The Big Idea Center is the hub for student innovation and entrepreneurship at the University of Pittsburgh. Established in 2018, as part of the Office of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the Big Idea Center is an on-campus, inclusive innovation catalyst that develops a unique skillset valuable to those wishing to engage with startup creation or who simply want to boost their resume. Why should you care? We at the Big Idea Center have created a list of reasons why YOU should get involved, no matter what your student level or course of study.

1. Professional Networking
Throughout the year we offer chances to interact and network with industry professionals throughout the city of Pittsburgh and beyond!

2. Experiential Learning Opportunities
Even if you are not interested in entrepreneurship as a career, working on an idea with us will help you build skills in public presentation, idea development, team building, and more.

3. Mentorship and Coaching
At the Big Idea Center, we host a team of entrepreneurs in residence (EIRs) who dedicate their time to students for the sole purpose of student career and idea development. Our EIRs are industry professionals who have decades of combined experience in various fields.

4. Development of a Well-Rounded Skillset
In order to build an idea from the ground up, you will need to become an individual (or team!) with knowledge in business, communications, project management, and beyond. Our free programming will assist you in honing in these required skills without the stress of adding yet another load of course credits to your already busy schedule.

5. Exposure to Content Designed to Inspire and Educate
The Big Idea Center hosts exclusive programming that is not offered by any other Pitt school or department. In the past, we have facilitated panels showcasing entrepreneurs from minority groups, success stories of Pitt Alumni, as well as creators who are working to make the world a better place. Hearing from these individuals or teams will allow you to have a greater understanding of the professional world, including its trials and tribulations.

Our main goal at the Big Idea Center is student success during their time at the University of Pittsburgh and beyond. The definition of “success” is different for everyone, but we are confident that we can be a valuable resource to you no matter what your long-term goals may be. Did we mention that everything that we offer is free to Pitt students? All it costs is your time and effort. We hope to see you soon!

Follow us on social media for the latest news and updates!

@pittbigidea
https://bigidea.pitt.edu

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