



UC Davis Selected for New NSF I-Corps Hub for the Northwest Region

UC Davis has been selected as one of eight partner institutions in the newly established [US National Science Foundation's Innovation Corps \(I-Corps\)](#) Hub for the Northwest Region. The campus program, overseen by [Venture Catalyst](#), is designed to accelerate the transformation of technologies into meaningful societal and economic benefits. UC Davis will receive approximately \$1.3 million over five years to champion entrepreneurial excellence in science and engineering, foster groundbreaking innovation and drive economic growth.

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Bringing Impact Investors into your Funding Mix

a Knowledge Exchange
with Alfredo Silva at MoFo LLP
12.3.2024



UCDAVIS
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CARLSEN CENTER
INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
SACRAMENTO STATE

Featuring: Alfredo Silva, JD, Morrison Foerester LLP (MoFo)

Is your startup focused on having a social and/or environmental impact?

Join Venture Catalyst, [Aggie Climate action for Equity \(ACE\)](#), and your like-minded peers to find out what impact investors look for, learn how their expectations may differ from other private investors, and explore some legal mechanisms to ensure your startup stays mission-aligned regardless of investor type.

Date: Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Time: 4:15-6:00pm PST

Location: [Aggie Square Launch Space, 2270 Stockton Blvd, Sacramento](#)

This event is sponsored by the [Carlsen Center](#) at Sacramento State University.

[Register Here](#)

Global Entrepreneurship Week is Here!

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is a week long celebration of innovation and entrepreneurship that takes place in ecosystems around the globe. Dozens of entrepreneur-focused events will be happening in our region this week, so take a peek at what's planned at the link below.



[GEW Events](#)

Dr. Andrew Brown and Patrick Cantini Join the UC Davis Health Ventures Team

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Andrew Brown and Patrick Cantini have joined the [UC Davis Health Ventures](#) team! As the new Director of Strategic Product Portfolios, Andrew will lead research commercialization efforts in cell and gene therapy, neuroscience, oncology, and food as medicine. He will also develop a robust commercialization pipeline through the new Health Venture Studio, securing resources for promising product portfolios. Patrick joins as the new Director of Translational Funding Programs and will lead the development and implementation of funding strategies to advance biomedical research from lab to clinic, as well as create and manage large-scale programs that facilitate the translation of health sciences research in key growth areas aligned with UC Davis and UC Davis Health strategic priorities. Both roles will continue to advance UC Davis's mission of fostering startup creation and economic development initiatives, with a focus on Aggie Square and broader community impact. Please join us in welcoming Andrew and Patrick to the UC Davis community!

PROTEIN CENTRAL

QUARTERLY INDUSTRY &
ACADEMIC MIXER

November 22, 2024 | 5 - 7:30pm



Join the [Integrative Center for Alternative Meat & Protein \(iCAMP\)](#) on November 22, 2024, from 5:00 to 7:30 PM at the UC Davis Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine & Food Science, South RMI Room 1207, for "Protein Central," a quarterly mixer uniting alternative protein researchers and industry innovators. This event will feature insights from iCAMP's fungal-based co-leads, Professors Ruihong Zhang and Mark Marten, alongside industry partner and UC Davis-associated startup [Optimized Foods](#). Attendees will have the opportunity to engage with biomanufacturing developers, incubators, and strategic organizations to foster collaborations aimed at accelerating food innovation and commercialization.

[Read More](#)

Funding Opportunities

NHLBI's Catalyze Preclinical Program Expression of Interest Submissions

The Catalyze Program initiatives support product development, including product definition small molecules, biologics, devices, diagnostics and enabling technologies and transformative platforms through five grant funding opportunities. Catalyze preclinical services support preclinical development activities from end-stage proof-of-concept, through preclinical development and US regulatory approval. Applicants request specific services to advance their technology. [Learn more](#). Deadline: November 21, 2024

Breakthrough Energy Fellows

The Breakthrough Energy Fellows program is now accepting applications for its Cohort 5, offering three fellowships: Innovator, Business, and Explorer. This program is aimed at individuals developing early-stage climate technologies with the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gases. Innovators and Explorers should apply if they are working on breakthrough solutions, whether already incorporated or at the research phase. [Learn more](#). Deadline: December 2, 2024

Climate Program Office FY2025 Modeling, Analysis, Predictions, and Projections Program

CPO advances science and informs decisions for climate adaptation, resilience, and mitigation through NOAA and the U.S. Global Change Research Program. Its research addresses urgent climate challenges, fosters innovation in Earth and social sciences, supports key reports like the National Climate Assessment, enhances NOAA's capabilities for drought, heat, and flood information, and educates the next generation of experts to support NOAA's climate mission. [Learn more](#). Deadline: December 9, 2024

Regional Resilience Innovation Incubator

The Regional Resilience Innovation Incubators (R2I2) is a cross-directorate NSF solicitation led by the Directorate for Geosciences (GEO) and the Directorate for Technology, Innovation and Partnerships (TIP). R2I2 will support community- engaged team science to co-design high-impact solutions to climate-related societal challenges that leverage recent advances in fundamental climate change and Earth system science research. [Learn more](#). Deadline: December 16, 2024

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational and Applied Science Program

To meet the growing population's food needs, we must develop innovative, safe, and sustainable management strategies for livestock, crops, and critical underlying resources. Applications that address climate change, food and nutrition security, expanding markets for producers, indigenous traditional ecological knowledge, and equity for underserved producers are welcome. [Apply here](#). Deadline:

VentureWell E-Team Program

The E-Team Program, part of the VentureWell Accelerator, supports student ventures as you embark down the path you're likely to take as an innovator and entrepreneur. We help you advance your invention through a powerful mix of up to \$25,000 in grant funding, entrepreneurship training, mentorship by dedicated staff, national recognition, and networking with peers and industry experts. [Learn more](#).
Deadline: January 28, 2025

Growth Factory - Accelerating Venture-Backable Startups

The goal of this local startup accelerator is to help founders of pre-seed to seed stage venture backable companies located in the Greater Sacramento Region rapidly achieve product-market fit, positioning them to raise funds and achieve revenue of \$1M in ARR within 18 months. Applications are open on a rolling admissions basis. [Apply here](#).

Techstar Spring Programs

Techstars is now accepting applications for its globally renowned accelerator programs! Entrepreneurs looking to scale their startups with mentorship, funding, and access to a vast network of industry leaders can apply today. The 3-month programs surround founders with a mentorship-driven program, \$120K investment, and access to the Techstars network, so don't miss the chance to take your business to the next level—submit your application now! [Learn more](#).

UC Davis Office of Research - Links to Funding Sources

Browse the listings of funding announcements provided by sponsoring agencies and other pertinent information about obtaining critical research funding. [View the complete list here](#).

Educational Opportunities

Startup Pitch Practice

Refine your pitch and gain valuable insights at Startup Pitch Practice! This interactive event is the perfect opportunity for entrepreneurs to share their ideas, receive expert feedback, and enhance their presentation skills in a supportive environment. Whether you're pitching for funding or preparing for a competition, this is your chance to take your pitch to the next level. [Learn more](#). Date: December 2, 2024 | 10:00am-12:00pm PST

AgriFoodTech Entrepreneurs Resource Program

The Sacramento Entrepreneurial Growth Alliance and the leadership of AgStart are offering no-cost expert-driven support to enable AgriTech startup to become investment-ready and strategically positioned for market entry. [Learn more](#). Date: Ongoing

NorCal Entrepreneur Hub

The NorCal Entrepreneur Hub is a dynamic online platform that enables innovators, startup founders, and small business owners to find and connect with the right resources for their business, including investors, universities, mentoring programs, networking groups, training programs, and more. This FREE regional tool is a great place for any startup founder or small business owner to get started and/or look for resources as you grow. [Learn more](#).

Regional Events

Norcal Angelcon Final Pitch Event

Join us for NorCal AngelCon 2024, where innovative startups compete for funding in the final pitch event! Witness entrepreneurs present their groundbreaking ideas to a panel of angel investors, vying for the top prize. This event is a must-attend for anyone passionate about supporting and celebrating the local startup ecosystem. [Learn more](#). Date: November 20, 2024 | 5:00-7:30pm PST

Startup Holiday Bash

Celebrate the holiday season with Sacramento's entrepreneurial community at the Startup Holiday Bash! Hosted by organizations including StartupSac, CleanStart, The Carlsen Center, and others, this festive event offers a unique opportunity to connect with fellow innovators, toast to the year's successes, and look forward to new opportunities in 2025. Join us at Lucid Winery in Sacramento's R Street Corridor for an evening of networking and celebration. [Learn more](#). Date: December 11, 2024 | 5:30-7:30pm PST

1 Million Cups

Present your early-stage company to your peers. Or just grab a coffee and listen.

Date: [Every Wednesday](#)

California Life Sciences Institute FAST Advisory Program

Get the coaching you need to perfect your business model. [Apply now](#). Date: Ongoing

Bay Area NSF Innovation Corps Immersive Short Course

Join the weeklong immersive course for university researchers and early-stage startup founders. [Apply now](#). Date: Ongoing

Industry Events

Seed Central: The Essential Networking Event

This event will bring together Seed Central members and the new Director of the Genome Center so they can learn about each other and engage in a beneficial dialog. Featuring Richard Michelmore, Founding Director, The Genome Center and Blake Meyers, Director, The Genome Center. [Register here](#). Date: December 12, 2024

43rd Annual JPM Healthcare Conference 2025

Join industry leaders, innovators, and investors at the JPMorgan Health Care Conference, the premier event for the health care investment community. This global conference showcases the latest advancements, strategic insights, and opportunities across the health care sector, fostering collaboration and driving innovation. Don't miss this unparalleled gathering of health care visionaries. [Learn more](#).
Dates: January 13-16, 2025

About Venture Catalyst

UC Davis Venture Catalyst supports the development of new UC Davis-associated ventures fueled by university research and technology. Venture Catalyst offers several innovative programs that bridge the gap between early-stage research and commercialization and provide entrepreneurs the resources, support, and connections needed to successfully form and grow technology-based startups. With a focus on accelerating technology-led economic development in the Davis-Sacramento region, Venture Catalyst also works closely with partners in the regional innovation and economic development ecosystems.

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