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A BIG THANK YOU!

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COMPETITION TRACKS

- Business Products & Services
- Life Sciences
- Consumer Products
- Social Enterprise
- Consumer Services

Semi-Finals:
- $10K First Place
- $5K Second Place

Grand Finale:
- $20K Grand Prize
- $5K Runner Up Prize
- In-kind Prizes

Stella Zhang New Venture Competition 2023
Powered by the Merage School's Real Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship
2 GRAND PRIZE WINNERS!

$100,000 in CASH awarded to teams

400+ NVC participants

52 Semi Finalists

52 coaches

100+ judges

98 Concept Papers

10 Finalists

2 GRAND PRIZE WINNERS!
TRACK AWARD WINNERS!
First Place

Business Products & Services

Helios upgrades old cars into a safer ride with an affordable, sleek and easy-to-install radar and camera safety kit, providing 360-degree protection for the driver.
SECOND PLACE
BUSINESS PRODUCTS & SERVICES

A generative AI scheduling platform curated to aid students with time management, meet deadlines, prepare for exams and have time for yourself.

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FIRST PLACE
CONSUMER PRODUCTS

A universal seat belt aid, to empower individuals of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds to buckle themselves in with safety and dignity.
SECOND PLACE
CONSUMER PRODUCTS

OPC brings a multiway configurable leash system to make walking pets more effortless and provide multi-pet walkers with a tangle-free experience.
FIRST PLACE CONSUMER SERVICES + GRAND FINALE RUNNER UP

A specialty food marketplace centered around short form video. The mission is to bring these stories to life and embrace different traditions across the world through short form video and interactive media.
ChewRank is the restaurant discovery app of the new generation, and offers integrated marketing solutions for restaurants with our self-generated traffic.
FIRST PLACE
LIFE SCIENCE

Robust pipeline of patented, mechanism-based therapies to combat our world’s leading causes of blindness in earlier stages of disease, with superior efficacy and safety, over the current standard of care.
SECOND PLACE LIFE SCIENCE
+ GRAND FINALE WINNER

A comfortable, easy-to-use product that expedites vaginal healing by directly targeting damaged tissue.
An innovative shower system that saves 5% of household water while providing the instant hot water consumers need for their morning shower.
SECOND PLACE
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Providing affordable and sustainable housing for lower-income and unhoused families with Modular Dwelling Units.
PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

"New Venture Competition is the perfect gift for my undergrad year at UCI. I gained a lot of knowledge about entrepreneurship and valuable friendships with brilliant minds! This is the rewarding and unforgettable journey for me at UCI!"

"For a long time, I've had ideas that just sat in my head. It wasn't until SZNVC provided the platform to showcase these ideas, that I finally turned thoughts into actions. It was a wonderful exercise in starting a business from scratch and I met a ton of awesome people along the way!"

"It is an amazing opportunity for young entrepreneurs like us to learn and test our business idea."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants: Majors represented</th>
<th>The Paul Merage School of Business</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>310+</td>
<td>The Henry Samueli School of Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>215+</td>
<td>Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110+</td>
<td>School of Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>40+</td>
<td>School of Physical Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>20+</td>
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*Based on available data from 2019-2023*
Types of Participants 2020-2023

Categories represented:
- UCI Graduate students, UCI Undergraduates, UCI Faculty/Staff, Community, Student at Another University

Significant Highlight:
- 2023: Highest # of UCI Graduate Students and Undergrad Students
Concept Paper Score Avgs. (By Track)

Positive trend

Average scores have increased in recent years compared to past years.
Collaboration with Beall Butterworth Competition

23 teams
Participated in both NVC and BB

8 BB teams
Moved onto the NVC semi-finals
74 NVC teams
Have gone to Wayfinder

~33.52%
Of Wayfinder teams come from NVC
Stella Zhang
New Venture
Competition 2023

THANK YOU

Powered by
UCI Paul Merage
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