



Institute of
**Innovation &
Entrepreneurship**

SMU INSTITUTE OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(Information correct as of 31 August 2020)

Overview

The Singapore Management University (SMU) Institute of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (IIE) is a practice-oriented institute that nurtures changemakers and founders who aspire to make the world a better place. To achieve this mission, IIE focuses on developing and provide experiential learning programmes that stands on our three pillars of competencies: Culture, Capability and Community. The institute also champions a cohesive innovation and entrepreneurship community anchored at its innovation hub – The Greenhouse and through activities such as its marquee event – the Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition (LKYGBPC).

Background

Established in September 2009, IIE drives innovation through pedagogy and collaborative partnerships, we are also committed to future-proofing the next generation of entrepreneurial leaders by cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset and empowering them with skills to tackle real issues.

Today, SMU IIE boasts a line-up of well-known and successful entrepreneur graduates whose businesses have not only flourished but have become household names here and in the region. While new initiatives are being introduced and current ones are being fine-tuned to keep in step with the times, there is no doubt that a tradition of innovation and entrepreneurship pervades the culture of SMU.

The Greenhouse

Positioned as SMU's innovation lab, The Greenhouse aims to be the nexus for the wider innovation and financial communities and home to SMU's changemakers. The vision for The Greenhouse is to become Southeast Asia's leading sustainable urban innovation labs, where we support and provide opportunities for innovators and entrepreneurs to test-bed their urban technologies in Singapore and beyond.

Flagship Programmes

- Global Innovation Immersion (GII)**
 A 3-month overseas summer internship programme that is open to all full-time SMU undergraduates who are returning for at least one semester of study after the programme. The programme is designed not just for student entrepreneurs, but for students passionate about innovation and digital transformation. GII aims to cultivate a growth and fail-forward mindset in young entrepreneurs.
- Protégé Ventures (PV)**
 As Southeast Asia's first student-run venture fund, Protégé Ventures is a nationwide programme supported by the government to train students to be future tech-savvy entrepreneurial leaders through hands-on venture capital training and extensive network-building with thought leaders so that they can navigate with ease in the unknown, disruptive economies of tomorrow. To date, Protégé Ventures has invested in 6 start-ups, spanning different verticals that include IoT waste management, human resources, and most recently, edtech, and mental health.
- Business Innovations Generator (BIG)**
 Tailored for early stage startups to jumpstart their business ideas and foster creativity, BIG is an intensive 4-month coaching programme that is equity-free. It is designed to help early-stage founders validate their product and get ready for seed investment. Founders accepted into the programme can expect to gain access to our network of mentors and grant opportunities. Our mentors consist of industry movers and shakers, tech titans and corporate giants who could be their first clients or investors.



Marquee Event

Lee Kuan Yew Global Business Plan Competition (LKYGBPC)

Organised by SMU IIE, the biennial LKYGBPC derives its name from Singapore's founding Prime Minister, who developed the country's defining business plan that brought Singapore onto the global stage. It is this spirit of entrepreneurship, innovation and ambition that the competition enshrines. This international competition focuses on urban innovations and solutions created by student founders and early-stage startups.

The 10th biennial LKYGBPC was officially launched on 25 July 2019 focusing on the theme '**Reimagine, Smart, Sustainable and Resilient Cities**'. The 10th edition also launched its first international roadshows, "Around the World" series across 19 cities and received an unprecedented number of over 850 submissions from 650 universities across 60 countries. Out of these submissions, 58 revolutionary finalist teams will be invited to Singapore to compete for prizes worth up to S\$2 million at the finals week, titled as **BLAZE**, from **15 to 19 March 2021**. Finalist teams will be matched with mentors who are industry movers and shakers and have the opportunity to participate in events that help to grow their network.

Global Network

Backed by a panel of industry pioneers and a strong regional network, IIE offers our students opportunities to develop their entrepreneurial journey and for our founders to scale their businesses to greater heights.

To increase our footprint in ASEAN and China, the institute had secured several long term partnerships with incubators and corporates over the last 3 years with a total of 24 MOUs signed.

Key Milestones

- Located at heart of downtown Singapore, **The Greenhouse** serves as IIE's nexus to the innovation and financial communities and is home to SMU Changemakers. Housed over two floors in the sky bridge overlooking Fort Canning Tunnel at SMU Connexion, the **700sqm** facility opened in February 2020.
- SMU alumni have built startups worth more than **US\$3 Billion** in enterprise value over the last decade.
- Over **183 students** have been placed at **13 cities** across the world through the Global Innovation Immersion overseas internship programme since 2015.
- Over **78 students** from different universities participated in Protégé Ventures since 2017 with conversion rate of **70%** securing job placements with venture capitalists, incubators, startups or started their own businesses.
- Over **250 startups** have graduated from Business Innovations Generator incubation programme since 2009.

Contact

Christine Wee - christinewe@smu.edu.sg

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY

Join our community of 10,000+ startups, innovators, student founders and tech gurus by subscribing to our monthly e-newsletter – The Greenhouse Effect. Please click on the link here to subscribe: [The Greenhouse Community](#)

CONNECT

LinkedIn: SMUIIE (<https://www.linkedin.com/school/smuiie/>)

Facebook: @SMUIIE (<https://www.facebook.com/SMUIIE>)

Instagram: smu_iie

Telegram: <https://t.me/smuiie>

Hashtags: #iienovate #wegroomchangemakers #SMUtrailblazers #reimaginecities

www.iie.smu.edu.sg