innovation ecosystem as a part of the National Science Foundation (NSF) I-Corps program. Through national and regional I-Corps programming, we support young scientists, leading faculty, and the greater business community across the Texas and Southwest region in testing

their funded research for potential commercial applications.

**info@swicorps.org**  
<http://www.swicorps.org>

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## **SCHOOL OF LAW**

### **Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic**

The Clinic provides free transactional business law representation to entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations, and community groups. The services are provided in a law school clinic setting where second- and third-year law students are closely supervised by the Clinic's law faculty, who are attorneys with many years of transactional legal experience. For more information and our online application, please visit [law.utexas.edu/clinics/ecdc/](http://law.utexas.edu/clinics/ecdc/).

**ecdc@law.utexas.edu**  
<https://law.utexas.edu/clinics/ecdc/>

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## **SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES**

### **1. Blackstone LaunchPad**

The Blackstone LaunchPad at UT is an interdisciplinary program designed to ignite the entrepreneurial mindset in students, researchers, faculty, and staff from every corner of the campus - regardless of major, experience, or discipline. Whether you just came up with your idea yesterday or you have already formed a business, Blackstone LaunchPad is a great place to get started. Blackstone LaunchPad serves as an entry point for the many entrepreneurship efforts across campus and offers signature 1:1 mentoring where you can schedule time with the Directors to get personalized attention, support, and feedback on what's next. Blackstone LaunchPad is centrally located in the Flawn Academic Center (FAC) and Fridays are open to all - no appointment necessary.

**launchpad@utexas.edu**  
<https://launchpad.utexas.edu/start-here>

### **2. Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship Bridging Disciplines Program**

The Innovation, Creativity & Entrepreneurship BDP teaches students about the entrepreneurial

process and the history of innovation in the United States and around the world. Through an interdisciplinary, transcript-recognized certificate program that combines courses from business, communication, fine arts, engineering, the sciences, and liberal arts, students learn how ideas, inventions, talents, and skills are developed and transformed into commercial and social ventures. At the same time, the program asks students to learn about creativity and the creative process within their own disciplines, and to pursue a hands-on research or internship experience such as developing a business plan or interning at a start-up.

[bdp@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bdp@austin.utexas.edu)  
[utexas.edu/ugs/bdp/programs/ice](http://utexas.edu/ugs/bdp/programs/ice)

### 3. Social Entrepreneurship & Non-Profits Bridging Disciplines Program

The Social Entrepreneurship & Non-Profits BDP brings together students who are interested in pursuing a career in the public service sector and expanding their involvement in the community. As future non-profit leaders and social entrepreneurs, students learn about the blurring of the lines between private, government, and non-profit sectors, while developing a nuanced understanding of how these organizations function. The Social Entrepreneurship & Non-Profits BDP allows students to tailor their coursework to fit interests ranging from international development, to community welfare and social justice, to environmental or health-related non-profits, and the program supports students in pursuing hands-on research or internship experiences related to their BDP goals.

[bdp@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:bdp@austin.utexas.edu)  
<https://ugs.utexas.edu/bdp/programs/sen>

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## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

### 1. Design Collective

Design Collective is a design community at UT Austin with the goal of fostering the next generation of designers through education, collaboration, and application. Need a designer? DECO Studio can help! Logos, flyers, websites, merch, etc.

<http://www.dsgncoll.com/>

### 2. Entrepreneurship & Innovation Agency

Tasked by the Graduate Student Assembly, the Entrepreneurship and Innovation Agency serves as a conduit to startup collaboration, resources, and education. Our chief aim is to centralize and simplify Austin's dynamic entrepreneurial scene by:

- Providing resources that empower action and encourage collaboration
- Facilitating access to relevant opportunities and mentors
- Advertising success stories and entrepreneurial career pathways
- Networking across campus and with Austin's startup community
- Advocating on behalf of student entrepreneurs to policy makers

[Nihal.Parekh@mba18.mcombs.utexas.edu](mailto:Nihal.Parekh@mba18.mcombs.utexas.edu)  
<http://utexasgsa.org>

### 3. Longhorn Entrepreneurship Agency (LEA)

The Longhorn Entrepreneurship Agency is an agency of Student Government that strives to connect, educate, and support student entrepreneurs while developing and fostering an innovative startup culture on campus. LEA drives cooperative efforts on campus across disciplines and organizations through its official association with the University as well as its operation of the first on-campus coworking space for student startups, the Colab at 2609 University Avenue. From interest to ideation to support, LEA's programs support and expand student-run entrepreneurship.

- Freshman Founders
- Co-lab
- Entrepreneurship Week

[utsglea@gmail.com](mailto:utsglea@gmail.com)  
[utlea.org](http://utlea.org)

### 4. Genesis Program

The Genesis Program provides UT students with mentors, investment experience, and early stage funding. Students on the leadership team participate alongside mentors in activities tailored for early stage innovations and help source, screen, select, and support awardees. Funding applicants can be student innovators of any degree level from any college. Regarding the description of the Genesis Program, we would like you to change the name to simply "Genesis Program". The description you have is perfect, except we would like to add one sentence at

the end that says “The capital that the Genesis Program awards is completely non-dilutive and is meant to accelerate the growth of pre-seed student ventures on campus.”

[genesisprogram.org](http://genesisprogram.org)

### 5. Longhorn Maker Studios Club

The Longhorn Maker Studios Club is dedicated to creating great things using the resources available in the Longhorn Maker Studios (main facility is in ETC 1.222) and teaching others how to do so. The club’s goals are to:

- Present seminars and training to enable students to make great things and better use the Maker Studios’ resources.
- Provide a creative environment for students to come work with one another.
- Work on collaborative projects.
- Support and volunteer at Maker-related events.

[utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/LonghornMakerClub/](http://utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/LonghornMakerClub/)

### 6. McCombs Entrepreneurship Society

McCombs’ Entrepreneur Society (ES) is an organization that brings together M.B.A. students with a common interest in entrepreneurship. Counting 30% of the full-time M.B.A. students as dues-paying members, ES is one of McCombs’ largest student organizations. It is also among the most active.

[entreprenorsociety@mcombs.utexas.edu](mailto:entreprenorsociety@mcombs.utexas.edu)  
[utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/entreprenorsociety](http://utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/entreprenorsociety)

### 7. Texas Convergent

Texas Convergent was established to promote collaboration across the University of Texas through entrepreneurship. Historically, it has been the combination of students from varying backgrounds with the common goal of innovation that has driven the most creative ideas and products. Convergent aims to bridge the gap between the Computer Science department and students across the university by providing hands-on experience through collaborative projects and a community for students to launch their ideas.

[membership@txconvergent.org](mailto:membership@txconvergent.org)  
<http://txconvergent.org/>

### 8. Texas Enactus

Texas Enactus is a community of student, academic, and business leaders committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a better, more sustainable world. Using their unique skills and abilities, Texas Enactus participants design projects to create sustainable solutions for the city of Austin and beyond. They strive to promote and implement creative ideas, enable progress through entrepreneurial action, build strong relationships between each other and the community, and share their impact at Enactus competitions.

[sina.a.ghadiri@utexas.edu](mailto:sina.a.ghadiri@utexas.edu)  
[texasenactus.org](http://texasenactus.org)

### 9. Texas Israeli Startup Association

This organization brings awareness of the culture and accomplishments of startups from Israel. The group aims to bring Israeli startups to campus to share their stories.

[utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/TISA](http://utexas.collegiatelink.net/organization/TISA)

Startup Resources

Entrepreneurs-in-Residence

Research

Startup Jobs & Internships

Growth

# Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship Live

Money Talks

Frontiers of Innovation

Startup Competitions

Renewal



# UT AUSTIN STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

**Cockrell School of Engineering**  
Innovation Center  
Longhorn Maker Studios

**College of Fine Arts**  
Center for Arts and Entertainment Technologies (CAET)  
Center for Integrated Design  
The Foundry  
Portfolio in Arts and Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship

**College of Natural Sciences**  
Freshman Research Initiative and CNS Inventors  
Longhorn Startup Lab and Seminar

**College of Pharmacy**  
UTech Dorm Room

**Dell Medical School**  
Design Institute for Health  
Innovation, Leadership, and Discovery block  
Texas Health Catalyst

**Division of Diversity & Community Engagement**  
Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium

**Energy Institute**

**Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs**  
RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service

**McCombs School of Business**  
Herb Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship, Growth, and Renewal  
Entrepreneurs-in-Residence  
Longhorn Entrepreneurship Acceleration Program (LEAP)  
Master of Science in Technology Commercialization (MSTC)  
Texas Venture Labs  
Venture Fellows

**Moody College of Communications/Office of the President**  
Center for Sports Leadership & Innovation

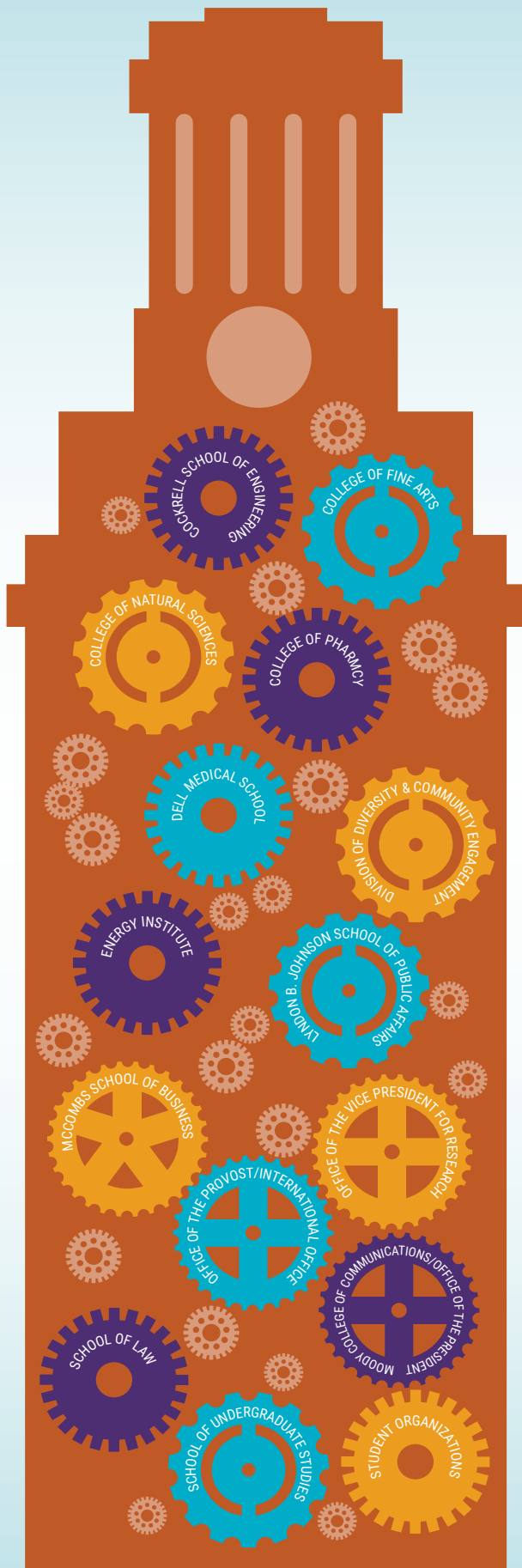
**Office of the Provost/International Office**  
Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders Initiative  
Social Entrepreneurship in China: Maymester  
Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative

**Office of the Vice President for Research**  
IC2 Institute  
Austin Technology Incubator  
Global Commercialization Group  
Office of Technology Commercialization  
Southwest NSF Innovation Corps

**School of Law**  
Entrepreneurship and Community Development Law Clinic

**School of Undergraduate Studies**  
Blackstone Launchpad  
Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship Bridging Disciplines Program  
Social Entrepreneurship & Non-Profits Bridging Disciplines Program

**Student Organizations**  
Design Collective  
Graduate Student Assembly/Entrepreneurship and Industry Agency  
Longhorn Entrepreneurship Agency (UTLEA)  
Longhorn Genesis Program  
Longhorn Maker Studios Club  
McCombs Entrepreneurship Society  
Texas Convergent  
Texas Enactus  
Texas Israeli Startup Association



# HERB KELLEHER CENTER

## FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP, GROWTH, AND RENEWAL

### HISTORY

In 1967, Herb Kelleher founded Southwest Airlines. Prior to this, flying was a luxury and only those that were wealthy or traveling for business could afford to fly. With the start of Southwest Airlines, the industry was transformed. The Herb Kelleher Center for Entrepreneurship, Growth, and Renewal was founded in 2001 to provide resources and guidance to others with an entrepreneurial spirit and to encourage innovation. Herb's vision and passion for positive change through entrepreneurship and innovation are reflected in the center, both in name and spirit.

### MISSION

**Research. Education. Impact.**

The Herb Kelleher Center strives to be the finest academic research and teaching center focused on entrepreneurship in the United States. It brings together financial resources, leading entrepreneurs, students, and faculty from multiple disciplines and multiple colleges and universities to develop and communicate new knowledge about entrepreneurship and the entrepreneurial processes, develop and deliver outstanding programs in entrepreneurship, and encourage and facilitate the development of successful entrepreneurs. The Center links the McCombs School of Business with the entrepreneurial community and other centers of entrepreneurship-related activities within the university.

Learn more at <https://www.mcombs.utexas.edu/Centers/Kelleher-Center>.





# TEXAS

The University of Texas at Austin

