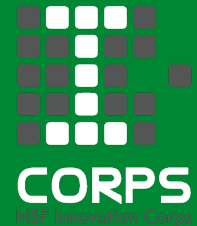


NSF INNOVATION CORPS



Teaching Team



Yao Olive Li, Ph.D.
Director



Olukemi Sawyerr, Ph.D.
AVP Academic Innovation



Jenna Kim
Program Coordinator



Janeya Griffin
The Commercializer™, NASA



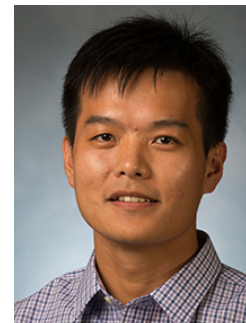
Trayan Kushev, Ph.D.
Associate Professor



Giuseppe Lomiento, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor



Sadiq Shah, Ph.D.
Associate VP Research



Yu Sun, Ph.D.
Associate Professor



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Faculty Director, LTD Initiative



Lauren Bernal
Temp. Program Coordinator

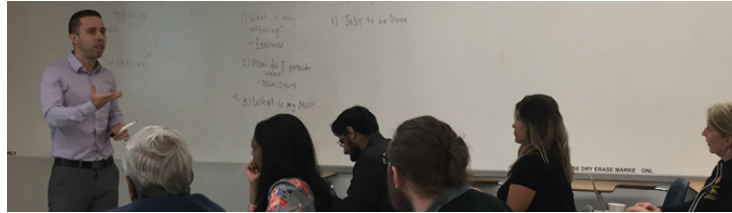
About CPP NSF I-Corps

Since its inception in spring 2019, the CPP I-Corps Site program has successfully recruited and trained 46 teams through 6 cohort offerings. These teams consist of 73 students, 27 faculty members, and 10 local entrepreneurs in a total of 110 participants. As of now, 25 teams were granted to move forward by attending the next-step training BOOM program by Innovation Network – Los Angeles I-Corps Node (regional program management site).

- Vistendo has been awarded a \$250K SBIR Phase 1 grant from the Defense Health Agency in early 2020. Upon successful completion of this Phase 1, this team was awarded again with \$1.1million SBIR Phase 2 grant in early 2021, despite the year-long pandemic hit.
- Team LV Bottle is in licensing talks with LOOP, and team Azuza Beverage won \$10K in the 2020 Big Bang Competition, hosted by UC Davis for the category of Food and Agriculture sector.
- It has been a great experience working with the 8-person faculty team from multiple disciplinary fields. This team interacts and assists the CPP NSF I-Corps cohorts to develop and enhance their seed ideas!

" We hope CPP I-Corps Site program could function as a miniature incubator, by providing resources, infrastructure, advice, training and more importantly networking opportunities, to nurture and support local entrepreneurial teams (including faculty and students) who want to transition their technology concepts into the marketplace."

- Yao Olive Li, Director of the CPP NSF I-Corps site



► I-Corps Participant Demographics of Cohort 1-6

Participant Status

27

Faculty

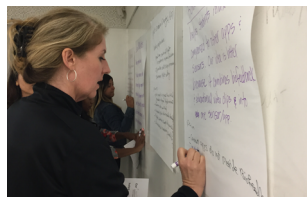
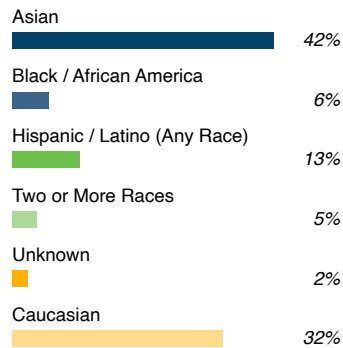
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Local Entrepreneurs

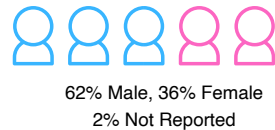
73

Students

Participant Ethnicity



Participant Gender



► How did the CPP I-Corps Short Course meet your expectations?



Since 2019, some of the CPP NSF I-Corps teams were selected by the CPP faculty team to advance to the next step of their entrepreneurial journey: As of now, 25 teams were granted to move forward by attending the next-step training BOOM program by Innovation Network – Los Angeles I-Corps Node (regional program management site).

16

Completed the BOOM sessions

10

Recommended to the Nationals

4

Awaiting for results

► Testimonials of participants in CPP I-Corps

"I really enjoyed the various guest speakers broadening my understanding on the skills and plan required to take my ideas through the entire design process to market . . . [This program] exceeded my expectations. I really enjoyed this experience and I would recommend it to those interested in creating a start-up business."

"There was a lot of useful information in this program. I think that we can definitely benefit from incorporating some business students from the business college into our project."

"I was very impressed by the teaching team. They were incredibly helpful, both in guiding this process and in networking to resources. While they were very supportive and encouraging they also managed to be realistic and provide constructive and critical feedback to help us pivot or define our own goals. This is such a wonderful resource, I'm going to tell everyone I know about it."

"While I am very green to entrepreneurship, I can't pinpoint a particular point over the course of the two week short course in which I experienced an 'a-ha' moment. That being said, what I think is more notable to me is the level of confidence I have developed on the topic after just two day-long sessions. What impedes our desired path is not always ignorance, but the often lack of confidence associated with ignorance. In that respect, I think what's most remarkable about the CPP I-Corps short course is its ability to instill confidence in its participants in just a matter of two days. That, to me, is worth worlds more than any 'a-ha' moment."

► Team Updates As of Today

Isabel Gutierrez - Vistendo | Cohort 2

Isabel has been awarded the \$1.1m SBIR Phase II. She is thrilled to be continuing her work in diagnosing TBI in veterans and service members.

Sebastian Vermont, Stephen Lin, Cherlika Brown, Alshonia Brown - All Access Products (ReCIRC) | Cohort 2

For Sebastian and his team, the BOOM program and Hatchery have been significant to the progress of his team's innovation and has attracted interest from a major brand who would like to test out of zero-waste packaging for their new product line once they are able to test out his prototypes which he is still in the development process of.

His team has completed Stage 3 of the Hatchery Program and are now entering Stage 4, and any further grant assistance through NSF would be essential in achieving commercial growth. In fact, he will be reaching out to USC now to determine the next steps.

Kristine Fish - Mind & Heart Research Lab | Cohort 5

Kristine has received a SPICE grant and CPP grant to pay student assistants to develop the app this summer (they will be marketing an app and wearable device). They have also applied to the SIRG grant (also a CPP grant) and will hear shortly if they are approved. SPICE will pay for computer science students to create the technical aspects of the app & wearable and SIRG will pay for faculty time to create the content.

She has also pointed out that her new team name is SMART wearable for Healthcare Workers (SMART = Stress Management and Resilience Training). Her team has decided to target healthcare workers instead of college students right now. Lastly, Kristine is also confirmed to attend USC BOOM June 2021.

Kentaro Lunn - Aedia LLC | Cohort 5

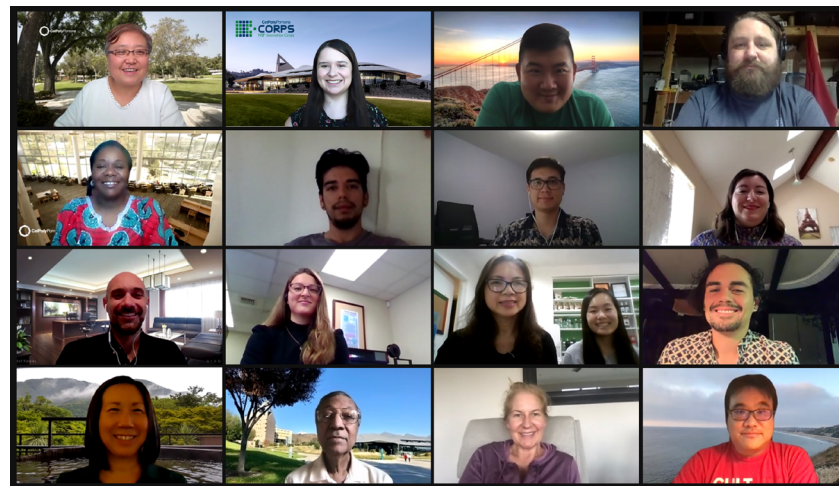
Kentaro Lunn is confirmed to attend USC BOOM June 2021.

Michael L. Pham - High Altitude Balloon Launch | Cohort 4

At this time, his team has not elected to continue to the national I-Corps competition yet. With the big yearlong gap between the original CPP NSF I-Corps course and the recent BOOM session, the team has seen some shifting priorities as they have gained more experience working within their industry. Michael has also added that the original CPP course was run very well, and that he hope up and coming teams have just as good of an experience as he did!

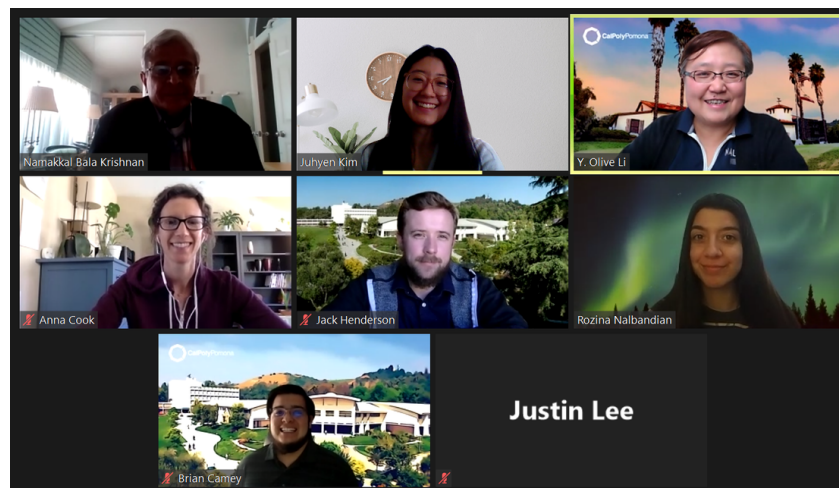
Dr. Reza Lakeh, Ali Sharbat, Rozina Nalbandian, Justin Lee, Brian Camey - Waste Salt Technologies | Cohort 6

Waste Salt Technologies is confirmed to attend USC BOOM June 2021.



Cohort 5 | Date: Fall 2020 | Number of Teams: 6 | Number of Participants: 13

The NSF I-Corps program just completed the Fall 2020 short course on Friday, October 9 and 23, 2020. The 2-day virtual course covered how to take an idea, product, technology, and/or research and translate it into the marketplace. 6 teams for a total of 13 Cal Poly Pomona students and faculty made up Cohort 5, led by an 8 person teaching team.



Cohort 6 | Date: Spring 2021 | Number of Teams: 3 | Number of Participants: 8

The NSF I-Corps program completed the Spring 2021 short course on Friday, March 12 and 26, 2021. Three teams for a total of eight Cal Poly Pomona students, faculty, and alumni made up Cohort 6, led by an 8 person teaching team.



► **New Additions Added to I-Corps Program Starting Cohort 6**

In 2020, CPP I-Corps invited a diverse group of successful entrepreneurs in our community to build the I-Corps Industrial Advisory Group. Dr. Li wanted to provide an opportunity for teams to network with and receive feedback from entrepreneurs who are experts in their fields. These individuals held discussions during the course, responding to questions such as:

- What entrepreneurship skills are useful in personal and professional development?
- In what ways do these skills help one become successful in career pathways?
- How can students gain these entrepreneurship skills on or out of campus (co- or extra-curricular activities)?
- From your extensive experience, what are general challenges in running businesses or in enterprise operations – if possible, for small start-ups to get going?
- Are there any personal experiences to share with students/faculty?

► **The Industrial Advisory Group is still growing, but some of our members include**

Richard Croxall
Diane T. Trinh

Consultant for Systems Engineering and Program Management at Aerospace
Adjunct Professor & Entrepreneur, Nutrition and Food Science Department,
Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture, Cal Poly Pomona

Kit K. Kwok
Derek Nowicki

Lecturer in Apparel Merchandising and Management, Cal Poly Pomona
Previous Participant & Current Student in Computer Science at Cal Poly Pomona

Namakkal T. Balakrishnan

MBA, Lecturer, Technology and Operations Management Corporation, Vice President and Chief Engineer for Northrop Grumman Space Technology, UCLA Anderson Graduate School of Business, Distinguished Alumni at Cal Poly Pomona

Leanne Swanson

Principal Manager, Transmission & Distribution, & Maintenance, Metro West Region Manager, Southern California Edison

Kiem Tjong

Entrepreneur, a founder and executive with the Pasadena Angel investment group.