TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR CENTER

TEC provides students and faculty with the skills, resources and experiences necessary to become successful innovators, entrepreneurs and leaders who tackle grand challenges and change the world. Students from all across campus participate in TEC’s programs, competitions, trips, and workshops.

OUR SIGNATURE PROGRAM: THE COZAD NEW VENTURE COMPETITION

$160,000

Nearly $160,000 in funding and in-kind prizes awarded to startups via Cozad in 2015.

WHY COMPETE?

- Meet other students passionate about entrepreneurship
- Gain mentoring from prominent alumni and entrepreneurs
- Attend several workshops and learn to push your ventures forward
- Learn to pitch your startup to future investors

NEXT GENERATION OF ENTREPRENEURS

FLIPWORD

Is a device that allows you to passively learn a language while browsing the web. The simple chrome plugin selects key words on a webpage and converts them to the specified language.

getflipword.com/

MISS POSSIBLE

Miss Possible empowers girls through play. They make dolls of women who changed the world, and an app that turns their work into play time! This combination offers inspiration and skill-building.

bemisspossible.com

PSYONIC

Creating highly advanced prosthetic hands at 10 times less cost to improve the lives of people with amputations worldwide. PSYONIC is co-founded by Aadeel Akhtar, PhD candidate in Neuroscience and Patrick Slade, junior in Mechanical Science & Engineering.

MAKER GIRL

MakerGirl is a program led by University of Illinois students that educates 7-10 year old girls on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields through 3-D printing workshops.

makergirl.us
SILICON VALLEY WORKSHOP
A select group of students attend TEC’s technology entrepreneurship workshop in Silicon Valley. Students visit startups and network with prominent alumni from successful companies like Yelp, BitTorrent, and C3 Energy.

SOCIALFUSE
A pitching and networking event that brings together students from diverse majors and fuses them through skills, ideas and entrepreneurial ambition. Students can pitch their startup ideas, find teammates, gain practice and receive feedback.

TEC COURSES
TEC offers a series of entrepreneurship courses covering topics like technology innovation, legal issues for entrepreneurs, and marketing to help students push their ideas and ventures forward. These courses also count toward TEC’s certificate program.

ILLINOIS INNOVATION PRIZES
Students are awarded annually for their display of outstanding innovation. Previous winners have gone on to create successful businesses that affect the lives of millions.

THINK CHICAGO
Accepted students meet and network with industry leaders, visit tech company headquarters, take in the Chicago sites and culture and gain free VIP admission to select Chicago Ideas Week programming.

INNOVATION LLC
Students interested in innovation and entrepreneurship are selected to live in this Living-Learning Community. They have access to on-site classes, exclusive events and 24-hour access to a private collaborative space called the “Garage.”