

Biola University Launches its Annual Business Startup Competition and New Entrepreneurship Concentration

The Biola Startup Competition is a program designed to give students the opportunity to receive a grant in order to fund a startup company or nonprofit of their design.

Shareline: The Biola Startup Competition has launched and will include weekly events leading up to the awards ceremony in March 2020.

Biola University's Crowell School of Business will launch the school's fifth annual Startup Competition on Sept. 23. Founder and Chief Technology Officer of FullArmor Corp, Danny Kim, spoke at the kickoff. The competition coincides with two new entrepreneurship programs that launched this fall.

The Biola Startup Competition was founded "to foster kingdom-minded, Christ-honoring entrepreneurship across the university community and develop greater opportunities for business as ministry." The competition is open to students of all majors to gain experience in entrepreneurship and the business world. The event will be an opportunity to hear from an accomplished industry leader and learn how to participate in the program.

"Entrepreneurship and innovation continue to gain steam here at Biola," says Crowell School of Business Dean Gary Lindblad, "Coming off of our largest Praxis Academy this past summer, we launch the Entrepreneurship Concentration for business students and the Entrepreneurship Minor open to all Biola undergraduates. Plus, our *Entrepreneurship and New Venture Formation* course has no prerequisites, so it's open to anyone wanting to monetize their skill set by starting a business in the gig economy. We have a larger set of co-curricular programs, too, with the Startup Competition, Fireside Chats with Entrepreneurs, the Entrepreneurship Society, and just connecting with Dr. Bob Harp about your entrepreneurial aspirations."

Last year's winners included team *youniquely_made*, an e-commerce matchmaking site for artistic creators and marketing clients, and team *Eleven Streetwear*, a brand which provides ethically sourced, high-quality soccer apparel and sought to provide children in underprivileged communities the opportunity to play soccer.

The success of Biola's startup competitions have paved the way for the launch of two new programs with a focus on entrepreneurship. Beginning this semester, business students are now able to declare a concentration in entrepreneurship. Additionally, students of all majors are now able to declare a minor in entrepreneurship. Students involved in these programs will also be able to attend Praxis Academy and join the Biola Entrepreneurship Society.

Biola University's Crowell School of Business offers undergraduate, graduate and online bachelor's degree students a premier business education taught by experienced, professional faculty. They have hosted the Biola Startup Competition since 2016.

Additional Startup Competition Events:

October 7, 7:30-9pm

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH AN ENTREPRENEUR

Jon Hart, Praxis Academy "What is Redemptive Entrepreneurship?"

October 21, 7:30-9pm

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH AN ENTREPRENEUR

Sarah Dubbeldam, Editor-in-Chief, Darling Magazine

October 28, 6-7:30pm

Patty Ross, Executive Advisor, Apple

January 13, 6-7:30pm

Bob Doll, Chief Equity Strategist and Senior Portfolio Manager at Nuveen Asset Management

March 13, 8-2PM

Competition winners announced/awards ceremony

For more information regarding the upcoming Startup Competition, contact Jenna Loumagne at jenna.loumagne@biola.edu

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