What a year it has been

ESIP has experienced great things this year! We received a Missouri Building Entrepreneurial Capacity (MOBEC) program grant from the Missouri Technology Corporation. This allowed us to take a cohort of 17 students who began in January, while our first cohort of 14 were finishing up the program. We hired an Entrepreneurial Programs Manager, Sara Cochran, who is now overseeing the program. Feel free to contact her at cochransl@umsystem.edu.

ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

2015 Cohort Graduate, Connor Hall, was named UM System Student Entrepreneur of the Year.

SHE MEANS BUSINESS

2016 Cohort Member, Ciara May, presented on a panel of women entrepreneurs at the UM System Women in Leadership Conference.

SEMI FINALISTS

2016 Cohort Members, Connor Wolk and John Kovacs, made the semifinals of the UMKC Regnier Venture Creation Challenge and awarded $1000.

Natasha Brewer
2015 Cohort

The main value of ESIP came from its network. I was able to meet students with similar interests and be paired with mentors who helped me believe I could start a company, get a job, and start a company.

Kevin Ly
2016 Cohort

Although what I accomplished through my internship wasn’t what I had initially expected, what I have experienced has definitely made me learn new things and have a different mindset when approaching similar situations.
2015 Cohort Graduates

- Natasha Brewer
- Audrey Engel
- Drew Forster
- Teresa Frank
- Connor Hall
- Kimberly Miller
- Andrew Neely
- Erik O’Riley
- Aaron Vonderhaar
- Joohae Yoon

2016 Cohort Internships

- Ricky Abnos - Top Hill Properties, LLC, student startup, Kansas City
- Meagan Burwell - Cortex Innovation District, St Louis
- Bobby Caffrey - Rooster, student startup, Kansas City
- Brenda Cortes - Hoot Design Co., Columbia
- Austin Denney - Super Dispatch, Kansas City
- Creighton DeYoung - Rooster, student startup, Kansas City
- Tin Ho - AddVenture Entertainment, student startup, Kansas City
- John Kovacs - HammerSpace, student startup, Rolla
- Ellen Lundstrom - ITEN, St Louis
- Kevin Ly - Noxxu, St Louis
- Ciara May - City of Refuge, Columbia
- Vivion Nguyen - Niall Luxury, Kansas City
- Bryan Scanlan - Legacy Marketing Communications, Columbia
- Tanner Schaack - Vendure, student startup, Rolla
- Dallas Selle - Go Set Go, St Louis
- Connor Wolk - HammerSpace, student startup, Rolla
- Laura Wymer - DigiVase, student startup, Kansas City

Program Highlights

- 10 members of the 2015 cohort graduated from the program
- 17 students were admitted for the 2016 cohort
- 11 courses were added to the course offerings
- 4 campus visits by members of each cohort
- 7 members of the 2016 cohort entered UMKC’s Regnier Venture Creation Challenge (VCC) and 2 made the semifinals
- 135 credit hours of entrepreneurial coursework completed by members of the 2015 and 2016 cohorts
- Members of the 2015 cohort showed significant improvement towards entrepreneurial self-efficacy in the areas of being a leader and making decisions

UPDATE ON ESIP GRADUATES

- Natasha Brewer - Business Developer, Verdigris, Palo Alto, CA
- Drew Forster - pursuing his startup Missouri Cedar, LLC
- Teresa Frank - pursuing her startup Altered Composition
- Connor Hall - pursuing his startups EloScout and Team Allegiance
- Andrew Neely - pursuing his startup
- Eric O’Riley - Accenture