

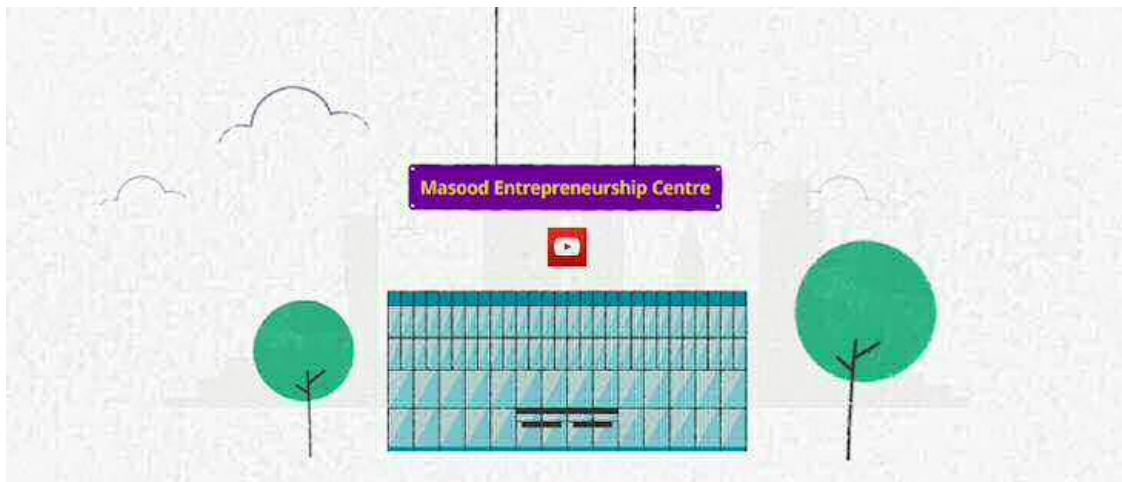
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Masood
Entrepreneurship
Centre

MEC Update

Issue 21 | 17 May 2022



Welcome to the latest [Masood Entrepreneurship Centre](#) newsletter...

MEC News



Entrepreneurs share £75,000 prize money at Venture Further Awards

Fifteen teams of Manchester-based entrepreneurs have been awarded cash prizes as part of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre's annual Venture Further start-up competition.

The winners were announced during a ceremony hosted by Registrar, Secretary and COO of The University of Manchester, Patrick Hackett, celebrating the entrepreneurial talent and creativity of students and recent graduates across The University of Manchester.

Twenty-five teams reached the final round, across five categories – Environmental, Healthcare, Services, Social and Technology – five teams competed for the top cash prize of £10,000. Second place winners were awarded £3,000 and third place £2,000.

This year's winners are:

Environmental

Urban Panel: Steve Philip

A building material manufacturer and building contractor who are seeking to streamline the construction industry.

Healthcare

Organoid Solutions Ltd.: Chrisoula Chappell and Dominic Williams

A biotech start-up rebuilding fat tissue by utilising an artificial blood capillary network, for women that have undergone complete mastectomies due to invasive breast cancer.

Services

Manchester Students' Group: Farris Ramzy

An online platform enabling instant communication and sharing with the student community, providing a tool for them to find themselves by finding the right things to do and the right people to do them with.

Social

Alternative Football: Bethany Barnes

Providing the first inclusive, adult women's and non-binary football league in the North of England, creating an atmosphere that each individual is comfortable with, regardless of skill, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion or financial background.

Technology

Praeferre Ltd.: Abhishek Ghosh

Praeferre is strengthening privacy management with blockchain. The Praeferre SaaS platform provides individuals with a single point of control for data privacy and customer rewards across all their digital touch points.

[Watch a recording of the Venture Further 2022 Awards >>](#)

Start Up Visa Applications – Now Open!

If you're an international recent graduate from The University of Manchester with an interest in starting your own business, then you may be eligible to apply for endorsement for the Start-up Visa via the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre.



The new businesses will need to be innovative, with a clear sustainable competitive advantage over existing provision. They will need to be scalable, with potential to create substantial jobs and growth not just in the UK but abroad as well. Applicants will also need to be able to demonstrate that they have the necessary skills and competencies to run the business.

This call is open to recent graduates and current students or postgraduates who will be graduating **on/before 30 September 2022**.

Application forms can be obtained by contacting us (entrepreneurship@manchester.ac.uk).

Completed applications should be submitted to startupvisa@manchester.ac.uk by **8:00am. (GMT) on Monday 6 June 2022.**

[Find out more](#)

Eli Harari Graphene Enterprise Award 2022: meet with application experts from the GEIC



Later this month there will be an opportunity for potential applicants to discuss their ideas with expert advice on idea feasibility from a scientific perspective.

These lunchtime sessions will take place in the [Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre](#) (GEIC) during the week commencing 23 May 2022.

To participate in these support sessions, potential applicants are asked, if they haven't already done so, to please complete the Eli Harari Graphene Enterprise Award [expression of interest](#) form to provide their contact details and a summary of their proposal

A [recording](#) of the Eli Harari Competition Introduction and Overview webinar is now also available. In this introductory webinar, Tony Walker, Deputy Director of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre, gave an overview of the competition, shared hints and tips as to what the judges will be looking for in applications and details of the support available to support applications and how to access this. We were also pleased to welcome and introduce a previous winner of the competition, who shares their experience and discusses how they have progressed with their idea since being involved with the Harari programme.

[Eli and Britt Harari Graphene Enterprise Award 2022 - Expression of Interest >>](#)

[Keep up-to-date with the latest MEC news here](#)

Spotlight on



PGCert Entrepreneurship - Scholarships Insight Session

To further support students in their entrepreneurial journey, we are proud to announce three 50% scholarships to students for the new fully online, part-time Postgraduate Certificate in Entrepreneurship.

This course provides another way to bring your business ideas to life, with support from the University of Manchester's team of leading entrepreneurial minds.

If you'd like to find out more about our new scholarships, with a recording of the recent webinar with Lynn Sheppard, Director of the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre.

Discover how to apply for the scholarship and develop your business idea.

[Watch a recording >>](#)



Inspiring Women's Conference

In April the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre and Alliance Manchester Business School welcomed almost 100 girls from High Schools across the Greater Manchester Area.

MEC bought together an engaging presentation on Social Enterprise, with a keynote from Venture Further Award 2022 Winners, Alternative Football (Beth Barnes, Helen Hardy).

Later in the afternoon, the girls were split into teams to create their own social enterprise, before showcasing their ideas to each other.

[Read More](#)



Blockchainers Ideathon 2022 Competition

The Blockchainers, one of the Masood Entrepreneurship's partner societies, held the annual Blockchain Ideathon Competition on the 12 May 2022. Prizes of up to £4,000 were up for grabs for the most innovative Blockchain technology ideas with the potential to drive transformational change in the modern world. Participants had to showcase the business use case, business model, governance structure, investments, costs, and roadmap through a ten minute pitch.

This year's competition was especially insightful, with the panel of judges from the Blockchainers and the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre splitting up the £4,000 cash prize across all projects to support the pursuit of their ideas. The Blockchainers are proud to present the following awards to each project:

- **Innovate J: Javier Lecha Navarro - £2000**
Innovate J is proposing to create a private Blockchain based on Ethereum's current model to serve as a database for all hospitals in the European Union.
- **Blueprint: Hak Jin Sim - £750**
Blueprint is an all-or-nothing crowdfunding platform that uses NFTs to allow projects to simultaneously raise funds and build an engaged community.
- **Futarverse: Daniel Chiang and James Kirkham - £750**
Futarverse is attempting to combine the strengths of Blockchain's current components and mechanisms to minimise the required time to verify transactions between each verification on the Blockchain.
- **Arcube: Harvey Lowe and Prith Reddy - £750**
Arcube are proposing a new concept for the innovation of the insurance industry using Blockchain and cryptocurrency technology.

Find out more about the winners >>

Resource Centre



Financing a business

Our [Resource Centre](#) is a vital hub of information for students, staff and recent graduates who aspire to start a business.

It is likely you will need [funding](#) to start your business unless you have your own money. Discover some of the main sources of start up funding and other advice on:

- Start up costs;
- Setting price;

- Cash flow.

[Read More](#)

Events

Momentum Finance Series - Session 5 - Funding and Company Valuation

Thursday 26 May 2022 10:00 – 11:45 GMT



This session will focus on Funding and Company Valuation covering, but not limited to, the following aspects:

Funding opportunities and process

- Grants;
- Loans;
- Equity investment.

Company Valuation (For when pitching to potential investors)

- Net assets;
- Forecasted Future earnings and Discounted cash flow.

[Register](#)

Envisioning a Sustainable Business Future

Tuesday 31 May 2022 13:00 – 14:00 BST



Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do, and it's becoming increasingly important to build sustainability into your business model as you plan for the future.

On Tuesday 31 May 2022, Dr. Adam Frost, Senior Lecturer at The University of Manchester, will be joined by two leading business professionals as they discuss the importance of sustainability in their industries and how they build it into their business models. Adam teaches Implementing Business ideas, part of the [PGCert Entrepreneurship](#) and will be joined by a panel of professionals with an interest in sustainability demonstrating the practical application of the theories covered in the Postgraduate certificate.

[Register](#)



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entrepreneurship@manchester.ac.uk

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