



Entrepreneurship Center

Friends & Family eNewsletter

News from the Entrepreneurship Center at Seattle University
Mar. '11

BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION--v13

We are now down to our top 20 teams. On Sat., we put everyone through our boot camp, a new innovation to our business plan competition process. Chuck Porter, Kristine Peterson and May McCarthy respectively spoke on financial matters in a plan, trade show prep and being effective in an elevator pitch. Major kudos to our guest speakers! After lunch, each team did a trial run on their elevator pitch to a panel of coaches who were incredibly insightful in their comments—again many thanks to the coaches and the teams for dedicating this amount of energy to the art and science of doing business plans. We also want to thank the over 160 business volunteers who are helping us make this competition a very special experience for our students.

Now on to the big show on Fri.—the trade show and elevator pitch competition will take place in the Student Center (rm.160) from 11am – 2pm. Everyone is invited to cast their vote for their favorite teams. Early next week we will announce who will make the final four on May 13th – hum, 13th year of competition on Fri. the 13th –are we tempting the fates?

SIFE DOES IT AGAIN, BUT EVEN BETTER

Leo Simpson's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) won the Regional Championship at the SIFE regional's in Minneapolis. This is an amazing accomplishment for a program that is just in its 3rd year (they won rookie of the year 1st year out). The team will now go on to compete on May 10-13 in the National SIFE Exposition. There will be 5-6000 people in attendance. Leo and his team have spent a tremendous number of hours preparing for this. We will be scheduling soon a time for everyone to hear our student's presentation.

ALUMNI NEWS

Jimmy Wanichsuksombat just informed me that he has just launched his latest business, Wanna Noodle. This is Jimmy's second venture—Seattle Fudge. Wanna Noodle is located on 12th & Mercer. Check it out and say hello. PS: Jimmy tested out his concept in the business plan competition several years ago.

Emily Marshall, one of the founders of Snuggle Cloud, was a recent graduate of Founders Institute—an incubator for early stage companies. Snuggle Cloud was “dreamed up” during last fall's Start-up Weekend, which was hosted here on campus. Congrats to Emily and her team.

INTERESTING READING

Steve Handley just shared a great article on entrepreneurship by the creator of Dilbert in Saturday's WSJ: [How to Get a Real Education](#).

In a recent Economist article, the writer notes that the Kauffman Foundation found that Americans aged 55-64 have launched more businesses than those aged 20-34 in every year since 1996. Does this surprise you?

A FAN OF THE CENTER ON FACEBOOK

As of this morning, we are now up to 156 people following us on Facebook—our goal is 200 by fall. Thanks for staying connected and offering your thumbs-up when you see something you like.



Aside from wrapping up your taxes, see you on April 15th at the Business Plan Tradeshow—and yes, I know taxes are actually due on the 18th so you have plenty of time to attend.