

Entrepreneurship at Stellenbosch University

THE FOUR STRUCTURES THAT SUPPORT ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY (SU)



Technology Transfer Office of Stellenbosch University

- Technology transfer services
- Commercialise inventions via spin-out start-up companies



University of Stellenbosch Enterprises (Pty) Ltd (USE)

A wholly owned university company that holds the university's shares in its group of companies.



The Stellenbosch University LaunchLab (LL)

Building the next generation of sustainable high-impact companies.

INITIATIVES BY LAUNCHLAB:

- Community events
- Office hours consulting
- Experiential learning workshops
- University Start-up Lab
- Africa's leading university technology business builder exclusively for spin-out companies.



A division of Stellenbosch University focusing on the commercialisation of non-academic projects.

INITIATIVES BY SUNCOM

- Identify & commercialise non-research based opportunities and SU assets
- Contribute to SU's 5th income stream
- Start-up process from ideation through new spin-out companies
- Work with student entrepreneurs with innovative solutions.
- Strategic Projects Team (Internal SunCom "incubator").

COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES BY THESE STRUCTURES

Tools that support entrepreneurship at Stellenbosch University



The Spin-out Information Guide

An e-book with information and guidance on the Technology Transfer process via Innovus at SU.



The Instant Start-up toolkit

An online platform with tools, forms, documents, videos and support services for SU's spin-out companies.



The Translational Fellow Programme

A fellowship for Master's and Doctoral graduates in translating their innovation into a business or product.



The Stellenbosch Network

A membership-network including innovators, entrepreneurs, investors, knowledge institutions and government.

Entrepreneurship initiatives at Stellenbosch University



Entrepreneurship Bootcamp

Annual collaboration to increase the entrepreneurial culture across the Stellenbosch University campus

- to increase number of quality ideas entering business development and support programmes by providing entrepreneurship support and creating an innovation culture among students in all faculties.
- focuses on the business model canvas to identify value proposition of a company, target market, marketing strategy and pricing.



Stellenbosch University Hackathon

A collaboration between Innovus, LaunchLab and Industry.

- focuses on getting talented student programmers, designers, builders, scientists and engineers to come together to learn, build and share creative ideas, while solving industry-relevant problems innovatively.
- to foster an entrepreneurial spirit on campus and to create entrepreneurial awareness among staff and students.



Last Friday pitching session

An idea-pitching session on the last Friday of every month

- to advise entrepreneurs on the areas of the idea and potential business that can be developed.

FUNDS FOR ENTREPRENEURS

Innovus can help with funding applications to entities like the UTF and TIA and will work with the LaunchLab staff to teach you how to pitch your business effectively to gain interest from investors.

The University Technology Fund (UTF)

The first private investment fund on the African continent that is solely dedicated to investing in university technologies from various universities.

TIA Seed Fund for entrepreneurs

Funding for commercialisation of technologies emerging from South African universities

NIPMO support funding

The TTO applies to NIPMO for support funds to assist with derisking of technology through techno-economic feasibility studies.

The SU Investment Committee

invests via USE on a case-by-case basis in some of the spinout companies emanating from SU research. It usually takes the form of a co-investment.