

**BIG IDEA
BLITZ**

WELCOME!

Please rename yourself on Zoom: "Team Name, Your Name"

Ex. Korian Health, Anna Li

1. Select "More" next to your name under Participants
2. Select "Rename" and customize using format above

Goal of Blitz...

- Think of your idea in new and innovative ways
- Advance and strengthen your idea
- Prepare you for future competitions and programs
- Introduce you to Big Idea Center staff and entrepreneurs in residence
- Develop key entrepreneurial skills such as
 - Applying **core innovation & entrepreneurial concepts** to your projects
 - Learning from and interacting with your peers
 - **Elevator pitching** (TODAY!)
 - Presenting a **pitch with slides** and a **live Q&A** (Practice Pitches, Feb. 13)

Key takeaways...

- Apply basic, fundamental innovation & entrepreneurial concepts to your idea
- Develop a "long-form" pitch (~5 minutes) with valuable feedback from guest judges
- Learn from your peers in a small group environment
- Gain access to entrepreneurship resources
- Put concentrated work into your idea to strengthen it and practice before entering a major competition

Time Commitment

- The 24-hour workshop lasts from 3:30 P.M. tonight to 3:30 P.M. tomorrow (you do not have to work the whole time, **but there is work to do between tonight and tomorrow!!**)
- **Take time to review the asynchronous resources** so you come prepared for Saturday's workshop and next Friday's Practice Pitch.
- The final Practice Pitch round is on **Friday February 13 via Zoom**. Pitch slots will be scheduled on Saturday. More info to come .
- Your team MUST be represented throughout Blitz to be eligible to pitch next Friday, so make sure at least one member of your team is participating throughout the duration of the Blitz Workshop and the pitch slots you submit for next Friday.

Friday (3:30-5:30 P.M.)

- Big Idea Blitz "overview"
- Team elevator pitches
 - Group feedback

5:30 P.M. Friday – 10:30 A.M. Saturday

- **Independent study and asynchronous resource review**

Saturday (10:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M.)

- Check-in and intro to the day
- Topic reviews and group breakouts / working lunch
- Feb. 13 pitch scheduling with Ryan Skelton (rskelton@innovation.pitt.edu)

!! PREPARE FOR TOMORROW !!!

Review *Online Content*

- Big Idea Blitz learning modules
 - You will be sent a link and access instructions after tonight's session
- **REVIEW (at least) the Following Content Modules before 10:30 A.M. tomorrow**
 - Idea to Reality
 - Problems and Stakeholders
 - Competition
 - Solutions, Benefits and Competitive Advantage

After Saturday:

- Market Research
- Feasibility & Viability
- Pitching



University of
Pittsburgh

Office of Innovation
and Entrepreneurship



Reminder!

If you have applied as a **team**, but are sending only **ONE** representative to tomorrow's workshop, let us know ASAP!

We will put you in a team breakout with other individuals so that you have someone to work with.

Entrepreneurship is about **teamwork, collaboration** and **community**! Learn from each other!

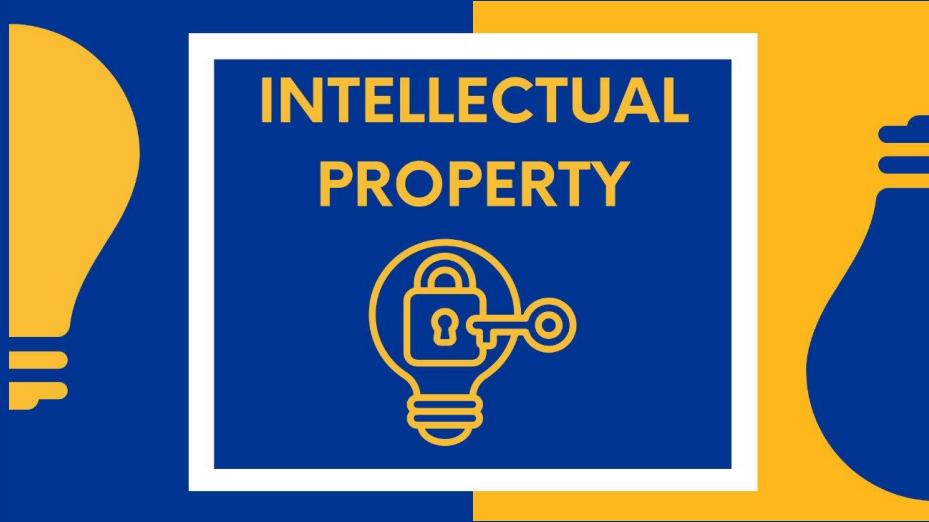
Practice Pitches – February 13

Practice Pitches will take place from **1:00~4:00 P.M.**

Teams will make their request for time slots by **1:00 P.M. on February 7** (wait for email from Ryan)

Time slots will be **10-minutes** in length: **5-minute presentation, 5-minute Q&A**

Timeslot requests will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis **(you may not get your first choice!)**



PITCHING YOUR IDEA is about WHY
AND WHAT you do, not the inner
workings of HOW

BIG IDEA COMPETITION

February - April 2026



\$25,000 grand prize

awarded to the idea with the most startup potential!

All Pitt students are invited to apply to the Big Idea Center's **LARGEST** experience-based learning competition around idea development and pitching!



Apply with your team by
February 15 (11:59 P.M.)

OPEN LAB is a maker space that encourages exploratory learning through making.

You can make your own...

Prototypes | Merch | Scale Models | And More!

Mon - Th 9:00 - 8:30
Friday 9:00 - 5:00

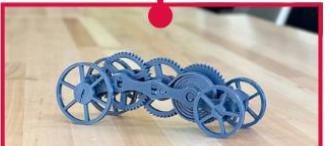
Learn more
here →



3D Printing



Laser Cutting & Engraving



Vinyl Cutting



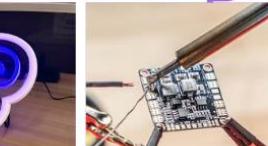
2D & 3D Scanning



Virtual Reality



And More!



Day 1 Elevator Pitches

- Each team will present a 60-90 second elevator pitch (no slides) in **2 pre-assigned breakout rooms**
- Please be respectful of other teams and hold any commentary to the end
- BIC EIRs will provide group feedback and facilitate discussion in each breakout

Any Questions?

Time to pitch!

