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**TMU® Idea Labs Competition**

The **TMU® Idea Labs** Entrepreneurial Competition sponsored by Novel Ventures is a structured, multi-phase event designed to develop and showcase innovative student business ideas, aligning with the ACBSP School of Thought guidelines. Phase 1 due date is September 15th, 2025, students submit an initial PowerPoint pitch (Initial Pitch) for committee review and feedback. By November 15th, students/teams refine their concepts, submit an executive summary, and present a 5-minute video pitch for peer and committee evaluation (Refined Pitch), at Phase 2, students advancing to the TMU Idea Labs earn a **$300 scholarship per student/team member\***.Selected students/teams will receive committee review and feedback, expert guidance on their business model and financial projections. Final submissions to the **TMU® Idea Labs** competition are due by January 15th, 2026. The program culminates on January 29th, 2026, with the **TMU® Idea Labs** Final Competition, where students present their polished pitches to a panel of judges, competing for support from the Novel Ventures development, design, and product teams, a digital badge recognition, and a chance to refine and create a final submission for the ACBSP School of Thought competition by **February 2026**.

\*teams are limited to no more than two members

**Phase 1: TMU Idea Labs Initial Pitch (September)**

**Description:** Teams will submit a PowerPoint presentation outlining their business idea. This should cover the key elements: a compelling introduction (The Grab), the problem or opportunity being addressed, and the proposed solution. Each submission should be clear and impactful, designed to captivate and intrigue the review committee.

**Deliverables:** PowerPoint presentation that addresses the ACBSP’s first three points: The Grab, Problem/Opportunity, and Solution.

**Outcome:** Initial feedback from the review committee, providing guidance on improving and refining the pitch.

**Phase 2: Refined Pitch & Recorded Video Presentation (November)**

**Description:** Based on the initial feedback, students/teams will revise their pitch deck, prepare an executive summary (2-3 pages) and record a 7-minute video presentation. The video should engage viewers and effectively convey all critical aspects of the business idea, meeting ACBSP's 9 points with slides highlighting The Grab, The Problem/Opportunity, The Solution, The Market Size, Your Competitive Advantage, The Business Model, The Team, The Promise/Financial Projections, The Ask.

**Deliverables:** Submit executive summary with the ACBSP 9 points listed above, and the 7-minute recorded video pitch, featuring all team members.

**Review Process:** Feedback from the review committee will provide more guidance on improving and refining the pitch in preparation for the **TMU® Idea Labs** Final Competition submission.

**Phase 3: TMU Idea Labs Submission Due (January 15, 2026)**

**Deliverables:** Students/Teams will submit their final, fully developed pitch deck and executive summary for the **TMU® Idea Labs** competition.

**Phase 4: TMU Idea Labs Final Competition (January 29, 2026)**

**Description:** Students/Teams will present their final, fully developed pitches in the **TMU® Idea Labs** competition. This live event will mimic the dynamics of a real investor pitch, with a panel of judges evaluating presentations based on their alignment with ACBSP’s competition criteria.

**Awards:** The 1st place winner will receive a $1,000 cash prize. The 2nd place winner will receive Novel Ventures support and services valued at $4,000, while the 3rd and 4th place winners will each receive support and services valued at $2,000. The 5th place winner will receive support and services valued at $1,000. These services may include development, design, and product team support. Winners will also receive a digital badge reflecting their earned ranking. This event celebrates your entrepreneurial journey and prepares you for the next step—submitting your project to the ACBSP School of Thought competition by February 2026. See specific guidelines for details.

**Phase 5: Novel Ventures Accelerator Mentorship Program (February-May)**

**Description**: TOP 5 students/teams’ winners will continue on in the Novel Ventures Accelerator Mentorship Program, essential for refining the business model, business team composition, and financial projections. This phase emphasizes guidance from experts to hone the business idea further and ensure alignment with ACBSP’s standards.

**Focus Areas**:

**Business Model**: Revenue generation and scalability.

**Financial Projections**: Realistic and compelling financial outlooks.

**Pitch Enhancement**: Practical feedback on presentation delivery.

**Outcome**: Students/Teams will develop a clear and capital-efficient business model, supported by realistic financial projections.

**Phase 6: ACBSP School of Thought Competition Submission (February)**

**Description**: Students will submit their projects to the ACBSP School of Thought competition by the February 2026 deadline. See specific guidelines thought the ACBPS website.