

Duke

Master of Engineering Management Program

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Duke Start-Up Challenge

The Pratt School of Engineering and its Center for Entrepreneurship and Research Commercialization (CERC) support the annual Duke Start-Up Challenge, a business development competition that encourages students to plan and launch their own businesses. Teams receive feedback from experienced professionals and the chance to win seed capital along the way. The competition begins during Duke's Entrepreneurship Week, which brings together undergraduate and graduate students from many different disciplines. www.dukestartupchallenge.org/

Duke Start-Up Challenge Results

2012 • Finalist

\$5,000 Clean Energy Track Winner

SafeTNA (Safe Tracking of Non-native Aggregate) is a service that provides DNA-based tracers that can be added to the hydraulic fracturing fluid and then traced to drinking water. The team included MEM student **Paul-Harvey Weiner**.

hygiene compliance. The team included MEM student **Jessica Liu**.

2010 • \$5,000 Runner-Up

Healthcare & Life Sciences Track

Rhexis Biomedical developed a disposable surgical instrument that improves the accuracy and reproducibility of cataract surgery, the most commonly performed outpatient surgery in the US. The team included MEM student **Michael McGroddy**.

2009 • \$25,000 Grand Prize Winner

\$5,000 Consumer Products & Services Track Winner

EntoGenetics has developed an inexpensive process to produce 'spider silk', an organic fabric which is light, elastic, and tougher than Kevlar, in a scalable form. The team included MEM student **Gautham Pandiyan**.

2009 • \$10,000 Runner-Up

\$5,000 Healthcare & Life Sciences Track Winner

Knoesis seeks to develop bio-analytical hardware and reagents enabling cost-effective clinical diagnostics, allowing affordable access to rapid and specific diagnostic healthcare knowledge. The team included MEM student **Moline Prak**.

2011 • \$50,000 Grand Prize Winner

Energy & Environment Track

HyTower Energy Storage plans to capitalize on the \$1.5 billion energy storage market by converting abandoned water towers into cheap and efficient electrical generators. The team included MEM student **Trip Hyde**.

2011 • Finalist

E-clean hopes to reduce hospital acquired infections (HAIs) through increased hand



DUhatch Student Business Incubator

DUhatch was launched in 2009 to connect enterprising students with mentors from faculty and industry, offering office space and facilitating business development to help address the problems a fledgling venture faces. With the ultimate goal of turning innovative ideas into viable businesses and social ventures, DUhatch is the latest in the wide range of entrepreneurship support that Duke University offers.

<http://duhatch.pratt.duke.edu>

In addition to on-campus opportunities, Duke students can also connect with other entrepreneurs in the Research Triangle area through Durham's American Underground, HQ Raleigh, and Launch Chapel Hill.

