Skandalaris Center for Interdisciplinary Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The Skandalaris Center for Interdisciplinary Innovation and Entrepreneurship (http://skandalaris.wustl.edu) is the place on campus Where Creative Minds Connect.

Mission

The Skandalaris Center aims to inspire and develop creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship at Washington University in St. Louis.

Who We Serve

Our initiatives serve all Washington University students, alumni, faculty, staff, and, on occasion, the community. We call this the SC Network.

Our Initiatives

Our initiatives are divided into three parts:

1. Get Connected (p. 1)
2. Get Trained (p. 1)
3. Get Funded (p. 1)

Get Connected

A great way to get started in creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship at Washington University is to get connected with peers and various resources:

Join a Student Group or Fellowship

There are 14 student organizations committed to various aspects of creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Some are limited to undergraduate or graduate student participation, and some support all.


Join the Skandalaris Center Email List

The email newsletter is the most up-to-date and complete record of upcoming opportunities.

- Join the email list (https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/get-connected/stay-connected-with-skandalaris).

Get Trained

The Skandalaris Center offers many programs that provide real-world, practical training in creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Below are a few program examples:

1. Summer Entrepreneurial Internship Program (http://skandalaris.wustl.edu/training/internship)
   This 10-week summer program offers undergraduate students in any school the opportunity to experience entrepreneurship in a real-world setting through a paid internship at an early stage startup. Each week on Wednesdays, students participate in unique activities, including site visits to startups or co-working spaces, panel discussions, and visits to St. Louis neighborhoods. Applications generally run from early January to early February each year.

2. Student Entrepreneurial Program (STEP) (http://skandalaris.wustl.edu/training/step)
   STEP provides a unique opportunity for students to own and operate a business on or off campus. Student owners can supplement the valuable business and entrepreneurial skills they learn in the classroom while gaining real-world experience as they manage and lead their own businesses.

3. IdeaBounce® (https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/training/ideabounce)
   IdeaBounce® is both an online platform and an event for sharing venture ideas and making connections. This is an opportunity for participants to pitch their idea (no matter how “fresh”), get feedback on it, and make connections. In-person events happen around twice per semester.

4. The Hatchery (http://skandalaris.wustl.edu/training/hatchery)
   Various schools at Washington University offer entrepreneurial training for credit. One such course is The Hatchery (Business Planning for New Enterprises). It is offered by the Olin Business School in both the fall and spring semesters, and it is open to all students at the university. Students form teams around a commercial or social venture idea proposed by a student or community entrepreneur. The deliverables for the course include two presentations to a panel of judges and a complete business plan. The deliverables in the course are similar to the deliverables in the Skandalaris Center’s business plan competitions and can be a valuable first step toward competitions and funding for a new venture.

Get Funded

The Skandalaris Center offers the following business plan competitions for Washington University students:

The Suren G. Dutia and Jas K. Grewal Global Impact Award (GIA) (http://skandalaris.wustl.edu/funding/global-impact-award)
The GIA awards scalable, impactful, quick-to-market Washington University-affiliated startups.

- **Who Can Apply:** Washington University students, postdocs, residents, and recent alumni
- **Award:** Up to $50K

**Skandalaris Venture Competition (SVC)** ([https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/funding/skandalaris-venture-competition](https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/funding/skandalaris-venture-competition))

The SVC provides expert mentorship to new ventures and startups to ready them for commercializing their idea, launching, and pitching to investors.

- **Who Can Apply:** Current Washington University students
- **Award:** Up to $15K

**Learn More**

Please contact the Skandalaris Center ([https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/contact-us](https://skandalaris.wustl.edu/contact-us)) for additional information about all programs. We’re excited to hear from you!

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