ACCELERATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF STEM INNOVATORS

Experiential, hands-on learning programs have been shown to improve student retention rates in challenging classes like calculus and physics, which are gateway courses to STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math). Unfortunately, not enough students – especially women and minorities – are pursuing degrees and careers in these high-demand areas.

Base 11’s STEM Entrepreneur Accelerator Program provides high-potential, low-resource community college students with training and access to world-class resources that give them hands-on experiences creating and developing products and services. These experiences prepare them to become the next generation of entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs.

Together, we can accelerate the next generation of STEM innovators.

Features of Base 11’s STEM Entrepreneur Program include:

1. Innovation Centers
Base 11 helps the college establish a Fab Lab – short for fabrication laboratory – like those originally developed by MIT researchers. In the Fab Lab, tools including 3D printers and laser cutters enable students to design and produce almost anything they can imagine.

The expert design, installation and operational training for these Fab Labs are led by Blair Evans, director of Incite Focus, an MIT alumnus and certified Fab Academy guru.

2. Entrepreneurial Training
To accelerate innovation, Base 11 provides a 16-week entrepreneurial course. The course includes lessons on how to transform classroom learning into new product ideas, create prototypes in the Fab Lab, develop a business plan, and pitch a product or service innovation.
The 16-module training includes:
- The entrepreneur’s mindset
- Rapid prototyping with 3D printers; laser cutters; microprocessor and digital electronics design, assembly and testing stations
- How to protect intellectual property (IP)
- 21st century leadership skills
- Developing and pitching a product and business venture for funding
- Sales and marketing
- Productivity strategies of super-achievers.

The training program features contributions from leading experts including:
- Darren Hardy, best-selling author and former publisher of SUCCESS magazine
- Richard Sudek, Chairman Emeritus of Tech Coast Angels and executive director of UCI Applied Innovation
- Landon Taylor, CEO of Base 11
- Brian Andrews, national casting director, ABC’s Shark Tank.

Base 11 provides the STEM Entrepreneur curriculum and trains the community college staff and faculty to implement and sustain the program on campus.

3. National Pitch Contest
The STEM Entrepreneur program culminates in a student pitch contest, with the top pitches advancing to a national competition held annually on a Base 11 partner university campus. National pitch competition participants have the opportunity to:
- Win cash prizes between $5,000 and $25,000
- Receive one-on-one meeting time with investors to explore funding opportunities
- Receive expert coaching and guidance from Base 11 and partner mentors
- Collaborate with peer entrepreneurs from across the country
- Be considered for casting on ABC’s television show Shark Tank.

4. A Powerful Network
Community college members connect to Base 11’s powerful network that includes top-tier research universities corporations, incubators, investors and more than 400 mentors.

5. Joining the ‘Victory Circle’
Partner colleges that implement Base 11’s STEM Entrepreneur program propel their students into the Base 11 “Victory Circle,” which aims to grow 11,000 strong by 2020. Students qualify for the “Victory Circle” when they are:
- Admitted to a four-year university to pursue a STEM-related degree,
- Employed in a well-paid STEM job, or
- Become a STEM entrepreneur.

Interested?
Learn more by reaching out to info@base11.com.