



**NELSON CENTER FOR  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**  

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**BROWN UNIVERSITY**



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GCEC Award Application for Outstanding Emerging  
Entrepreneurship Center

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Danny Warshay  
Executive Director

## A New Center for Entrepreneurship at Brown

The Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship at Brown University launched in September of 2016. With centuries of innovative research, teaching, and learning, Brown has always been fertile ground for entrepreneurial thinking. Whether in the classroom through the open curriculum, or through a wide range of co-curricular activities, Brown students have long pursued ambitious solutions to challenging problems. What was missing, however, was a central hub that could focus, connect, and amplify this entrepreneurial energy in more concerted fashion.

Creating such a hub had broad support among University leaders and alumni, one of whom, Jonathan Nelson, agreed to establish the center with a \$25 million gift. The challenge lay in how to translate that broad vision into a set of more concrete programs, and how best to use the center to build a stronger ecosystem on campus. Most of all, it was imperative to do this in a way that was “authentically Brown”, which is to say that the Center needed to be a natural extension of the University and one that capitalized on some unique facets of its culture.

Over the past two-and-a-half years we have sought to do exactly that, launching a flurry of events and programs designed to enhance entrepreneurship on campus. The results, we hope, speak for themselves as we have seen an explosion of entrepreneurial enthusiasm across a wide range of programs. While our team deserves great credit for all of their hard work over this period, the center’s success also stems from the fact that it is a tremendous fit for Brown’s campus and culture.

In terms of differentiation, there are three areas that make entrepreneurship at Brown distinct and which are responsible for this early momentum.

The first is that we not only teach entrepreneurship in a liberal arts setting, we actually teach entrepreneurship as a liberal art itself. Rather than focusing solely on business or technology, we teach entrepreneurship as a methodology for solving problems. In its simplest form we teach this as a process with three parts: our students learn how to (1) find and validate an unmet need, (2) develop a value proposition that addresses that unmet need, and (3) develop a sustainability model that can deliver that value proposition to the unmet need in a way that is repeatable and scalable. While this methodology draws on much of what has been developed in entrepreneurship pedagogy over the last fifteen years, we treat it as a critical skill to be developed without regard to the specific use case. For many students, this use case is technology or a for-profit business, but we have also worked with many social entrepreneurs, and even researchers, artists, and others who have utilized this process to further their work outside of explicitly commercial settings. In short, our flavor of entrepreneurship is more intentionally liberal arts oriented than any other of which I’m aware.

Second, entrepreneurship at Brown is highly interdisciplinary. The University has long prided itself on creating meaningful linkages across academic disciplines and this has been an area of particular strength for Brown. It is also highly conducive to entrepreneurship and innovation, since it tends to foster collisions and collaborations from “non obvious” partners. Sure, we have deep connections to many of the usual suspects including engineering, computer science, and biomedical engineering, but we have also created fruitful partnerships with the Brown Arts Initiative, the Humanitarian Innovation Initiative, the Department of Philosophy, and many others. The result of this has been an incredible convergence of people with different backgrounds, and has been highly conducive to interesting projects and the creation of new ventures. These kinds of collaborations have become a hallmark our Center and of entrepreneurship at Brown more broadly.

Lastly, we benefit from an extraordinary degree of student engagement and leadership with and through the Center. Not much at Brown happens “top-down” as students have long played an integral role in campus life. Indeed, our students often select to come here because of the open curriculum, which demands a high degree of active participation in crafting their own academic journey. This has carried over into entrepreneurship as well, and we have a robust undergraduate club that is responsible for initiating many of our most successful programs. In addition to the student club, we have a vibrant set of Peer Entrepreneurs in Residence (PEIRs), and in January of this year, we launched Van Wickle Ventures, a student-run venture fund that invests in startups with a Brown connection. In short, virtually all of our programs involve heavy student input and participation along the way, and this has been an area of real strength for our Center.

## Center Portfolio

The Center’s current portfolio is comprised of three parts: Curricular, Co-Curricular, and Venture Support. Curricularly, we have added three new faculty members and supported more than 10 new entrepreneurship courses. In May of this year we also announced a new Certificate Program in Entrepreneurship, the first of its kind at the Brown. Co-Curricularly, we host approximately 2-4 events per week during the semester across a range of entrepreneurship topics, events which have been critical in building a robust and thriving ecosystem on campus. And lastly, through a number of Venture Support mechanisms, we support the creation of student ventures, many of which have gone on to larger national accelerators, raised significant outside capital, and created meaningful impact.

## Key Metrics

Broadly speaking, we have two sets of metrics that we use to evaluate our work. One set is around engagement and participation in center courses, programs, and activities. We track attendees at events, for example, and applications to our growing portfolio of programs as a way to assess demand and student interest. We have seen growth across the board, but notables include seeing close to 80 teams apply for both Breakthrough Lab (our summer

accelerator) and the Brown Venture Prize (we had 30 teams apply our first year), and we have seen our early stage venture grants grow from 17 to 65+.

The second set of metrics is aimed at the educational impact of our programs and this is largely done through surveys and by soliciting feedback from teams and students. We regularly ask students for evaluations of programs and activities and use these to improve them and make adjustments as needed.

## Achievements to Date

We have had a lot of success thus far as a center, in large part due to the broad support we've received from the Brown Community. Some highlights include:

### 1 - Building A Thriving Ecosystem

We started with temporary space on the third floor of a building most students weren't even familiar with. From those humble beginnings we've used events and programs to build a vibrant community on campus. Our events regularly pull in between 50-100 attendees, and our marquis events between 300-400 people. Our email list has grown to more than 4,000 recipients, and applications to our programs have almost doubled year over year. Across virtually every metric we've seen tremendous growth and active participation from our community.

### 2 - Diversity & Inclusion

We have taken seriously our mandate to build a diverse and inclusive entrepreneurial community, one that reflects the Brown community as a whole. This has been a real source of pride for us and some tangible achievements include:

- A Conference (our Center's first) on *Entrepreneurship at the Intersection of Diversity and Inequality* which convened researchers from across the country
- Launched the *Venture Inclusion Lab* research project which examines how venture capital funding is allocated across different ethnic and socioeconomic groups
- Solidified our diversity and inclusion goals within a Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) which sets concrete diversity goals for things like speaker representation and participation in our programming
- Supported the first Women's Entrepreneurship at Brown (WE@Brown) Conference to support female-identifying founders
- Raised a dedicated Entrepreneurial Access Fund to support and enhance pathways into entrepreneurship for people from under-resourced and under-represented groups

### 3 - Innovative Programming

From our inception we have launched a flurry of program designed to support founders on campus at various stages of their entrepreneurial development. Some highlights include:

- Peer Entrepreneur in Residence (PEIR) program, which enables experienced student founders to mentor other aspiring entrepreneurs
- Van Wickle Ventures - a student-run venture fund that invests in Brown startup companies
- Brown Venture Prize - a \$50,000 prize competition designed to support the University's most advanced ventures
- Brown Venture Founders - a program developed in partnership with the Slater Technology fund, which provides \$50,000 in funding for graduates who wish to build their ventures in Rhode Island
- Founder Fridays - a wildly successful speaker series where Brown alumni entrepreneurs come back to campus to talk about lessons learned from their startups
- Breakthrough Lab - the University's signature venture accelerator which supports 15 teams (~30-40 students) to work on their ventures for the summer and provides funding, structured programming, and mentorship
- Synapse - a series of domestic and international trips which enable students to explore different entrepreneurial ecosystems and learn about critical questions facing its startup entrepreneurs

### 4 - Curricular Development

In May, approval was granted for the first ever certificate program in Brown's history, a program designed by our center for students interested in entrepreneurship. When implemented, students will be eligible to take a small cluster of courses culminating in an entrepreneurship practicum course, and will receive academic recognition for their achievement. We have also hired three new faculty members, introduced 10 new courses, and continue to strengthen the pedagogical and academic foundation for the study of entrepreneurship at Brown.

### 5 - Alumni Engagement

While we have a small staff, our team has raised nearly \$40 million dollars to support the center and make critical investments in people, infrastructure and programs. This fundraising effort is a manifestation of broad support from Brown alumni, who serve as advisors, mentors, and thought partners in many of our center activities. To date, for example, we have engaged in deep and meaningful ways close to 400 alumni who have served in such roles.

# Appendices

## Appendix 1 - Nelson Center Organizational Chart

### Administrative Staff

Danny Warshay  
*Executive Director*

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Jonas Clark  
*Associate Director*

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Elizabeth Malone  
*Program Manager*

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Abigail Durmaz  
*Administrative Coordinator*

### Associated Faculty

Rafael La Porta  
*Robert J. and Nancy D.  
Carney University Professor  
of Economics*

Bobby Pakzad-Hurson  
*Jonathan M. Nelson Assistant  
Professor of Economics and  
Entrepreneurship*

Howard Anderson  
*Adjunct Lecturer in  
Engineering, Senior Lecturer  
at Harvard Business School*

Larry Rand '64  
*Visiting Associate Professor  
of the Practice*

Jennifer Nazareno  
*Assistant Professor of Public  
Health & Entrepreneurship*

Banu Ozkazanc-Pan  
*Visiting Associate Professor  
in Sociology*

Linda Scott  
*Visiting Scholar and Professor  
Emeritus, DP World Chair of  
Entrepreneurship and Innovation,  
University of Oxford*

## Appendix 2 - Center Event Highlights & Timeline

### 2018-19 Event Highlights:

- 6/28: From Data To Dollars (with Slater, 100 attendees mostly from RI community)
- 7/24: Summer B-Lab Celebration (with Slater, 100 attendees mostly from RI community)
- 8/15: Fireside Chat with Steve Blank (with Slater, 220 attendees mostly from RI community)
- 9/6: What is Entrepreneurship? A panel with Danny Warshay and student entrepreneurs
- 9/7: Entrepreneurship Picnic
- 9/7: Office Hours: Jessica Kim '00, founder of lanacare
- 9/14-9/16: Health Hack at Brown
- 9/14: DESIGNxRI: Inclusive Design Panel
- 9/20: Breakthrough Lab Venture Showcase
- 9/21: Roundtable Discussion: Chuck Davis '82, Chairman and CEO of Prodege
- 9/21: Office Hours: Michael Kaplan '95, co-founder and CEO of Fashion to Figure
- 9/21 Office Hours: Chris Girgenti '85, Managing Partner of Pritzker Group Venture Capital

- 9/21: Office Hours: Russ Pillar '87, Chief Executive Officer of Reigning Champs
- 9/25: Office Hours: Brett Kempker, Venture for America
- 9/26: Office Hours: John Ireland '86, President of Upfront Analysis
- 9/28: Founder Friday: Yelitsa Jean-Charles '16 RISD, founder of Healthy Roots
- 9/28: Office Hours & Roundtable Discussion: Yelitsa Jean-Charles RISD '16
- 9/29: Startup@Brown, Keynote - Jessica Kim '00 and Arnell Milhouse
- 10/4: Collaboration with Philosophy featuring speaker Dov Seidman
- 10/4: Roundtable Discussion with Dov Seidman
- 10/5: Office Hours: Troy Henikoff '86, Managing Director of MATH Venture Partners
- 10/11: Startup Studio: A Sea Change: The Convergence of Life Sciences and Technology
- 10/11: Office Hours: Kris Brown '89, corporate partner at Goodwin Procter LLP.
- 10/12: Founder Friday: Rip (Abhishek) Pruisken '10, co-founder of Rip Van Wafels
- 10/12: Roundtable Discussion: Rip (Abhishek) Pruisken '10, co-founder of Rip Van Wafels
- 10/15: Office Hours: Ella Hood, Lawyer and Entrepreneur
- 10/18: Startup Studio: Positioning Your Startup for Success: Advice for Entrepreneurs
- 10/18: Office Hours: Stephanie Singer '04, Attorney at WilmerHale
- 10/18: Funding the Future: Angel Investor Panel (collaboration with Slater)
- 10/18: Office Hours: Amy Wolf '90, Private Equity Partner
- 10/19: Family Weekend Founder Friday: Chuck Davis '82, Finding your passion through entrepreneurship
- 10/20: Family Weekend Forum: Danny Warshay '87, Bottom-Up Research Workshop
- 10/22: Office Hours: Marianna Zaslavsky, Entrepreneur
- 10/24: Office Hours: Greg Thorson '83, founder of Environmental Lights
- 10/24: Startup Summer Internship Panel (EP)
- 10/25: Startup Studio: Lessons from the Product Development Trenches: Learning From The Mistakes of Others
- 10/26: Boston Israel Trek (collaboration with the Israel Consulate)
- 10/30: Office Hours: Steph Korey '09, co-founder of Away
- 10/31: How to Get a Job at a Startup (as a non-technical person)
- 11/1: Startup Studio: Self-Care Strategies for Entrepreneurs
- 11/2: Founder Friday: Dr. Jon Elion '72, Medical Entrepreneurship: Lessons Learned
- 11/6: Roundtable Discussion with Deb Mills-Scofield '82
- 11/7: Entrepreneurship Research Seminar: The Future of Entrepreneurship and the On-Demand Economy, featured speaker, Bobby Pakzad-Hurson
- 11/9: Funding The Future: The Convergence of Impact Investing and Diversity in Tech Startups, Marcos Gonzalez '89
- 11/12: Brown EP Presents: Food Entrepreneurs in Providence
- 11/12: Office Hours: Valentin Perez '18 (past Nelson Center PEIR and EP co-president)
- 11/15: Women of Color: Building Communities Through Entrepreneurship and Leadership
- 11/15: Roundtable Discussion and Office Hours with Rufus Griscom '91

- 11/15: Office Hours with Amanda E. Johnson, Co-founder & COO of Mented Cosmetics
- 11/15: Van Wickle Ventures Information Session
- 11/16: EP Presents: Future of Space with Alan DeClerck '77
- 11/17: Yoga Class and Talk with the founder of Ritual Sweat Society
- 11/28: Women's Entrepreneurship and Women in Business Student Entrepreneurs Panel
- 11/29: B-Lab & Brown Venture Prize Info Session
- 11/30: Innovation Dojo Demo Day
- 12/4: Office Hours with Bob Gleason '73, Executive Chairman of Trunity, Inc.
- 12/5: Entrepreneurship Research Seminar: Supermarket Salvation: Retail and Religion in the United States, with Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Daniel Vaca
- 12/4: WE@Brown Incubator Pitch Night
- 12/10: B-Lab & Brown Venture Prize Info Session
- 1/20/19 - 1/22/19: 30 students will attend the NYC Synapse trip
- 2/1/19: Roundtable discussion with Eric Goetz '71
- 2/5/2019: Virtual Office hours with Naeem Zafar '81
- 2/6/2019: Office hours with Alan Harlam (will visit several times this semester)
- 2/7/2019: Startup Studio, Branding - The Secret Sauce (with local branding experts from NAIL)
- 2/11/2019: Office hours with Leonora Valvo
- 2/12/2019: Entrepreneurship Signature Internships Info Session (with CareerLab)
- 2/13/2019: Startup Studio - Designing Your Life as an Entrepreneur with Fran Slutsky, adjunct lecturer at Brown)
- 2/15/2019: Funding the Future - Angelique Brunner '94, Founder and President of a \$500M Commercial Real Estate Investment Firm
- 2/15/2019: Roundtable Discussion with Rob Kagan '89
- 2/15/2019: Legal Office Hours with Ryan Juliano
- 2/19/2019: Female Founder Boston Synapse Trip (organized by EP)
- 2/19/2019: Startup Studio - Changes in US Immigration Policy and Practice
- 2/19/2019: Legal office hours for immigrant entrepreneurs with Peter Roberts '83
- 2/21/2019: Student Startup Fair (organized by EP)
- 2/26/2019: Funding the Future: Funding Your Startup Post Graduation
- 2/28/2019: Startup Studio - Scaling Your Startup Using Digital Marketing
- 2/19-3/19: West Coast Virtual Office Hours: Bruce Bower '84, Steve Mankoff '84, Fern Mandelbaum '84, Marc Selcow '87, Jan D'Alessandro '85, Sam Hodges '04, Jonathan Speed '84
- 3/2 - 3/3/19: Hack for Humanity Annual Conference (co-sponsor)
- 3/6/2019: Brown Venture Prize Pitch Night
- 3/8/2019: Founder Friday - Haley Hoffman Smith '18, Her Big Idea Tour
- 3/9/2019: WE@Brown Conference (Women's Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship)
- 3/11/2019: Research Seminar Series - Spurring Social Innovation in Latin America (co-sponsor)
- 3/14/2019: Bottom Up Research Workshop at the ASaP Symposium with Danny Warshay



- 3/15/2019: Value Prop Roundtable with Deb Mills-Scofield
- 3/15/2019: Office Hours: Marc Crisafulli
- 3/19/2019: Walmart Lunch and Learn
- 3/21/2019: Founders from Afar Webinar: Yaniv Gelnik '03, Zipline
- 3/23 - 3/28/2019: Barcelona and London Synapse Trips
- 4/4/2019: Startup Studio: Term sheets with Kris Brown '89
- 4/5/2019: Founder Friday: Christian Anthony '96 and Jason Klein '00
- 4/5/2019: Office Hours: Russ Pillar '87
- 4/8/2019 and 4/15/2019: ADOCH Panel, Entrepreneurship at Brown
- 4/11/2019: Office Hours: Jeff Allain
- 4/12/2019: Funding the Future: Stories from Founders and Investors, Supporting Brown Alumni Entrepreneurs (including Lauren Kolodny '08, Aspect Ventures)
- 4/12/2019: Roundtable Discussion with Norman Atkins '84
- 4/15/2019: Research Seminar featuring BEO Graduate Student Researchers
- 4/17/2019: Fireside Chat with David Ebersman '91: Why I left Facebook to Start a Mental Health Care Tech Company
- 4/24/2019: Lessons Learned from (Mostly) Lifelong Entrepreneurs, Mike Baker '87, Steve Glenn '87, and Bart Wolman '87
- 4/25/2019: Brown Venture Founders Reception with Slater, CIC and Venture Cafe
- 4/29/2019: Hazeltine Mentoring Award Reception
- 5/6/2019: Entrepreneurship Research Seminar, Professor Elena Shih
- 5/6 - 5/10/2019: New Building Study Breaks (Shake Shack, Aleppo Sweets, and Ben & Jerry's)
- 5/18-5/22/2019: May-mester San Francisco Synapse 2019: 8 students; 8 startup visits and alumni networking
- 5/25/2019: Commencement Forum: The Future of Media and Political Engagement (co-sponsored with the Watson Institute)
- 5/25/2019: Nelson Center Commencement Reception

## 2017-18 Event Highlights

- B-Lab ([higher-quality ventures](#); alumni engagement through speaking and mentorship)
- Launch of Entrepreneurship Practicum pilot (15 independent study participants + faculty)
- Launch of WE@Brown incubator (women's empowerment through entrepreneurship)
- Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship Open House
- [Brown Hack Health](#) (Nelson Center Pitch Prize)
- Julie Penner '04, Director of Techstars: Doing the Right Things Faster (Workshop Series)
- Lauren Calahan '82, Founder of LEAP4Change (Founder Fridays)
- Jordan Evans '14, founder of Buoy Meet Up (Workshop Series)
- Healthcare Access in an Uncertain Time
- [Steph Korey '09, co-founder of Away](#) (Founder Fridays)

- Startup@Brown (Conference)
- Ryan Juliano, Legal Advice for Startups (Office Hours)
- Jeff Goldman '83, Immigration Strategies for Entrepreneurs (Office Hours)
- Rob Kagan '89, Advice for Startups (Office Hours)
- Larry Rand '64, Sexism in Silicon Valley and Board Governance (Workshop Series)
- Aliza Knox '81, COO of Unlockd (Founder Fridays/Family Weekend event)
- B-Lab: Accelerating Student Startups (Family Weekend Academic Forum)
- Michael Song '89, Entrepreneur and Investor (Office Hours)
- Eric Tarczynski, Founder of Contrary Capital (Office Hours)
- Dr. Ephraim Honig (PhD '86), COO of [Strem Chemicals](#) (founded by Michael Strem '58): The Business of Chemistry and the Chemistry of Business (Speaker Event in collaboration with Chemistry Department)
- Kris Brown '89, Want to Start at Company? (Founder Fridays)
- Sound Ideas: Close Listening, Podcasting and the New Radio (Workshop Series in collaboration with Brown Arts Initiative)
- Tyler Gage '08, Co-founder of [Runa](#): *Fully Alive: Using the Lessons of the Amazon to Live Your Mission in Business and Life* (Book Talk)
- Ty-Amhad Taylor, former CEO of THX and now VP of Product Marketing at Facebook (in collaboration with Presidential Scholars Program)
- Strategy Innovation for Teams and Individuals: Teresa Amabile, Harvard Business School Professor; Doug Bate and Bob Johnston of Strategy Innovation Group (Office Hours)
- Dan Holmander, IP Attorney (Office Hours)
- Panel Discussion with B-Lab Alumni (Founder Fridays)
- Steve McCready '92: Your Ironic Brain (Webinar)
- [Casper co-founders Neil Parikh '11 and Luke Sherwin '12](#) (Fireside Chat)
- The Sioux Chef: An Indigenous Kitchen (Workshop Series in collaboration with Food Studies at Brown)
- Howard Anderson, Founder of Battery Ventures/Senior Lecturer HBS, MIT, Tuck: Startups and Troubles Ahead (Workshop Series, Office Hours)
- Adam Vitarello '05 and Ann Storodaj of Optoro, Leo Pollock of The Compost Plant, and Maya Faulstich-Hon '17.5 of Kulisha: Responsible Waste Management (part of EP Sustainability Series)
- Charlie Kroll '01, Co-Founder of Andera and Ellevest (Founder Fridays, Office Hours)
- Venture For America Entrepreneurship Panel
- [Women of Color at the Intersection of Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Politics in Providence](#) (Workshop Series in collaboration with Pembroke Center and Lady Project)
- [#WhyRI: Entrepreneurship, Innovation & You](#) (Workshop Series in collaboration with Providence Chamber of Commerce and Innovation Providence)
- Deb Mills-Scofield '82, Applying Classic Virtues to Design & Innovation (Workshop Series)
- Megan Golden '87, co-founder of Mission: Cure: (Founder Fridays)
- Innovation Dojo Demo Day

- David Ronick '89, co-founder of the fintech app Stash Invest (Workshop Series)
- Design+Health: Danny Warshay Bottom-up Research Workshop for Medical Students (Workshop Series in collaboration with Practico Innovation)
- Venture Speed Dating
- Breakthrough Lab Alumni Panel and Info Session
- Kris Brown '89 (Startup/VC/legal office hours)
- Cliff Weitzman '16 How Cliff, a Forbes 30 Under 30 '17, built 36 products while at Brown (Founder Fridays)
- B-Lab Application Info Session
- Scott Friend '87 and Marina Hatsopoulos '87: How Classmates from '87 went from the Startup World to World Class Investors (Founder Fridays)
- Dr. George Koutitas of Gridmates, and Claudia Eyzaguirre of PVcomplete: Solar Energy Startups (Sustainable Speaker Series)
- Anne Marie Darling '93: How Entrepreneurship Helped Navigate my Career at Goldman Sachs (Founder Fridays)
- Eric Tarczynski, founder of Contrary Capital - University-focused VC Firm (Office Hours)
- Peter Roberts '83: The rapidly changing world of U.S. immigration: challenges and opportunities for foreign national entrepreneurs and professionals (Workshop Series)
- Priscilla Tyler, of True Ventures re: Priya Haji Fellowship (Office Hours)
- Sarah Meister of Indiegogo on crowdfunding (Workshop Series)
- EP Student Startup Fair (featuring current ventures and young alumni startups)
- Mariah Calagione '93 of Dogfish Head: Building a World Class Brand (Founder Fridays)
- Funding the Future: A Panel Featuring Young Brown Alumni Venture Capitalists (Workshop Series)
- WE@Brown Women's Empowerment Through Entrepreneurship (2nd annual conference)
- Ted Pappendick '91: Hedge Funds and Healthcare Investing (Workshop Series)
- Rob Kagan '89, Advice for Startups (Office Hours)
- Ryan Juliano, Legal Advice for Startups (Office Hours)
- Matt Kursh '87, CEO and Founder of Oji Life Lab (Group Office Hours)
- [Brown Venture Prize](#) Pitch Night
- Hack For Humanity Hackathon in collaboration with Humanitarian Innovation Initiative
- Matt Kittay '03: Funding the Future (Workshop Series)
- Linda Scott, Visiting Nelson Center Scholar from Oxford: Nested Constraints, Women's Entrepreneurship Around the World (FEAST Lecture)
- High Impact Investing In Latin American Coffee Cooperatives in collaboration with Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- Jewel Burks, Entrepreneur in Residence at Google and founder of the start-up and app PartPic (EP Keynote Speaker)
- Building Bridges: 21st Century Health Care and the Future of Public Health and Entrepreneurship in collaboration with the School of Public Health, and the Brown Innovation for Health student club (Workshop Series)
- Daniel Rothman '04 (Office Hours)

- Troy Henikoff '86 of Math Ventures (Office Hours)
- The Future of Finance: TPG Rise Fund, founder and CEO Bill McGlashan (Sustainable Speaker Series)
- Coexistence and Entrepreneurship through Israel's Startup Culture in collaboration with Consulate General of Israel, Steve Price '84 moderated panel
- MJ Kaplan '82: The Future of Work is Now (Workshop Series)
- Grant Gurtin '12 founder of Fanium, and active angel investor (Founder Fridays)
- Why We Care: How Entrepreneurs are Adding Economic and Social Value to Africa (Panel)
- The Future of Food: Featuring Gotham Greens and AeroFarms (Sustainable Speaker Series)
- Funding the Future: with Tim Wang '05 (VC Series)
- Marla Malcolm Beck, co-founder and CEO, Bluemercury, Inc. (Speaker Series)
- [Michael Slably](#) '01, Chief Innovation Officer of Obama For America (Founder Fridays)
- Cheryl McCants '86, CEO OF Impact Consulting Enterprises (Founder Fridays)
- Kerlyne Jean-Baptiste '16, Founder of KerlyGirl (hair care product for black women)
- Bart Wolman '86, Co-Chairman, Enrevo Industries, Steve Glenn '88, CEO Plant Prefab, Mike Baker '87, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer of DataXu (Office Hours)
- Kalie Gold '08: Making Research Usable in a Startup (Workshop Series)
- Hosting 2 ADOCH student panels on Entrepreneurship at Brown
- Hazeltine mentoring award night
- Commencement panel: continued collaboration with the Pembroke Center (focus on activism and entrepreneurship)

## 2016-17 Event Highlights

- September 1- B-Lab/BVF/SIF Student Presentations for Advancement Retreat
- September 9 - Innovation on the Hill Picnic (50+ attendees):
- September 21 - Business Plan Workshop for Brown Venture and Social Innovation Fellows
- September 22 - Bottom-up Research Workshop with Alpert Medical School, Design+Health, and the Business of Medicine (30+ attendees)
- September 27 - How to be a Good Startup Employee, with Venture For America
- September 30 - Entrepreneurship Program Dojo Welcome Reception and Bottom-up Research Workshop
- October 13 - Guest Speaker - Balaji Srinivasan, CEO of 21: Bitcoin & Discussion (30+ attendees); Office Hours
- October 13 - Contrary Capital and 500 Startups Info Session (Aerin Lim '07)
- October 14 - Entrepreneurship Program Board Meeting & Fireside Chat @ Brown with Aerin Lim '07

- October 14 - Launch of Startup Parlor (weekly Monday meetups for entrepreneurs hosted by our Peer Entrepreneurs In Residence)
- October 22 - Family Weekend Entrepreneurship Forum
- November 4 - Solving Public Health Problems Through Entrepreneurship: Panel & workshop on Bottom-up Research
- November 6 - Music, Tech, and Entrepreneurship Workshop: Our first event in this Arts, Tech, and Entrepreneurship series focused on music and its emerging trends in scholarly research and the evolving market in the music industry. The crowd heard from scholars, entrepreneurs, industrial designers, and artists, for an afternoon aimed to inspire creativity and foster entrepreneurship.
- November 7 - Bottom-up Research workshop for the Brown Institute for Brain Sciences in collaboration with the Sagol School of Neuroscience at Tel Aviv U. (with support from the Brown School of Professional Studies on the workshop design and video/internet connectivity)
- November 9- Creating Solutions that Matter with Deb Mills-Scofield '82
- November 10 - Young Alumni Stories. Laura Thompson '09, Google Ventures; Hudson Gaines-Ross '09, co-founder of RISE coffee.
- November 10 - Generation Startup Screening: The Jonathan M. Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship in partnership with Creative Breed screened the GENERATION STARTUP, documentary directed by Cheryl Houser '83, Followed by a Q&A panel livestreamed to 30 other campuses.
- November 11 - Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurship Program present Co-Founder of Venmo
- November 12 - She Started It Film Screening + RISD
- November 17 - Entrepreneurial Stories from first-generation and people of color alumni in conjunction with The First-Generation College and Low-Income Student Center (FLiCenter)
- November 18 - Embark Fellowship Info Session (collaboration with Social Innovation Initiative)
- November 29 - Breakthrough Lab (B-Lab) Info Session, 50+ attendees
- December 1 - Michael Persky '85, Managing Partner Alerion Partners (Office Hours)
- December 2 - Job Talk: M. Diane Burton, ILR School, Cornell University:
- "Entrepreneurship and Employment: Job Creation, Job Quality and Career Trajectories"
- (FEAST)
- December 5 - FEAST conference: Entrepreneurship at the Intersection of Diversity and Inequality
- December 6 - John Dencker, Management and Organizational Development, Northeastern University: "Rent Seeking and the Transformation of Employment Relationships" (FEAST)
- December 6 - Marcia Hooper '77, Partner Salt Venture Partners (Office Hours)
- December 7 - Emily Barman, Department of Sociology, Boston University:
- "Taking Appropriate Measures: Demonstrating the Value of Social Enterprise" (FEAST)

- December 7 - 2nd Breakthrough Lab (B-Lab) Info Session
- December 8 - SIF/BVF Graduation
- December 8 - Troy Henikoff '86, Managing Director Techstars, Math Venture Partners (Lunch/Discussion + office hours)
- January 7 - Kids Entrepreneurship Workshop: Creating Value Through Empathy, Storytelling, and Design
- January 12 - Bottom-Up Research Workshop with community partner Practico Innovation
- February 2 - Innovation Lab (workshop): Design Thinking for Strategy Driven Innovation, Neepa Acharya, Member of the Teaching Team at the Stanford Center for Professional Development
- February 3 - Breakthrough Lab Application Workshop
- February 9 - Jeff Allain of New Economy (Financial Focus Office Hours)
- February 16 - Lunch and Discussion with Doug Bate, co-author of The Power of Strategy Innovation: "How to Create YOUR Future" + Office Hours
- February 10 - Economics Department Research Talk: The Cross Section of Bank Value
- February 10 - Brad Gibbs '93 Entrepreneurship (Office Hours)
- February 17 - Amanda Rinderle: Co-founder Tuckerman & Co. (Office Hours)
- February 23 - Event with Technology Ventures Office, "IP to Startup or Not: What To Do With Your New Innovation" featuring entrepreneurs, attorneys, innovation liaisons from industry
- February 23 - Student Startup Fair (Brown Entrepreneurship Program/Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship)
- February 23 - Matthew Kittay '03 Attorney and Angel Investor + Mike MacCombie '11, EverTrue Ventures (Office Hours)
- February 23 - Economics Department Research Talk: Neale Mahoney "Bad Credit, No Problem?"
- March 2 - The Art of Negotiation Workshop with Dr. A Peter Weiss, R. Scot Sellers Scholar of Hand Surgery; Professor of Orthopedics, Brown University Alpert Medical School
- March 2 - Economics Department Research Talk: Bobak Pakzard-Hurson "Equilibrium Effects of Pay Transparency in Bargaining Environments"
- March 3 - Entrepreneurship Program Dojo Bottom-up Research Workshop
- March 4 - We@Brown Women's Empowerment Conference (Brown Entrepreneurship Program event)
- March 8 - Economics Department Research Talk: Mariacristina De Nardi
- March 9 - Volunteer Summit and Donor Recognition Reception (student entrepreneurs presenting) - Advancement + Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship
- March 14 - Confronting Society's Issues Through Technology workshop with early-stage venture capitalist Danny Crichton
- March 16 - Richard Culatta: Rhode Island as a Lab State for Public Sector Entrepreneurs (Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship + Social Innovation Initiative)

- March 17 - Israel in Boston: Entrepreneurship Trek (Consulate General of Israel to New England/Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship)
- March 22 - Innovation Showcase @ Brown (Technology Ventures Office/Advancement + Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship)
- March 23 - Strategy Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Workshop With Your Venture. Lunch and Discussion with Bob Johnston and Doug Bate, authors of The Power of Strategy Innovation
- April 3 - How to Navigate IP on Campus - Workshop for Faculty, Researchers, and Students (Technology Ventures Office/Advancement + Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship)
- April 4 - Fireside chat with Jim Breyer P'17: Navigating College Entrepreneurship
- Idea generation, college entrepreneurship, and what venture capitalists look for in companies
- April 5 - Lunch and Discussion with Marcos Gonzalez '89, Managing Partner of VamosVentures
- April 6 - Lunch and Discussion with Larry Rand, Ph.D. '64, P'93: Why Every Entrepreneur Needs to Understand Board Leadership
- April 7 - Getting Your Ideas to the Right Corporate Partner (Technology Ventures Office)
- April 7 - Ryan Juliano, Howell & Associates (Legal Office Hours)
- April 10 - Value Proposition: Creating Solutions that Matter with Deb Mills-Scotfield '82
- April 11 - Chuck Davis '82, Follow Your Passion (Dinner + Talk)
- April 11 - How To Think Like An Investor with Bradley Miles
- April 13 - A Guide Through Immigration And Entrepreneurship with Peter Roberts '83, Roberts Immigration Law Group
- April 13 - Dan Aziz '11, CEO and co-founder of Premama (Entrepreneurship Office Hours)
- April 19 - A Day on College Hill
- April 20 - The Art of Pitching: How To Tell Your Story with Xochitl Gonzalez '99
- April 27 - My Journey As a Researcher to Social Entrepreneur with Vibha Pínglé, PhD '96 of the Watson Institute
- May 27 - Commencement Forum: Women & Entrepreneurship (Pembroke Center/Nelson Center for Entrepreneurship)
- May 27 - Center Commencement Reception: 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Hillel

