

Bright SCIddea Challenge

show us you mean business



Entrant handbook

Pitch your business plan to industry experts
to win **£1,000** cash!

Sponsored by



COMPETITION TIMELINE



REGISTER TODAY

Tell us your Bright SC Idea! Enter your initial application to access exclusive training videos.
Register at bit.ly/SC Idea2018

14 November 2017 TRAINING BEGINS

Watch SCI's exclusive business training videos to find out everything you need to know about starting your own business, producing a business plan and pitching to investors

18 February

SUBMIT BUSINESS PLANS 2018

Using knowledge obtained in the business training, work with your team to put together a business plan. This is your chance to win a place in the final, so ensure your plans are well-researched!

8 March 2018 COMPETITION FINAL

Turn all your hard work into action and pitch your idea to win £1,000 and free SCI Membership



COMPETITION AIMS

The Bright SCIdeas Challenge is a national competition devised by members of SCI's College of Scholars to allow university students to develop and showcase their entrepreneurial and business skills.

There will be an opportunity for each registered team to engage in exciting business planning and pitch training which will help to enhance their business acumen and employability.

The competition will also involve a number of networking activities, allowing participants to raise their profile amongst the commercial scientific community.



HOW DOES IT WORK?

- ▶ Form a team of 3-5 UK/ROI University students
- ▶ Develop a plausible scientific concept with a societal benefit
- ▶ Register your interest online bit.ly/SCIdeas2018
- ▶ Join the Bright SCIdeas Challenge Facebook group
- ▶ Watch exclusive business training materials
- ▶ Turn your concept into a compelling product or service
- ▶ Develop a business plan to commercialise your innovation

Shortlisted teams will then be invited to the grand final at SCI, London to pitch their ideas to a panel of high-profile industry and investor judges. All shortlisted teams will receive assistance with funding for travel and accommodation, free SCI membership and the winning team will win a cash prize.

BUSINESS TRAINING

To help you develop your business skills, SCI will provide access to business training videos free of charge to all competition entrants. Topics which will be covered include:

- ▶ Basics of business
- ▶ Other things to think about
- ▶ Case studies
- ▶ Pitch training

BUSINESS PLAN

SCI will provide a business plan template for your final submission. Teams must complete and submit their final business plan no later than 12pm, **Sunday 18 February 2018**.

SCIENTIFIC THEMES

SCI is a multi-science organisation focussing on five main themes which cover several technical interest groups; we suggest that teams choose one of these areas of science to focus their idea around:

Agri-food, Energy, Environment, Health and Wellbeing, and Materials.



- ▶ Agrisciences
- ▶ Biotechnology
- ▶ British Carbon Group
- ▶ Colloids and Surface Science
- ▶ Construction Materials
- ▶ Electrochemical Technology
- ▶ Energy
- ▶ Environment, Health and Safety
- ▶ Fine Chemicals
- ▶ Fire and Materials
- ▶ Food
- ▶ Formulation Forum
- ▶ Horticulture
- ▶ Lipids
- ▶ Macro Group UK
- ▶ Materials Chemistry
- ▶ Materials Early Career Forum
- ▶ Process Engineering
- ▶ Science and Enterprise
- ▶ Separation Science and Technology
- ▶ Young Chemists' Panel

TRAINER BIOGRAPHIES



Sharon Todd

Executive Director, SCI

Having worked in the chemical industry for over 25 years, from global corporations to start-ups, Sharon is a widely experienced senior executive. After studying chemistry at the University of Southampton, she then moved towards business management, and has received diplomas from both the Chartered Institute of Marketing and the Institute of Directors.



Sharon has been involved with a number of industry trade associations including the Chemical Industries Association, and, as well as her role as Executive Director of SCI, she is currently a Non-Executive Director of Chemicals North West, an industry-led, chemical cluster support organisation for the £10 billion North West chemical sector – the largest in the UK.



Victor Christou

CEO, Cambridge Innovation Capital

Victor is a seasoned entrepreneur with vast experience in investment on both sides of the table, with a focus on the technology industry. After completing a fellowship at Stanford Graduate School of Business, Victor, alongside partner Oleg Salata, started Opsys, an electronics business producing organic light-emitting diodes used to create displays on TV and phone screens. Before his current role, Victor worked as a Venture Partner at Wellington Partners.



As CEO of Cambridge Innovation Capital, he helps to build relationships between the University of Cambridge and intellectual property-rich companies in the Cambridge cluster. Victor was awarded the Royal Society of Chemistry Entrepreneur of the Year in 2002.



Lucinda Bruce-Gardyne

Founder, Genius Gluten Free

After struggling to find quality alternative bread for her gluten-intolerant son, Lucinda, a professional chef, founded Genius Foods in 2009 with her gluten-free bread. First sold in Tesco, Genius bread is now the UK's leading 'free-from' bakery and is sold across Europe and in Australia.



Lucinda has won numerous awards for her work at Genius Foods, including the Ernst & Young UK Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year 2012. The company has also been named as one of the Top 50 most valuable Scottish brands.

ABOUT SCI

The Society of Chemical Industry (SCI) is a learned society, established in 1881 specifically to promote the application of chemistry and related science into industry for the benefit of the public.

The Society is unique, being a multi-science, multi-disciplinary and international community. SCI today continues to work at the interface between science and industry, conducting a range of activities that focus on supporting innovation and the commercialisation of science.

SCI places great emphasis on providing support for the next generation of people moving into industrial and applied roles across the chemical using industries. With assistance from the Early Careers Committee, Technical, and Regional Interest Groups, SCI holds an average of two events that demonstrate an early career focus per month. SCI offers travel bursaries, scholarships and prizes for those in the early stages of their career, and provides networking, mentoring, and personal development opportunities through various activities.

COMPETITION STEERING GROUP

The Bright SCIda Challenge was devised by members of SCI's College of Scholars at their annual meeting. The group were given the task of developing an event or activity that would help other students to gain skills and experience about the world of business – outside of their own university. We are delighted that James Adams, University of Manchester, and Hibaaq Mohamad, University of Surrey are working with SCI as part of the Steering Committee for this event. Along with Robin Harrison, Synthomer, who generously offered his full support when the idea was first conceived, James and Hibaaq are overseeing the delivery of their initial concept to ensure the challenge continues to deliver the goals they set out to achieve. We are also grateful to our many SCI ambassadors who have donated their time and efforts to promote this competition.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Teams should be made up of 3-5 UK/ROI university students members; undergraduates and postgraduates (Masters and PhD) from the same university
2. Teams are encouraged to be multi-disciplinary: the best results will come from bringing together those with different skills and experience, just like in the real world
3. Product or service concepts should be based on plausible, but not necessarily proven, scientific principles
4. Entries should fall under SCI's focus areas of Agri-food, Materials, Energy, Environment and Health & Wellbeing (see page 3)
5. Submitted business plans must be the team's own work. Minor external guidance is acceptable; however, this must be acknowledged in submissions
6. Entrants should note that SCI is unable to protect any intellectual property submitted as part of the competition
7. Business Plans must be submitted on the template provided by SCI no later than 12pm, Sunday 18 February 2018; no entries received after this time will be considered
8. Entrants must be available to travel to London and participate in the final taking place at SCI 14-15 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PS on Thursday 8 March
9. Assistance will be provided for funding of travel and accommodation costs. Any claim made must be done so in accordance with SCI expense claim policy

JOIN IN ON SOCIAL MEDIA



[@SCIupdate](https://twitter.com/SCIupdate)
[#brightSCIdeas](https://twitter.com/brightSCIdeas)



Join the **Bright
SCIdeas Challenge** group



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