President’s Prizes: Joint Information Session

Center for Undergraduate Research & Fellowships
President’s Engagement Prize

- Launched in fall 2014; first awarded in spring 2015
- Underscores the *Penn Compact 2020*’s commitment to impact
- President Gutmann: “These Prizes invite students to think creatively, and on a large scale, about the meaning of engagement. In doing so, our graduates will have the opportunity to do well by doing good and make a profound difference in people’s lives.”

*Pictured: Matthew Lisle, 2015 President’s Engagement Prize recipient*
President’s Innovation Prize

• Launched in fall 2015; first awarded in spring 2016

• Underscores the *Penn Compact 2020*’s commitment to impact and innovation

• President Gutmann: “This Prize gives our graduating seniors a unique and life-changing opportunity to be inventive and think broadly about cutting-edge commercial projects that also have social impact.”

*Pictured: Prototype of XEED, 2016 President’s Innovation Prize recipient*
President’s Prizes: Eligibility

Engagement:

• Must be a senior graduating in December 2016 or May/August 2017

• Non-seniors or non-affiliates may be employed as project consultants

• Teams may not exceed 3 members; individual submissions are fine

Innovation:

• Same eligibility requirements as President’s Engagement Prize

• Same consultant guidelines as President’s Engagement Prize

• Teams may not exceed 5 members; individual submissions are fine
President’s Prizes: Requirements

**Engagement:**
- Projects must be designed as nonprofit ventures
- Projects must produce a positive social impact locally (in Philadelphia), nationally, or globally

**Innovation:**
- Projects must be designed as for-profit ventures with an ability to produce a sustainable profit
- Projects must produce a positive social impact; no location-based requirement
President’s Prizes: Purpose

**Engagement:**
- Project that positively impacts people locally, nationally, or globally
- “Do well by doing good”
- Measurable impact for at least a 1-year period; impact beyond is a plus, but not a requirement

**Innovation:**
- Startup for social impact with a sustainable business plan
- “Do well by doing good”
- Sustainable impact and profit-generating ability beyond a 1-year time horizon
President’s Prizes: Funding and Support

**Engagement:**
- Up to $100,000 per team, plus a $50,000 living stipend per team member
- Up to 3 winners (individuals or teams)
- Funds paid in two installments: July 2017 and January 2018
- Projects should be budgeted as one-year ventures

**Innovation:**
- $100,000 per team, plus a $50,000 living stipend per team member
- Just 1 winner (individual or team)
- Same payment timeline as President’s Engagement Prize
- Longer funding horizon
The deadline for ALL application materials for both Prizes is Friday, January 13, 2017.

Be sure to submit your pre-application form well in advance.
Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with a tax advisor before applying. Penn employees cannot provide specific tax advice to individuals.
President’s Prizes:
What do winners receive?

Recipients of the President’s Innovation Prize also receive one year of space at the Pennovation Center, as well as continued mentorship from the Penn Center for Innovation.
These Prizes are the largest of their kind in higher education. Last year, we awarded nearly $800,000 in Prize funds and living stipends between the two Prizes combined.

Pictured: President Gutmann with 2016 President's Innovation Prize recipients
President’s Prizes: Application Requirements

**Engagement:**
- Pre-application form
- Mentor commitment and recommendation form
- One recommendation letter per team member
- Project proposal (see CURF’s website for a list of questions to be answered in the project proposal)

**Innovation:**
- Pre-application form
- Mentor commitment and recommendation form
- One recommendation letter per team member
- Four-page business plan (see CURF’s website for guidelines)
- Optional elevator pitch video
President’s Prizes: Application Requirements

**Engagement:**

- Budget planning form
- Resume/CV and unofficial transcript for each team member
- Signed letters of preliminary interest/commitment from all proposed partner organizations (partners not required, but strongly recommended)

**Innovation:**

- Budget pro forma (included in business plan)
- Resume/CV and unofficial transcript for each team member
- Signed letters of preliminary interest/commitment from all proposed partner organizations (partners not required, but strongly recommended)
Each application must have one Penn project mentor (faculty or administrator).

In rare cases, non-Penn affiliates may serve as mentors for the Innovation Prize only; any non-Penn mentors must be approved by CURF in advance.
Letters of recommendation (one per team member) may be written by anybody (non-family members only) who knows the applicant in a professional capacity.
President’s Prizes: Timeline
(Dates are estimates and are subject to change)

**Engagement:**
- January 13, 2017: Deadline
- February/March 2017: Semifinalist interviews
- March 2017: Winner(s) announced

**Innovation:**
- January 13, 2017: Deadline
- February/March 2017: Semifinalist “speed dating” and business pitches
- March 2017: Winner announced
How do I get started?

If you have not already, be sure to do the following things in the coming weeks:

- Identify a problem
- Develop a practical solution
- Form a team (if applicable)
- Choose between PEP and PIP
What should I do next?

Once you have your idea and your team, you should:

- Attend an information session specific to your Prize
- Attend a session with the Penn Tax Office
- Identify a Penn project mentor
- Identify other recommenders
- Identify partner organizations (if applicable)
- Start working on your application
Where can I obtain support?

In addition to CURF, consider seeking out:

Netter Center (PEP)
Civic House (PEP)
Fox Leadership (PEP)
Wharton Social Impact Initiative (PEP and PIP)
Wharton Entrepreneurship Programs (PIP)
Weiss Tech House (PIP)

Penn Center for Innovation (PIP; co-administers Prize)
Questions?

Read through CURF’s website — https://www.curf.upenn.edu/prizes — in detail for application information.

Attend another information session.

Reach out to Dr. Joseph (PIP; hjoseph@upenn.edu) or Dr. Genser (PEP; genser@upenn.edu).

For information on previous winners: http://www.pennpep.upenn.edu and http://pennpip.upenn.edu.