Office of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Ellis Meng
Vice Dean of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Professor
Biomedical Engineering & Electrical and Computer Engineering
Biomedical Microsystems Laboratory

*Financial interest in Fluid Synchrony LLC & Senseer LLC
Commercialization is another way to achieve *impact* for your research portfolio

- Research results in 3P’s: Publications, PhDs, *and* Patents
- Do you have provisional patents, patent applications, or issued patents?
- Consider intellectual property protection before publishing
Commercialization is a contact sport

• Many pathways to commercialize inventions or other technologies from your research program
• Unless you are one of the rare few who have training in this area, be prepared for an adventure into the unknown
• Commercialization is unlike the merit-based world of academia – many things will take more time that you realize
  – Documenting your invention
  – Interacting with technology transfer office
  – Interacting with patent attorneys
  – Making sure the invention has a market
  – Fundraising beyond the university
• But commercialization can be very rewarding
Who we are

Ellis Meng
• Vice Dean for TIE
• Faculty Entrepreneur and Inventor

Dave Eastman
• NSF I-Corps Node
• Viterbi Startup Garage
• Fund Manager

Alice Liu
• Assistant Director
• Engineering Honors Program
• Prize Competitions

Precious McClendon
• NSF I-Corps Node TA
• Program Coordinator

Arcelia Navarro
• Facilities Manager
• Viterbi Startup Garage

Jason Ordonez
• Program Finances
• Research Administrator
Our extended family

Trina Gregory
- Assistant Director
- Viterbi Student
- Entrepreneurship Education
- Prize Competitions
- TIE Summer Program

Cliff Neuman
- Hacking for Defense
- CSCI 599

Farzin Samadani
- Hacking for Defense
- I-Corps Instructor
- Entrepreneur in Residence for Los Angeles City Hall

Julie Pantiskas
- Innovator in Residence
- Viterbi Startup Garage

Aled Miles
- Innovator in Residence
- Viterbi Startup Garage

Pai-Ling Yin
- Competitions Instructor
- Director, Technology Commercialization Initiative in Marshall School of Business

...and many more!
Our mission

The Viterbi School Office of Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship will:

• Educate engineers on strategies to develop, integrate, and sustain technologies addressing significant needs
• Launch ventures with meaningful social and economic impact based on USC faculty, students, and technologies.

*We are separate from USC Stevens Center for Innovation which is our technology transfer office. All intellectual property flows through USC Stevens.*
We are here to help you

- Many activities to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Viterbi
- Technology Entrepreneurship and Commercialization Hub (TECH)
- Seeking input on what other programming is missing

**Teach**
- UG/G curriculum
- Extra-curricular – postdoc
- Concierge - faculty

**Think**
- Practitioner research
- Speaker series
- Close work with agencies

**Launch**
- Funds to startups
- Support industry teams and orgs
- Prep for raising funds

**Link**
- Universities
- Innovators and mentors
- Corporate and VC communities
The tech startup scene in Los Angeles
Viterbi Startup Garage

- Year-round program
- “International waters” – can be your startup’s home
- Additional programs to support your team, including student interns
- Conference facility, etc. as needed
- Faculty spinoffs from USC, CHLA, UCI, UCLA, Caltech, Purdue as residents or associates

Applications for next cohort due 9/3/19!
More opportunities for faculty

- Educational programs and competitions
  - For you and/or your entrepreneurial students
- Showcase participation
  - Professional coaching and opportunities to present to investors
- Mousetrap Fund
  - Funds “last mile” technology development; look for future cycles
- I-Corps grants
  - Get $50k from NSF to validate your concept in the marketplace!
• ellis.meng@usc.edu

Seed

Nurture and Develop

Validate

Launch

Accelerate

Summer Smasher

• VSEE: entrepreneurial mindset embedded in Freshman Academy
  • ISE 585, H4D, and other courses
  • VSI² Speaker Series
  • Summer Smasher: immersive experience with start-ups

• Hackathons
• Competitions (incl. MEPC, MFC, ABC Prize, NAE)
• Office Hours
• Graduate research

• NSF I-Corps Programming (incl. ZAP, BOOM, LAUNCH, BLITZ, National I-Corps)

• Synchrotron, VSG accelerator program

• Full-time residency at the Viterbi Start-up Garage