Sam Houston State University
ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition

Goal of Event
As a community-engaged institution, Sam Houston State University generates impactful ideas from its faculty, staff, and students that illustrate the innovative mentality of SHSU. To catalyze the transformation from discovery-based research to market solution and impact, the SHSU Office of Research and Sponsored Programs present the inaugural ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition during the Scholarly Innovation Summit. This pitch competition looks to bridge the gap between academia and the marketplace by providing faculty members with a platform to pitch their research-based innovations, technologies, or discoveries with the potential for commercialization. This competition aims to accelerate the translation of scientific advancements into solving real-world problems.

Eligibility
All tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured track faculty at Sam Houston State University are eligible to apply.

Submission Outline (Access form here)
1. Tentative Title of Your Pitch
2. Problem Statement (150 words)
3. Solution Description (500 words max)
4. Target Market (75-100 words)
5. Feasibility (50-75 words)
6. Expected Outcomes (250 words max)
7. Future Plans (250 words max)

Timeline (TENTATIVE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
5 JUL – Send out a call for pitch solicitations.
14 AUG – Deadline for Pitch Proposals
15 AUG – 31 AUG: Review of Pitch Proposals
1 SEP – Pitch Finalist Announced
1 SEP– 22 SEP Finalist will meet with Pitch coaches (provided by The Ion)
26 SEP – Pitch Competition at the Summit in a special session

Pitch Competition Rules
3 minutes
1 Presenter
Only Pitch Deck provided by ORSP allowed

Judges (4 Judges; 2 from IP Committee; 2 External)
What are the Program Benefits and Expected Outcomes?

- Learn to effectively communicate complex scientific ideas to industry and the public.
- A chance to pitch an idea to a panel of judges for a chance to win recognition and an internal grant award to bring your idea to life.
- An opportunity to get the attention of an investor by introducing them to your research, technology, product, or company.
- Receive real feedback from entrepreneurs and experienced judges.
- An opportunity to build valuable connections with like-minded entrepreneurial peers.

Email from Chad

Subject: Calling All Faculty Innovators! Participate in the ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition

Dear faculty members,

We are thrilled to announce the launch of our first-ever ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition at the ORSP Scholarly Innovation Summit. This exciting event aims to catalyze the transformation from discovery research to relevant market solutions with societal impact. We invite you to participate and share your discovery-to-market concepts for a chance to win funding and recognition for your innovative work.

Competition Overview:

The ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition provides an excellent platform for you to pitch your ideas and receive valuable support to bring them to life. Whether you have a concept, a novel methodology, or a solution to a pressing problem, this competition is the perfect opportunity to present your ideas and gain recognition for your work.

Eligibility

All tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenured track faculty at Sam Houston State University are eligible to apply.

Key Details:

- Pitch Submission Deadline: 14 AUG at 4:59 PM
- Competition Date: 26 SEP at 11 AM
- Location: LSC 242
- Prizes:
  - The top-two presenters will each receive a special innovation grant to aid in the development of their ideas. Funds will be used for prototyping, proof of concept, and testing.
  - The terms of this grant will be negotiated at a later date.
Submission Guidelines:

To participate, please submit a research pitch using the online submission form provided here. Your pitch should include the following information:

1. Tentative Title of Your Pitch
2. Problem Statement (150 words)
3. Solution Description (500 words max)
4. Target Market (75-100 words)
5. Feasibility (50-75 words)
6. Expected Outcomes (250 words max)
7. Future Plans (250 words max)

Benefits of Participation:

Participating in the ORSP Innovation Pitch Competition offers numerous advantages, including:

- Funding opportunities to advance your innovative ideas
- Recognition for your innovative ideas and contributions to your field
- Networking and collaboration prospects with like-minded faculty members
- Access to potential industry partners and sponsors
- Increased visibility and credibility within academic & industry communities

We encourage you to seize this opportunity to showcase your prowess and potentially secure funding for your future endeavors. Your participation will not only benefit you but also contribute to the advancement of knowledge within our institution and beyond.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact Jonathan Thomas (jxt106@shsu.edu).

We look forward to receiving your pitches and witnessing what our faculty members have to offer. Let's inspire and make a difference together!

Best regards,

Chad