New Ventures Practicum

Want to gain start-up skills? Interested in technology commercialization?

The Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship and CoMotion are working together to provide an opportunity for MBA and other UW graduate students to expand their career experience.

CoMotion’s New Ventures unit, which helps evolve ideas from concept to start-up, is recruiting graduate students with strong business and marketing skills, and an interest in technology commercialization. Students may be assigned to work on a specific start-up project, with an entrepreneur-in-residence, or a technology manager on multiple projects. Students become integral members of CoMotion start-up teams who conduct market research, develop business plans, and explore funding potential.

To review the current list of CoMotion projects visit engineering projects and life sciences projects.

What will you gain?
· Opportunity to work with CoMotion’s experienced technology managers to identify and support promising new technologies for development and commercialization.
· Potential opportunity to take your technology project to UW competitions, such as the Buerk Center’s UW Environmental Innovation Challenge and UW Business Plan Competition.
· Mentorship from CoMotion’s team of entrepreneurs-in-residence, seasoned entrepreneurs and business executives who work closely with teams on product and market development as they explore funding opportunities and staffing needs.
· Opportunity to collaborate with UW’s entrepreneurial researchers across campus.
· Invitations to entrepreneurial seminars, showcases and networking events.
· Letters of recommendation from Technology Managers and Entrepreneurs-in-Residence.
· Development of concrete deliverables to add to your resume and/or portfolio.

Course Credit
This independent study is available year round for autumn, winter and spring quarters (with the potential to continue forward), and are eligible for 2 credits per quarter (ENTRE 600). You will be awarded a credit / no credit grade. If you just want the experience and not the credit, we can discuss an option to volunteer your time to work on the projects within the same structure of the for-credit option.

Time Commitment
Expect to spend about 10 hours a week for the quarter on a combination of meetings, phone calls, and independent research. If you are a student who also has a full-time job, please comment on your flexibility and availability for meetings with inventors and the tech managers.

To Apply:
If you want to take this class for credit, please email your resume and a one-page statement of interest to Samantha Ogle at samogle@uw.edu. Please indicate your department, graduation year, and areas of expertise and/or interest within the technology sector (IT, life sciences, etc.). These opportunities are competitive so be as specific as you can about why you are the right fit for a particular technology sector and have the skill set, experience, and background to do an exceptional job. Review the projects at the above link. An interview with CoMotion will be scheduled with selected applicants.

Questions?
Direct application/academic questions to Samantha Ogle (Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship, Foster) at samogle@uw.edu
Direct project specific questions to Jeanette Ennis (CoMotion) at jmgennis@uw.edu