Launch Competition: Propelling Tomorrow’s Innovations

FAU Tech Runway’s annual Launch Competition provides the most promising ventures and talented entrepreneurs the opportunity to join one of three distinct tracks:

• Community-based entrepreneurs
• FAU undergraduate students
• FAU faculty, staff and graduate students.

Launch Competition winners receive:

• Entrepreneurship instruction (including I-Corps module)
• Preferred access to regional business and tech events
• No-cost co-working space (including 1GBps Internet)
• Introductions to potential sources of early-stage capital
• Structured team mentoring based on the MIT Venture Mentoring process
• Over $100,000 in cash awards
• Marketing and business planning support from college interns
• Free office hours from premier professional support firms (attorneys, accountants, etc.).

National Science Foundation Innovation Corps Site Designation (NSF I-CORPS)

FAU is proud to be one of the only three universities in the state having designation as an NSF I-CORPS Regional Site. This program prepares scientists, engineers, and first-time entrepreneurs to translate their raw technologies and concepts into the marketplace via a rigorous training process that focuses upon customer segmentation and value proposition identification, via 40 customer discovery interviews conducted over a five week period.

Participants are also immersed in the Lean Startup methodology, the “gold standard” in entrepreneurship basic skills instruction.

FAU Tech Runway Investor Network (FAU-TRIN)

FAU Tech Runway is home to the first university-affiliated angel network in the state, known as the FAU-TRIN. FAU-TRIN members are early-stage, accredited investors who enjoy “first-looks” at the most intriguing start-ups and early-stage companies emerging from the university, FAU Tech Runway, the Research Park at FAU, and across the entire FAU “Owl Nation.”