



BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Summary Report

September 2016 - March 2021

Prepared by: Dr. Moraima De Hoyos Ruperto
Director



Who We Are

The Business and Economic Development Center (BEDC /CNDE), attached to the UPRM College of Business Administration, is a program established in 1986 with the purpose of promoting economic and business development throughout the island.

Our mission is to promote the development of a business ecosystem that mobilizes the multidisciplinary human and technical resources present in the University of Puerto Rico system; in order to stimulate innovation, entrepreneurship and economic development. We contribute to the economic development of Puerto Rico, while strengthening the role of the University as a leading institution in the area of higher education on the island and throughout the American hemisphere.





Our Components

Research demonstrate that universities must be at the cornerstone of any concerted effort to promote a pipeline of entrepreneurial talent that ultimately leads to the creation of innovation driven ventures.

Starting Point

This component is aimed at facilitating the road towards scalability and financial feasibility of innovation driven ventures in the initial stages of development.

Pivoting Boost

Assistance to innovative existing businesses through one on one counseling, innovation Internships, technology transfer assistance and funding access.

Ecosystem Builders

This component will integrate efforts to build an ecosystem approach and encourage a networking culture through events, recognition of commitment to the innovation agenda and managing the delivery of volunteer mentoring services in collaboration with the UPRM E-ship Network.

Summary BEDC Impact

Oct 2016- Sept 2020

Goal for 5 years

200

Jobs Created

325

Jobs Retained

2,000

Attendees

500

Counseling Cases

20

Events

\$6,100,000

Investment



EMPLEOS
CREADOS

319



EMPLEOS
RETENIDOS

1,987



EMPRESAS
APOYADAS

607



EVENTOS

81



PARTICIPANTES
DE EVENTOS

10,591



INVERSIÓN

\$7,190,581



Direct Impact on BEDC Student Interns

62

Students have worked directly with the BEDC as interns. Among their tasks is direct assistance to companies, startups and support in specific areas within their areas of expertise.

Faculty Distribution

Arts & Sciences: 4

Business Administration: 36

Engineering: 17

Agricultural Sciences: 2

UPR - Bayamón: 1

Distribution by Grade Level

Sub-Grad: 42

Grad: 20

Actual Status

Alumni: 43

Students: 19





Impact on Our Students



Bianca Quiñones Otero

Hotel and Restaurant
Administration Graduate

"I have acquired all my experience at the BEDC. I am now being considered to work with a federal agency. I never thought I was going to acquire all this experience and it has helped me to perform in this field."

Jahannie Torres Rodriguez

Computer Engineering Graduate with
a Business Development Minor

"My experience with BEDC has helped me with my job at Colmena66. At Colmena66 I am in charge of the measurement and data strategy of the PR business ecosystem. In addition, I lead the efforts of SBIR / STTR and the management of the processes related to submitting proposals and obtaining funds. I had already worked on many of these issues at the BEDC or at least had been exposed to them."





Impact on Our Students



Carolina Roman

Tele Radial Communications &
Business Administration Graduate

"For me, the BEDC has been a place of great opportunities and professional growth. In my career it has been a key piece to develop my vocation, my company and where I have also learned to establish a community to help others. It is a place where the future of students is watched over, but beyond that for the future of a country that is constantly developing and devising new solutions to problems."

Emmanuel Oquendo

Mechanical Engineering Graduate

"BEDC was the central point of everything I learned about entrepreneurship at UPRM (UIF, Idea Platform, events). UPRM needs the BEDC so that students can create their own options on how to stay in PR."

"The BEDC was a crucial part of my learning about entrepreneurship. I did not participate in entrepreneurship classes, I only had interaction with BEDC."





Impact on Our Students



Ninoshka Arroyo Valentín

Undergraduate Accounting & Project Management Student

"I started my university studies in 2018, in the concentration of Psychology. My goal was always to be a doctor since I was little, but when I started at the Business and Economic Development Center, which was in my first semester of freshman year, I had the opportunity to see different areas which I had never taken into consideration in my professional life. That same year, thanks to the experiences I was getting at the BEDC, I applied to the StartingBlock Fellowship, held at the Marshall Business School, University of Southern California. The experience I got in both places made me see and understand that I had other professional goals, that is why I decided to switch to Accounting for my second year. I would like to continue working in the Consulting area and continue with graduate studies."



Impact on Our Students



Grace M. Matos Vazquez

Undergraduate Social Sciences &
Business Development Student

"When I entered the university my goal was to graduate in the area of Industrial Microbiology and to continue my graduate studies in medical school. When I arrived at the BEDC, I didn't have the slightest knowledge of the business area and it was an area that at first I really didn't like. After starting and performing at my job, my academic career took a turn. I fell in love with the business area, especially being able to provide that support to the students of our campus so that they can be the entrepreneurs of this new generation. Realizing how much I loved working with business, I changed my concentration and started studying Social Sciences with a Minor in Business Development. This is with the goal of being able to perform in the corporate law field once I graduate from law school. Working at the BEDC opened many doors for me, I gained knowledge and experience that will help me in my future as a professional."



BEDC Budget on Students as I&E Interns

\$ 174,981

Student Wages

\$78,000

Assistantships

\$12,536

Tuition

\$322,565 (with 2021)

Total Project

62 Interns





Number of Students on Internships in Companies

24

2020-2021
(March)

9

2019-2020

9

2018-2019

7

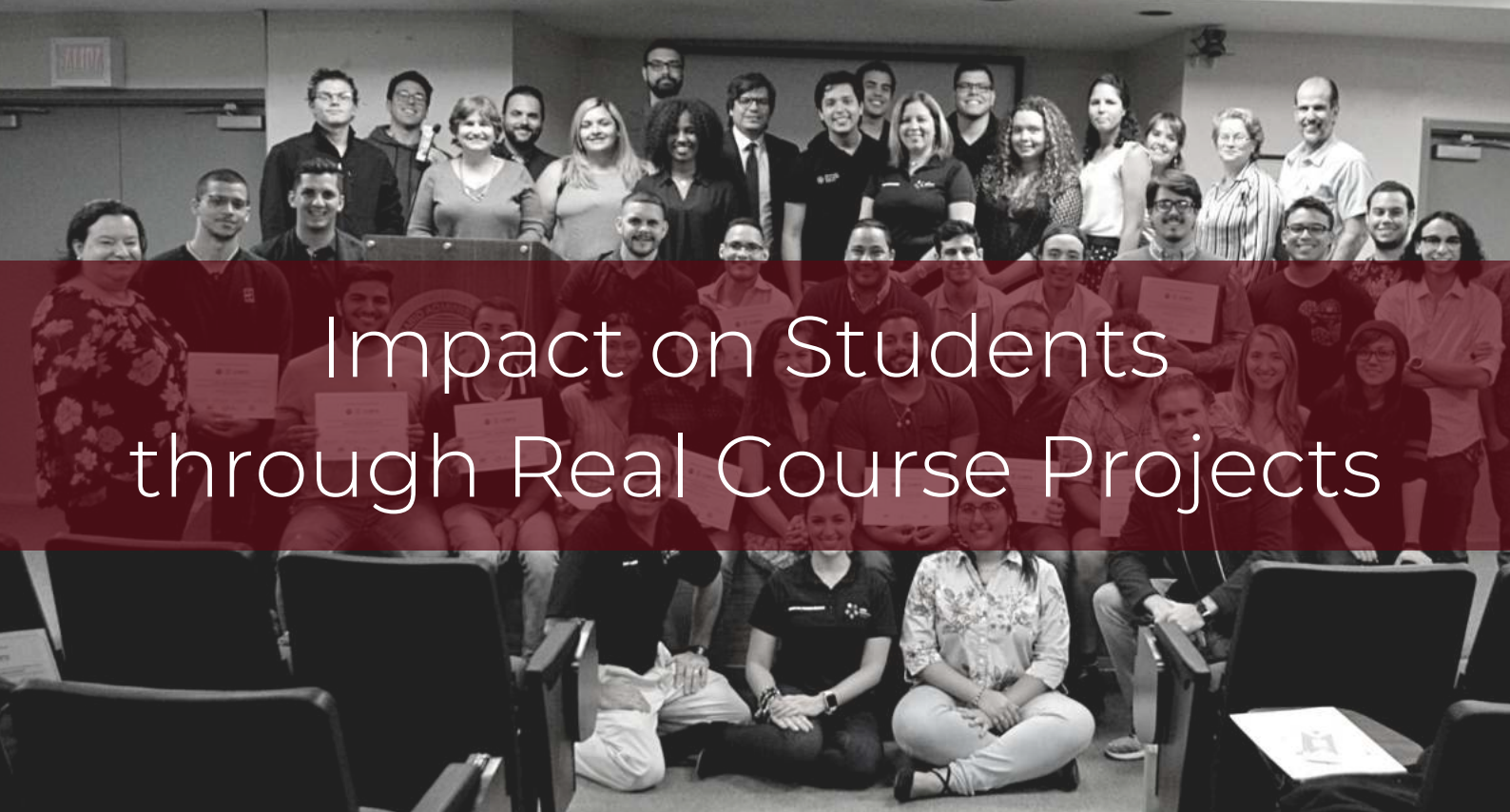
2017-2018

10

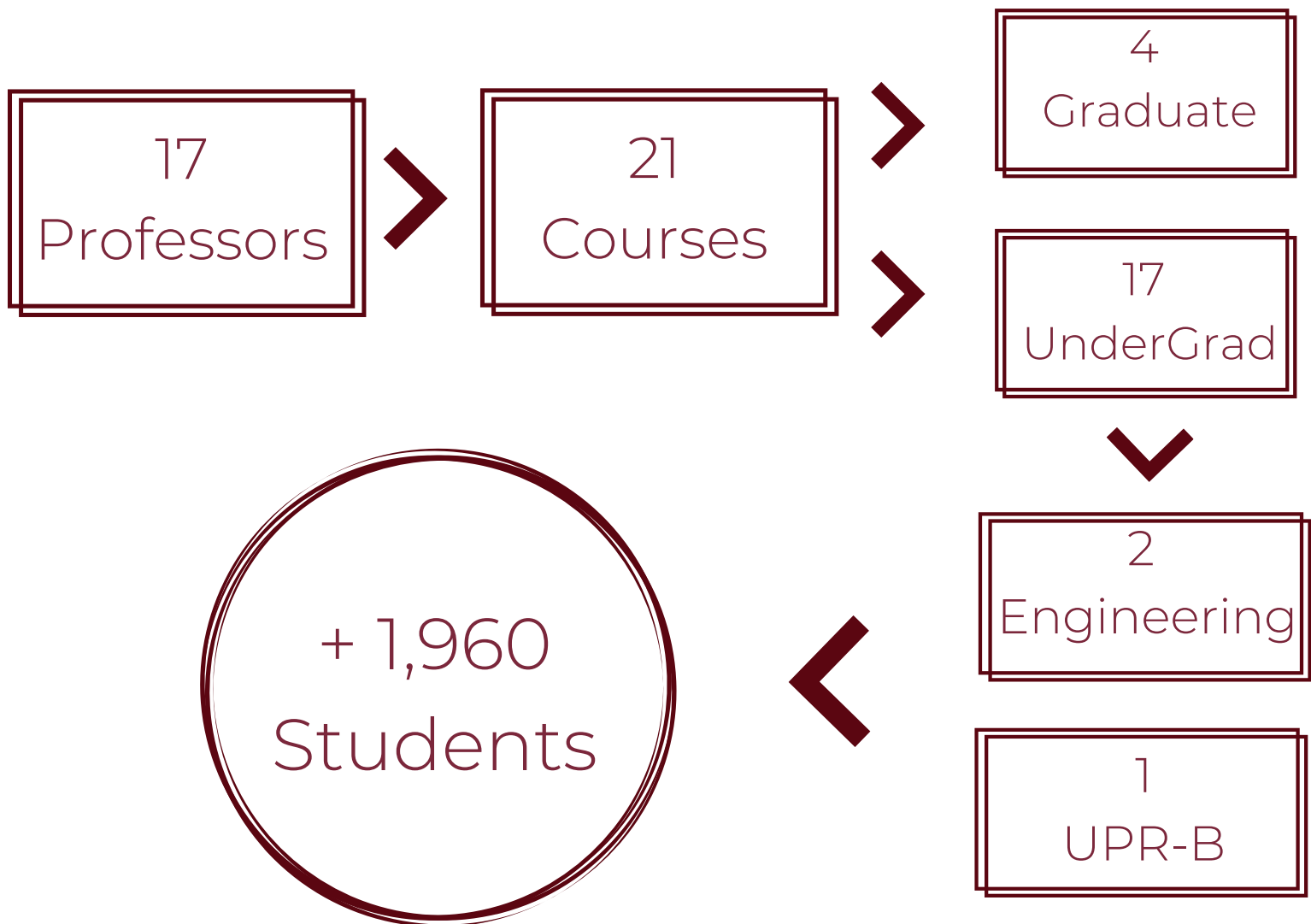
2016-2017

Total: 59 Interns





Impact on Students through Real Course Projects



Student and Entrepreneurs Success Stories



WHERE IT ALL STARTED

Founded by Bryan Bou in 2017.



WHERE IT ALL STARTED

The Amasar Family is led by a passionate woman motivated by a will to educate, foment family values, utilize fair-trade practices and promote agriculture across the Caribbean.



WHERE IT ALL STARTED

Immersive Learning is an emerging company founded by three young Puerto Ricans: Alejandra Aponte, Ashley Del Valle, and Francisco Matos.



MISSION

Our purpose is to connect with a global community of adventurous travelers who want to share their experiences and find unique, remote and impressive adventures in the world.



MISSION

Educate, foment family values, utilize fair-trade practices and promote agriculture across the Caribbean.



MISSION

Promote a higher quality comprehensive education in the areas of STEAM, with the commitment to stimulate the interest and creativity of students.



IMPACT

Spotin will help you plan the perfect trip and connect with like-minded people.



IMPACT

Their agricultural products are produced mainly by Puerto Rican farmers, using advanced agricultural practices; so that their products guarantee the greatest freshness and quality.



IMPACT

We provide a variety of bilingual educational kits and workshops that promote learning in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics, popularly known by its acronym in English as STEAM.



ACHIEVEMENTS

They give their users experiences in unique places on the Island so that they can easily find them and have an unbeatable adventure.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Amasar invests in a healthier future by creating sustainable, gluten free alternatives with the highest nutrition.



ACHIEVEMENTS

They were selected to participate in the I-Corps UPRM. They are part of the Startup.PR Pre-acceleration program, where we have mentoring and workshops to grow as entrepreneurs and boost our company.



CONTACT INFO

Website: <https://www.spotin.io/>
Email: contact@spotin.io



CONTACT INFO

Website: <https://amasar.net/>
Email: amasarpuertorico@gmail.com
Facebook: Amasar LLC



CONTACT INFO

Website: <https://immerselearn.wixsite.com/immersive>
Email: immerse.learn@gmail.com
Facebook: Immersive learning



I&E Virtual Mentoring Program

Development of an Open Educational Community through Moodle Community

115 registered

8 Educational Modules

+5 Webinars

Mentor Database & Dashboard

87 individuals from 39 different organizations and institutions have voluntarily registered.

Development of Mentor Handbook and Webinars.

Development of Case management system and dashboard

**Support to 3 cohorts of NSF I-Corp Site UPRM
60 professors certified as Virtual Educators.**

Ecosystem Builders



The Hub of the UPRM E-Ship Network

A community made up of students and professors at the UPRM, as well as emerging entrepreneurs from different parts of the island of Puerto Rico, who share a commitment to create opportunities of collaboration and networking between innovative minds.

Ecosystem Builders

Close collaboration with other I&E organizations to support the I&E Pathway:





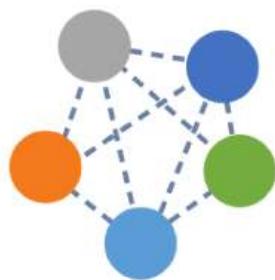
Ecosystem Builders

Maintain the metrics of the UPRM I&E ecosystem

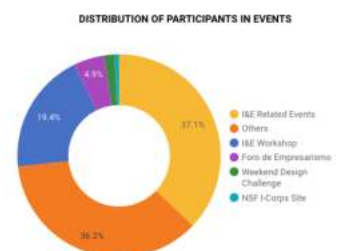
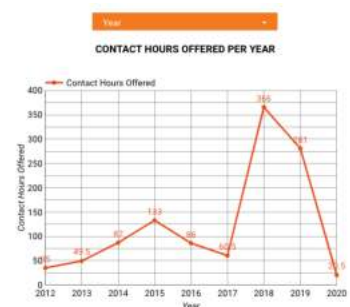
We collect, analyze and present metrics on events and projects related to the innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) ecosystem of the Mayagüez University Campus. For this we use a tool which we call "UPRM Ecosystem Dashboard".

What is the UPRM Ecosystem Dashboard?

The dashboard is an efficient way to track the key factors that are essentials for the development and strenght of the UPRM Ecosystem



UPRM
E-SHIP NETWORK
Where Innovators Connect



CONTACT HOURS OFFERED TOTAL

1,118.5

TOTAL PARTICIPATION

13,592



Ecosystem Builders

Provide support to E-teams of :

- New Venture Design Experience (NVDE)
- Agro-innovation program
- Entrepreneurship Minor (ADEM)
- Other units of the UPR, including Ciencias Médicas.



We are part of the leading team of the UPR Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) Group Team.

We have representation at national level on:

- Echar Pa' lante - Advisory Board
- PRTRUST - SBIR Committee
- International Counsel of Small Business (ICSB)



Student Organizations

UIF - Projects



The University Innovation Fellows program empowers students and faculty to become leaders of change in higher education. Fellows are leading a global movement to ensure that all students gain the attitudes, skills and knowledge required to navigate a complex world.

Idea Platform

The largest student organization focused on I&E in Puerto Rico. The organization is composed of individual communities, built and run by students, that are passionate about disruptive technologies and developing ideas. The managers of the EPIC Makerspace, the first peer to peer university collaborative space.



Enactus

Enactus is an international non-profit organization that brings together student, academic and business leaders who are committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need.





Publications



How to Start, Develop and Manage a Small Business in Puerto Rico represents a compilation of practical information that can help the educator at the level of institutions of higher education, technical or vocational college, programs to promote self-employment and others by providing reference material for the transmission of basic knowledge for the establishment of a small business.

This publication aims to familiarize the reader with the process of write a proposal to request funds, collaborate in its writing or pass judgment on personnel who prepare proposals. Through this guide you can know the components of a proposal, the types of proposals according to their purposes, in which these are classified and the requirements that must comply with organizations that lie.





Publications



In Puerto Rico there are very few case studies available, so the ones provided here are useful for local educators. Access to the case studies are only for professors, instructors or teachers.

UPRM E-Ship Network "La Revista" is a tool that aims to provide the students of our campus with steps on how to develop their ideas. The purpose of this publication is to motivate our students to take the step to become the young entrepreneurs of our generation.

In the publication you can find:

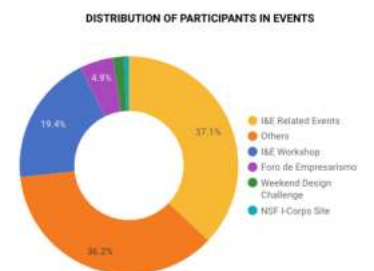
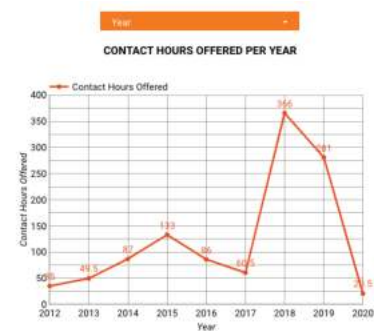
- Success stories
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship Topics
- Exclusive Interviews





Events

Over the years many events have taken place in the UPRM I&E Ecosystem. This shows the participation of the members of the community distributed by several years ranging from 2012 to present day.



CONTACT HOURS OFFERED TOTAL

1,118.5

TOTAL PARTICIPATION

13,592

Name of Event	Total Attendance *	Contact Hours
1. Expo Emprende	2,881	8
2. Simposio: La transformación de retos en oportunidades: I...	476	21
3. Elicit Innovation Mega Event	300	8
4. I&E Week	270	12.5
5. Foro: Finanzas del País: 2 vertientes	220	1.5
6. Entrepreneurship Network	182	1.5
7. Design Thinking Workshop	173	6
8. The Art of Pitching	173	1.5
9. Impulso Empresarial HIT3001	164	0

1 - 10 / 151

[Link to original data source](#)





Webinars

Webinars I&E Corner

Value Proposition

Value Proposition
Aprende sobre el "Value Proposition" de tu compañía junto a Eduardo Burgos durante el I&E Week.

[Read more](#)

Fashion to Organic Products

Acompáñanos a conocer sobre la importancia de las marcas junto a Maria Emilia Vidal en el I&E Week.

[Read more](#)

Minimum Viable Product

Conoce a Tommie Hernández, fundadora de Sirena Patterns. Aprende sobre su proceso para crear su primer producto mínimo viable.

[Read more](#)

Opportunity Discovery

Aprende sobre Opportunity Discovery junto a Nicolás Poveda, fundador de LidMatic durante el 2020 I&E Week.

[Read more](#)

Introducción al "E-Commerce"

Aprender los conceptos y plataformas básicas para e-commerce junto a Angelisse Ramos, fundadora de Hikarus.

[Read more](#)

Pitch for Success

Aprende los elementos básicos de dar un "pitch" junto a Angelisse Ramos fundadora de Hikarus.

[Read more](#)

¿Qué Caracteriza una Empresa Social?

Aprende junto al Dr. José Vega como se caracteriza una empresa social.

[Read more](#)



National Events

Participation in Global Events like:





National Forum of Entrepreneurial Education in Puerto Rico



The National Forum on Business Education in Puerto Rico is an event held annually at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez (UPRM). Since 2014, the forum has provided an active learning space where teachers and professionals can share and acquire tools to develop entrepreneurial skills in their students, regardless of the subjects they teach.

**Since
2014**

**6's
Editions**



Fig. 1 Average number of participants per forum



Research

Collaboration with several research such as:

I-Corp: University of Puerto Rico - Mayagüez NSF I-Corps Site.

CAWT: Center for the Advancement of Wearable Technologies - Research Infrastructure Improvement. NSF Grant.

CMAT: Supplemental Project 3. Cell manufacturing as leverage to prevent further shrinking and promote growth in Puerto Rico's pharma/biotechnology sector. NSF Grant.

CREST Phase II: Nanotechnology Center for Biomedical, Environmental and Sustainability , Interdisciplinary Education Group, NSF Grant, 5 years start in April 2014-2019. NSF Grant.

EPA: Water Conservation, Energy Efficiency and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Assessment on Food Services Establishments, Beauty Salons, and Automobile Maintenance and Repair Shops. EPA Grant.

PAT: Advance Pharmaceutical Manufacturing to Increase Competitiveness and Resilience. EDA Grant.

UPRM COVID-19 Recovery Corps

POTENTIAL PROJECT INVESTMENT



\$8,016,406
TOTAL INVESTMENT



\$11,050,000
PRIVATE INVESTMENT
5 years



871
JOB CREATION



1,662
JOB RETAINED

EDA
U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

\$6,473,125



\$1,543,281

Based on preliminary data from projects: UPR Rio Piedras Center to Foster Innovation and Commercialization, PRIFB, Asphalt Plant in Jayuya, PR Institute of Statistics.



UPRM COVID-19 Recovery Corps

UPRM COVID 19 RECOVERY CORPS GOALS

- 25 Cases for ongoing Technical Assistance
- 3 projects uploaded to EDA or another agency
- 10-15 Prospects to complete UPRM COVID 19 Academy

- 35 Cases for Technical Assistance
- 3 new proposals ready upload to EDA or another agency. For a total of 9 uploads by the end of the first year

Quarter 1 JUL-AUG-SEP



- Supplemental Approved
- 10-15 Referred Cases for Technical Assistance
- 10-15 Prospects to participate in UPRM COVID 19 Academy

Quarter 2 OCT-NOV-DEC



Quarter 3 JAN-FEB-MAR



- 30 Cases for ongoing Technical Assistance
- 3 proposals ready to upload to EDA or other agency.

Quarter 4 APR-MAY-JUN





UPRM COVID-19 Recovery Corps

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UPRM COVID19

Number of project assisted:
From Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands

28 

Non-
Profit Organization

17

Institution of Higher
Education

8

Municipality

2

State Agency

1

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE

Pre-
Award Qualifications

4

Submit a proposal
to EDA

20

Submit a proposal
to other Federal
or State Agency

3

For eligible
criteria's Pre and Post
Award

1



UPRM COVID-19 Recovery Corps

UPDATE FROM ACADEMY

VIRTUAL ACADEMY

Modules and
lessons prepared



10

UPDATE FROM ACADEMY-PROJECTIONS

Initial participants



17

Participants completing
Curriculum



13

Grantwriters
Consultants



9



Hurricane Maria Capacity Building Program

EDA Funding
to UPR Grantees

**\$ 29,801,864 out
of 53,857,122**



Hurricane Maria Capacity Building Program

EDA Funding
\$53,857,122

Overall Potential Project Impact
Based on 900P of Approved
Investment

7 out of the 15

900 P's submitted were
approved for EDA Investment

Jobs Created: 6,059
Jobs retained: 1,816



Hurricane Maria Capacity Building Program

UPR Successful Grantees

Grantee

University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez
Campus

Project Title

Advance Pharmaceutical
Manufacturing to Increase
Competitiveness and Resilience

Investment

\$1,434,440.00



Hurricane Maria Capacity Building Program

UPR Successful Grantees

Grantee

Molecular Science and Research
Building & University of Puerto Rico

Project Title

Advancing Science and Technology
Administration and
Entrepreneurship (ASTRE Center)

Investment

\$11,946,766.80



Hurricane Maria Capacity Building Program

UPR Successful Grantees

Grantee

University of Puerto Rico, Ponce
Campus

Project Title

University of Puerto Rico, Ponce
Smart Hub

Investment

\$16,420,648.00



BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Summary Report

By Year (2016- March 2021)



Impact Summary

October 2020 - March 2021

50

Jobs Created

1,317

Jobs Retained

\$423,905

Investment





Starting Point

October 2020 - March 2021

2020-2021 (Yr)

9

Start-Ups Established

10

8

Innovation Teams

41

7

Competitions Applications

30

4

Innovation interns

12

\$115,586 in Investment

Starting Point Component

\$298,320 in Year

Total of Investments Obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

October 2020 - March 2021

31 Existing Businesses

Supported by one-one Services

6

Technology-driven ventures



4

Innovation Interns



1

Non-profit Organizations



1

Collaboration with Courses



500 Hours

\$30,000 Services

In-kind services through Courses



Ecosystem Builder

October 2020 - March 2021

9

Entrepreneurial Events



800+

Participants



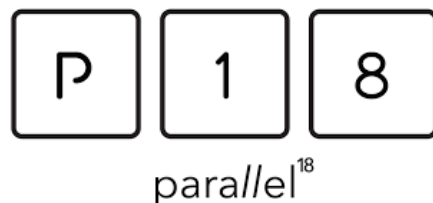
42 Doers Mentors Network

Active Mentors and Collaborators



19

Innovation Interns in BEDC





Success Stories Examples

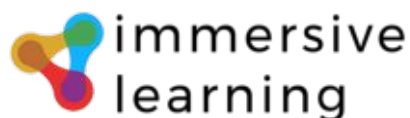
October 2020 - March 2021



UnderstHand an exclusive application for doctors. The application is based on a structured medical appointment with images that will help improve communication between the doctor and an audio impaired patient proficient in reading. The patient will select images, and little by little, a profile of this will be created to help the doctor understand their problem. In the end, the program will have space where the results will be presented, and there, the doctor will be able to communicate with him and comment on his situation. The application will give the patient the opportunity to be heard, have privacy, and, in turn, will allow the doctor to offer therapy to you.



Insu Health Design is an innovation and technology-driven corporation focused on creating high quality, reliable products to enhance and protect the lives of bio-medicine users. They have been a part of amazing programs that have each played a crucial role in their company's development. Through their participation in programs, they have raised over 94K in non-dilutive grant funding within the last year, with the potential to add \$100K+ more in the coming few months with the competitions they have lined up.



Immersive Learning offer educational experiences for children in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics, popularly known by its acronym in English as STEAM. They develop workshops, toys, and educational tools to provide a higher quality comprehensive education with the commitment to stimulate the interest and creativity of participants. They believe that today's education limits the potential of children. That is why they focus on integrating different forms of learning and new technologies.

Press Engagements

October 2020 - March 2021



Figure 1:
https://www.elnuevodia.com/negocios/empresas-comercios/notas/brainhi-crea-sistema-para-automatizar-las-citas-de-vacunacion/utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR2R7Vp7CtvbOMsCvxYIYGWqRAAvixxwhsUe8bSAmH8MN5LJ3gyIH0W4eD4#Echobox=1610704633



Figure 2:
<https://www.metro.pr/pr/estilo-vida/2021/03/16/joven-emprendedor-boricua-ruta-competencia-mundial-empresarismo.html?fbclid=IwAR3aaNRA4X3TFfgEEKNwfoYJrshIy3xjmtLecAQ95LEhGFdJIUWQwFHiXC4>



Figure 3:
<https://www.elnuevodia.com/negocios/empresas-comercios/notas/estudiante-del-rum-se-mide-en-competencia-global/>



Figure 4:
<https://www.metro.pr/pr/entretenimiento/2021/03/03/emprendedora-boricua-sera-resenada-nuevo-documental-national-geographic.html>

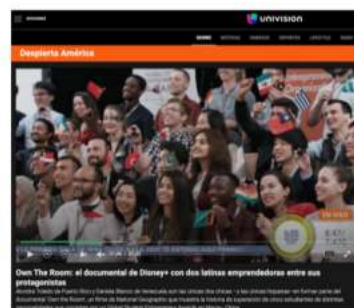


Figure 5:
<https://www.univision.com/shows/de-spierta-america>



Figure 6:
<https://www.colmena66.com/es/blog/blog/2021/03/17/mujeres-por-un-mundo-equitativo>

Impact Summary

April - September 2020

18

Jobs Created

180

Jobs Retained

\$1,105,156

Investment





Starting Point

April - September 2020

2019-2020 (Yr)

5

Start-Ups Established

10

7

Innovation Teams

41

3

Competitions Applications

30

1

Innovation interns

12

\$48,956 in Investment

Starting Point Component

\$354,754 in Year

Total of Investments Obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

April - September 2020

34 Existing Businesses

Supported by one-one Services

12

Technology-driven ventures



10

Innovation Interns



2

Non-profit Organizations



4

Collaboration with Courses



500 Hours

\$50,000 Services

In-kind services through Courses



Ecosystem Builder

April - September 2020

39

Entrepreneurial Events



471

Participants



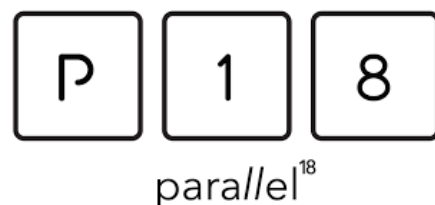
29 Doers Mentors Network

Active Mentors and Collaborators



19

Innovation Interns in BEDC





Success Stories Examples

April - September 2020



Skootel

Skootel is the first micro mobility company in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean that allows you to rent alternate transportation vehicles, per minute, through an app. Its mission is to bring the Puerto Rican people new eco-friendly transportation alternatives



Insu Health Design

Insu Health Design is an innovation and technology-driven corporation focused on creating high-quality, reliable products to enhance and protect the lives of bio-medicine users. Through their participation in programs they have raised over 94K in non-dilutive grant funding within the last year, with the potential to add \$100K+ more in the coming few months.



Press Engagements

April - September 2020

April - September 2020

NOTICEL

[AVANCE](#) •
 [LA CALLE](#) •
 [ECONOMÍA](#) •
 [HECH](#) •
 [DEPORTES](#) •
 [OPINIONES](#) •
 [POP](#) •
 [VOTA](#) •
 [MUNDO](#) •
 [TIEMPO](#) •
 [ELECCIONES 2020](#) •
 [Q](#)

UPR

UPR Mayagüez ofrecerá charlas virtuales sobre emprendimiento en tiempos de COVID-19

Durante la Semana de Innovación y Emprendimiento, desde el 4 al 8 de mayo

Por: **Noticel** ■
 Publicado: Mié, 17, 2020 09:40 PM
 Actualizado: Mié, 17, 2020 09:40 PM

Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez de la Universidad de Puerto Rico.
 Foto: @noticelPR

Por tener afílo comensales, el Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez (URM) de la Universidad de Puerto

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* Indica tu correo electrónico

¿Si deseas recibir ofertas especiales?


☐ Sí

☐ No

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[OCTOBER 31, 2020](#)
[NEWS](#)

Skootel brings micro-mobility to Puerto Rico



Driving in Puerto Rico can be a huge hassle. Because of poor urban planning and lack of effective public transportation, the island has one of the highest car-to-person ratios in the world, which is not only inconvenient but also detrimental to its cities and the environment. This challenging problem triggered the idea for Skootel.

Skootel aims to reduce the number of cars on roads by providing **innovative low-cost, accessible and sustainable options for short-distance travel** and they decided to begin with shared e-scooters. *Skootel is the first micro-mobility as a service company in Puerto Rico and the only one to operate a fleet of shared e-scooters in the Caribbean.*

reducing grid reliance: q&a with Doris Marie Candelaria from e-team, INSU Health Design

October 27, 2016

An innovator's journey from idea to market can be challenging and complicated—but also rewarding. Each month we explore how innovators are bringing their ideas to life and what they learned along the way. Our goal is to share key learnings and best practices with early-stage startups and help them move forward on a path of innovation and entrepreneurship. Our latest episode is from Doris Marie Candelaria, CEO of e-team, INSU Health Design. The team is developing a performance system for starting businesses that integrates a biomechanics course, secure-faith, and fluid steps to efficiently keep millions cool for days without relying on the electrical grid.

what challenge did you seek to solve with your innovation and why?

After Hurricane Irene, thousands of homes in the US were left with no electricity. We sought, essentially, after to keep their medication properly




"That old feedback needs to be implemented. And it's good to understand the perspective and opinions of everyone."

**Doris Marie Candelaria,
INSU Health Design**



INSU Health Design


contxt


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FUNDING • NEWS • PUERTO RICO

PRatian secures US\$200,000 from U.S. government to expand agrotech solution

[VICTOR CORTES](#) • [COMMENTS](#) • [SEPTEMBER 23, 2019](#)



Don't worry, we speak  [Español \(Spanish\)](#), too!

Contexto - Baricua startup PRatian recently secured US\$200,000 worth of equity-free government funds to continue developing its agro-solution. Funds will go towards extending the staff as well as increasing R&D, according to the company in a recent correspondence.

Born in Puerto Rico but aiming at Mars, according to its [Facebook](#) description, PRatian is an aerospace startup. Rather than developing lunar settlements like its fellow Baricua cousin [Instaerz](#), it's solving issues in the agro-industry.

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El RUM y Mujeres Against COVID-19 producen escudos faciales

De los \$55 que se distribuyeron en la región oeste, unos \$50 han sido manufacturados en el Recinto

Por Metro Puerto Rico
© Imágenes 7 de abril de 2020, a las 11:18



El Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez (RUM) de la Universidad de Puerto Rico (UPR) y el colectivo Mujeres Against COVID-19 Puerto Rico (MACP19), han unido esfuerzos que han permitido la donación de unos 2,300 escudos faciales, 850 de estos a profesionales de salud del área oeste.

Precisamente, ambas entidades suscribieron un acuerdo de colaboración que fortalecerá la logística de distribución de este equipo de protección, tan necesario, para los proveedores de servicios de salud de la región



Impact Summary

October 2019 - March 2020

2019-2020 (Yr)

32

Jobs Created

50

24

Jobs Retained

204

\$401,978

Investment

\$1,507,134





Starting Point

October 2019 - March 2020

2019-2020 (Yr)

5

Start-Ups Established

10

19

Innovation Teams

41

13

Competitions Applications

30

1

Innovation interns

12

\$305,798 in Investment

Starting Point Component

\$354,754 in Year

Total of Investments Obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

October 2019 - March 2020

15 Existing Businesses

Supported by one-one Services

5

Technology-driven ventures

8

Innovation Interns

2

Non-profit Organizations

1

Collaboration with Courses

5

Patents / Competitions Applications





Ecosystem Builder

October 2019 - March 2020

25

Entrepreneurial Events



GLOBAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
WEEK

1778

Participants



26 Doers Mentors Network

Active Mentors and Collaborators



17

Innovation Interns in BEDC



Puerto Rico
Science, Technology
& Research Trust



U.S. Small Business
Administration



Success Stories Examples

October 2019 - March 2020



Mukaro

Múkaro is a Puerto Rican startup focused on using immersive media to revolutionize Marketing for your business. They want to Transform the way people see marketing through the use of Immersive Technology.



Ricura Caribeña

Ricura Caribeña is a startup that is projected to be the leading organic farm in Mayagüez supplying vegetables to supermarkets. At the moment it has Cilantrillo, Oregano Brujo, Oregano Enano, Culantro, Menta and Yerba Buena.

Press Engagements

October 2019 - March 2020



October 2019 - March 2020




[Inicio](#)
 Lunes, 30 de marzo de 2020

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Presentado por **EDUARDO PELÁNTE**

Echar Pa'Lante impulsa el emprendimiento en las escuelas del país

Los estudiantes desarrollan microempresas y producen así conciencia social

Foto BrandShare








BrandShare:

En Puerto Rico hay 48 escuelas intermedias y superiores, con algo en común: estudiantes que son impulsados por sus maestros a utilizar su creatividad para diseñar y lanzar proyectos innovadores que tienen soluciones a problemas en su comunidad. De ahí, nacen emprendimientos.





Negocios

[Inicio](#)
[Inicio](#)
[Inicio](#)

INVERSIONES

inversionista local aportará \$100,000 para crear una "start-up" en Mayagüez

la competencia Perspectives Globales está abierta a todo el que quiere emprender

[ver más](#)
[ver más](#)
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Conoce cómo mejorar tus condiciones de salud

[ver más](#)



USA Es el ganador

\$5 GRATIS

Newsletter de Negocios

Regístrate para recibir el Newsletter de Negocios

Impact Summary

April - September 2019

56

Jobs Created

123

Jobs Retained

\$306,101

Investment





Starting Point

April - September 2019

2018-2019 (Yr)

7

Start-Ups Established

14

6

Innovation Teams

27

8

Competitions Applications

22

5

Innovation interns

8

\$33,500 in SP Investment

Starting Point Component

\$1,163,701 in Year

Total of Investments Obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

April - September 2019

21 Existing Businesses

Supported by one-one Services

21

Technology-driven ventures

8

Innovation Interns



Ecosystem Builder

April - September 2019

50

Entrepreneurial Events



2,238

Participants



26 Doers Mentors Network

Active Mentors and Collaborators



Colmena66
Tu Conexión Empresarial

35

Innovation Interns



Puerto Rico
Science, Technology
& Research Trust



parallel¹⁸



Client Success Stories

April - September 2019



UnderstHand

UnderstHand is a start-up, developed by an entrepreneur woman: Alondra Toledo-Febus. Whose idea is an app that enables communication between health professionals and deaf individuals. UnderstHand has market potential in Puerto Rico of over \$767,000 a year and in the United States, the potential would be over \$132,000,000 a year.



Sustain-A-Bed

Sustain-A-Bed is a start-up, developed by Claudia S. Feliciano-Soto, Kevin W. Rodriguez-García, Claudia S. Mendez-Martínez, and Patricia Quiñones-Osorio developed bed for cows. How does this work? These beds are made from recycled car tires; the bed will provide better comfort for the cows so that they can produce better quality milk.

Press Engagements

April - September 2019

Estudiante boricua gana prestigioso premio por crear aplicación para comunidad sorda

Alondra Toledo Torres creó una herramienta que ayuda a la comunidad en la comunicación con los profesionales de la salud.



Figure 1. Alondra Toledo, Ex-Alumni of UPRM, won an Innovation Award on Macau, China. Her innovation idea is an app that enables the community with a health individual and a deaf person with artificial technology.

Ayuda de \$255,000 a científicos e ingenieros en Puerto Rico



Figure 2. UPRM received \$255,00 grant from National Science Foundation (NSF) for local scientists and engineers to develop their business projects and ideas.



Figure 1. Professor Dra. Moraima de Hoyos and engineering student Jahannie Torres won the highest American continental award for the paper "A conceptual model to overcome the challenges of the faculty by integrating business issues into undergraduate engineering programs."



Figure 2. UPRM students won first place in Agro-Innovation Hackathon with their idea named Sustain a Bed. This idea is creating bed's for the cows with recycled materials for them to generate a better quality milk.



Impact Summary

October 2018 - March 2019

2018-2019 (Yr)

37

Jobs Created

93

105

Jobs Retained

228

\$857,600

Investment

\$1,163,701





Starting Point

October 2018 - March 2019

2018-2019 (Yr)

7

Start-Ups Established

14

6

Innovation Teams

27

7

Competitions Applications

22

68

Innovation interns



\$12,000 in SP Investment

Starting Point Component

\$1,163,701 in Year

Total of Investments Obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

October 2018 - March 2019



21

Innovator Teams Receiving Supporting Services

11

Innovation Interns



5

Internships Enterprises

Internships Enterprises



Internships Partners

2

Non-Profit Organizations / Social Businesses

1

UPRM Start-Up Job Fair





Ecosystem Builder

October 2018 - March 2019

48

Entrepreneurial Events

5

Significant Events

- The Weekend Design Challenge
- The AgroInnovation Weekend Challenge
- UPRM Start-Up Job Fair
- The Global Entrepreneurship Week Puerto Rico
- The New Venture Design Experience Public Expo



11

Entrepreneurship Faculty Fellows

15

Doers Mentors Network

Interns participated in the promotion of the entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Students worked on strengthening the ecosystem.

The UPRM became the first I-Corps site in Puerto Rico and the Center hosts and manage their website, logistics, training, and mentor organization.

Co-hosted the first NSF HSI Innovation conference in Puerto Rico





Success Stories

October 2018 - March 2019



AgroSolución

AgroSolución is a new company, developed by Roland Cruz-Ulloa, dedicated to increase productivity and efficiency from the Puerto Rican agriculture, different areas like technical, finance, and marketing consulting, agriculture practice, administration factors, and business network. They provide agriculture consulting with the vision to reach food sovereignty and social welfares of agriculture and agribusiness.



Burnflex

Burnflex is a Puerto Rican start-up, developed by three woman entrepreneurs: Maricely Ramírez-Hernández, Nelimar Muñoz- Martínez, and Carolina Román-Gonzalez that aims to create a proprietary spray foam for the skin that generates a long-lasting barrier that prevents the need for constant change. The expected effect is the reduction of the risk of infection for the patient and inhibits the growth of microorganisms like bacteria and yeast.

Press Engagement

October 2018 - March 2019





Impact Summary

October 2017 - September 2018

2017-2018 (Yr)

73

Jobs Created

137

Jobs Retained

\$2,953,250

Investment





Start-Ups

April 2018 - September 2018

2017-2018 (YR)

17

Start-Ups Established

22

16

Innovation Teams

37

26

Competitions Applications

35

68

Innovation Interns

74

\$332,500 in SP Investment

Starting Point Component

\$ 2,953,250 in Year

Total of Investment obtained (Yr.)





Pivoting Boost

April 2018 - September 2018

21 EXISTING BUSINESSES

Supported by one-one services



11

Innovation Inters

3 Teams

Awarded



\$640,000

1 team Y-Combinator Awards & 2 Parallel 18

3

Non-profit Organizations





Ecosystem Builder

April 2018 - September 2018

30

Entrepreneurial Events

2

Significant Events

- 1st UPRM I&E Week
- 5th National Forum of Entrepreneurship Education



26

Active Mentors and Collaborators

35 Interns

Innovation Interns



Dr. José I. Vega-Torres, the center director receive a recognition as a P.R.'s Pillar of Entrepreneurship

**ECHAR
PA'LANTE**





Success Stories Examples

April 2018 - September 2018



BrainHi

BrainHi is the first Puerto Rican start-up to be accepted into YCombinator. BrainHi has over 100 clients and keeps growing. Founder, Emmanuel Oquendo, stated that “the support of the EDA University Center and the mentors from the UPRM E-Ship Network were crucial in helping BrainHi excel in business competitions and evolve as a resilient enterprise that has created 8 new jobs and attracted \$500,000 in venture capital investments during the past year despite the complex challenges we faced.



INSTARZ

Burnflex is a Puerto Rican start-up, developed by three woman entrepreneurs: Maricely Ramírez-Hernández, Nelimar Muñoz- Martínez, and Carolina Román-Gonzalez that aims to create a proprietary spray foam for the skin that generates a long-lasting barrier that prevents the need for constant change. The expected effect is the reduction of the risk of infection for the patient and inhibits the growth of microorganisms like bacteria and yeast.

Press Engagements

April 2018 - September 2018





Starting Point

September 2017 - March 2018

5

Start-Ups Established



10 Teams

Competition Applications



7

Innovation Interns

6 Teams

New Venture Design Experience



Hurricane Irma and Maria Hit Puerto Rico in September with devastating damages. The BEDC was able to return to be fully operational the last week of October.





Pivoting Boost

September 2017 - March 2018

23 EXISTING BUSINESSES

Supported by one-one services

4

Internship Enterprises



Internship Partners

4

Innovation Inters





Ecosystem Builder

September 2017 - March 2018

9

Entrepreneurial Events

26

Active Mentors and Collaborators

4

New Innovations

2 Faculty Fellow

Georgia Tech Visit

3

Complementary Networks:

- Epicenter (Stanford)
- Venturewell Org
- Georgia Tech Center

21 Start-Ups

Participated in the UPRM Startup Fair

Client Success Stories

September 2017 - March 2018



Spotin

A startup based in Puerto Rico developing a social app for adventure travelers. Startup.pr program assigned a \$15k for participating in the 12 week accelerator program in Gurabo.



WATRIC

WATRIC Energy Resources, believe in using innovation to drive sustainability. Their vision is that by developing solutions and implementing new techniques for resource extraction & renewable energy and making them accessible to people, they can help make the whole world sustainable. They were established in 2018 in Puerto Rico after one of the biggest natural disasters in history.

Press Engagements

September 2017 - March 2018



Impact Summary

April - September 2017

35

Jobs Created

65

Jobs Retained

\$549,215

Investment





Starting Point

April - September 2017

10

Start-Ups Established

8

Competitions Applications

6 Teams

Participation NVDE

\$1,122,591

Investment (Yr)





Pivoting Boost

April - September 2017

10 EXISTING BUSINESSES

Supported by one-one services

6

Innovation Interns

6

Internship Enterprises



Internship Partners





Ecosystem Builder

April - September 2017

9

Entrepreneurial Events



26

Active Mentors and Collaborators

4

University Innovation Fellows (UIF)





• Success Stories

April - September 2017



PARKNET

One of the cases from the Start-up Lab, Parknet, won the “Global Student Entrepreneurial Awards” and present their business idea in Frankfurt, Germany.



BICI COOP

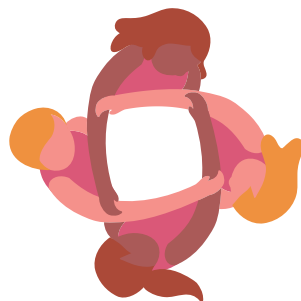
A mixed work and consumer cooperative. It is officially constituted on October 11, 2016. It arises from the objective of the Bicycle Master Plan to certify the university as a bike-friendly by the League of American Cyclists.

Social Innovation Hub

April - September 2017



- Social innovators completed the on-line Professional Certification of “How to successfully write project proposals”
- 10 students provide individualized assistance to social enterprises.



Press Engagements

April 2017 - August 2017





Impact Summary

September 2016 - March 2017

2016-2017 (Yr)

18

Jobs Created

53

36

Jobs Retained

101

\$573,376

Investment

\$1,122,591





Start-Ups

September 2016 - March 2017

10

Start-Ups Established

3

Competitions Applications

8 Teams

Participation NVDE





Pivoting Boost

September 2016 - March 2017

10 EXISTING BUSINESSES

Supported by one-one services

10

Innovation Interns

3

Internship Enterprises



Internship Partners





Ecosystem Builder

September 2016 - March 2017

8

Entrepreneurial Events

18

Active Mentors and Collaborators

4

University Innovation Fellows (UIF)



Clínica Legal



Success Stories

Example

September 2016 - March 2017



Wonderen's Foods

inaugurated their new installations on January.



PARKNET

In December 2016, Parknet demonstrated their product "Gate Logic" to potential investors and in February 2017 they won the Global Student Entrepreneurial Awards regional competition and will be going in April to the finals in Frankfurt, Germany.



Spotin

SpotIn successfully completed the I-Corps PR Program during the spring and fall cohorts.



Social Innovation Hub

September 2016 - March 2017

- 156 social innovators certified Online.
- Professional Certification of “How to successfully write project proposals”.



Press Engagements

September 2016 - March 2017



PARKNET WINS P.R. GLOBAL STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

News & Events

James J. Park, founder of Parknet, a technology company focused on mobile device security, was awarded winner of the 2016 Global Student Entrepreneur Award (GSEA) during a ceremony last week.

GSEA is offered by the Entrepreneur Organization (EO), and is one of the most prestigious awards for student entrepreneurs worldwide.

As founder of Parknet, James will gain the opportunity to represent his college team, which will compete in the Global Entrepreneurship Summit.

He will also receive a number of prizes, including \$10,000 in advertising from TechCrunch, \$10,000 in marketing services from the week 2016 GSEA in marketing consulting, Global Media consulting for \$10,000, and a number of prizes from TechCrunch.

Parknet is a technology company that provides mobile device security solutions to businesses and individuals. The company is based in the United States and has a global presence.

The award, which was won by Parknet, was presented to James during a ceremony last week. The award is one of the most prestigious awards for student entrepreneurs worldwide.

During the ceremony, Parknet's founder, James, was awarded the award. The award is one of the most prestigious awards for student entrepreneurs worldwide. The award is presented to the winner of the Global Student Entrepreneur Award (GSEA) during a ceremony last week.

P.R. Science Trust Launches Entrepreneurial Network

by Michael Smith on November 10, 2016



Three women, including James J. Park, founder of Parknet, are seated at a table during a meeting or press conference.

James J. Park, founder of Parknet, a technology company focused on mobile device security, was awarded winner of the 2016 Global Student Entrepreneur Award (GSEA) during a ceremony last week.

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