Call for Competition Entries

Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Youth Leadership Forum and Competition

Organizing Committee of the 1st Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition, GISU
Secretariat Office, GISU
April 2020
The first Urban Innovation and Entrepreneurship Youth Leadership Competition hosted by the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities will be held from March to October 2020.

The theme of the forum and competition is *Promoting Sustainable Urban Development with Scientific and Technological Innovation*. Based upon this theme, various types of innovation and entrepreneurship-related projects are welcome. Strategic goals of each city's economic and social development should be considered with the basic idea of promoting sustainable urban development through scientific and technological innovation.
Participants

Participants of specific projects must be full-time students or graduates within 5 years of graduation (graduates after 2015), including both undergraduate and graduate master’s and doctoral students, from GISU member universities which include: Guangzhou University (China), Guangzhou Medical University (China), Incheon National University (South Korea), Linköping University (Sweden), Middle East Technical University (Turkey), Tampere University (Finland), University of Coimbra (Portugal), University of Quebec at Montreal (Canada), University of Padua (Italy), University of the West of England (United Kingdom), and Western Sydney University (Australia). The principal applicant will be considered as the team leader.
Competition Groups

Based on different projects and categories, competition groups include commercial enterprise groups and social enterprise groups. The entry conditions are as follows:

Commercial Enterprise Groups

Projects of this category should present new ideas, technologies, products or business models, etc., with a clear start-up plan. Both entrepreneurial projects that have not yet been registered or registered companies are allowed to participate. For a registered company, the equity of the legal representative of the participating enterprise shall not be less than 10% and the total equity of the participating members shall not be less than 1/3. The legal representative of the enterprise shall not be authorized if changes are made after the date of announcement of the competition.

Social Enterprise Groups

Projects of this category should aim to solve social problems and form a positive and sustainable operation model via commercial means. Projects of this kind are targeted to serve regional revitalization, community development and community governance. They should help disadvantaged groups or uphold the purpose and goal of enhancing sustainable development with reliable mechanisms to ensure stable social goals. Social influence and market results should be clear and measurable. The projects of social enterprise groups mainly require industrial and commercial enterprises to facilitate the introduction of social influence investment promoting the development of social enterprises. Social enterprise projects of unregistered companies or registered companies can participate. For a registered company, the equity of the legal representative of the participating enterprise shall not be less than 10% and the total equity of the participating members shall not be less than 1/3. The corporate legal representative shall not be allowed to make changes after the announcement of the contest.
Registration

The project leader is a full-time student either currently enrolled or has obtained a degree from one of the Alliance members within the past five years (graduates after 2015).
Project Requirements

The entries must be real, legal, and in good standing without any negative records. The forum and competition must not infringe on intellectual property rights of others. Inventions, patents, resources, etc. involved must have clear and legal property rights or intellectual property rights. Plagiarism, misappropriation, provision of false materials, or violation of relevant laws and regulations will result in the project team immediately losing rights to participate and will bear all legal responsibilities.

Given this project involves the intellectual property rights of others, a complete written authorization letter, patent certificate, etc. for the owner with legal effect must be submitted. For entrepreneurial projects that have completed company registration, its profile and legal representative status, shareholding structure, and copies of other relevant certification documents must be provided. Participating projects can provide relevant financial materials, such as current financial record, details of investment received, employment status, and ecological contributions. For projects that have been funded or have earned more than ten million RMB, corresponding supporting materials are recommended.

Registration for the forum and competition must come as a team. Multi-disciplinary, inter-professional, inter-university, and multi-national teams are encouraged. Each team must have at least two participating members and must be actual members of the project. Entrepreneurship projects reported by participating teams must be projects planned or operated by the team. Borrowing projects from others is not allowed. The GISU member university by which the project leader is currently enrolled will be taken as the home university of the project.
Competition Schedule

Competition Setting

The competition is comprised of three levels which include the in-school preliminary competition, the online semi-final competition, and the final competition held in Guangzhou.
The competition stages and selection methods of this preliminary round are determined by each GISU member university. Each member university is responsible to ideally select participating teams to enter the online semi-final competition. **Project presentation videos, PPT, business plans** need to be sent to clabveneto.padova@unipd.it within 12th July 2020.

The online semi-final competition is organized by the competition organizing committee and its expert judges who will select from the project presentation videos, PPTs, and business plans submitted by the participating teams recommended by each member university through the network to **finalise 12 teams to compete in the final**.

Outstanding teams in this competition will have the opportunity to be invited to participate in the provincial semi-final of the 6th China International "Internet +" College Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition held in Guangzhou in July and the national final of the 6th China International "Internet +" Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition held in Guangzhou in October.

The final competition will be held in Guangzhou for the 12 teams selected. The finals will take the competition form of on-site presentations and roadshows by participating teams, panel group interview and live show.
Competition Awards and Bonuses

There will be gold, silver, bronze awards and outstanding mentor awards to be presented in the finals. Some awards may be vacant according to the number of entries. The forum and competition organizing committee will issue award certificates, medals and bonuses, as shown below.

Awards and Bonus List for Live Finals in Guangzhou

Gold Award – 1 with a bonus of 100,000 RMB
Silver Award – 2 with each receiving a bonus of 50,000 RMB
Bronze Award – 3 with each receiving a bonus of 20,000 RMB
Outstanding Mentor Award – 6 (principal mentor of first and second prize winners with each receiving a bonus of 5,000 RMB)

In addition, ample opportunities for continuous training, intercollegiate exchange and communication will be provided. Favorable policies and follow-up arrangements for introducing potential investment, financing services, talents settlement and incubation are to be offered to the outstanding project teams.

The competition organizing committee will provide two participants of each final competition team with international travel expenses (economy class) and local accommodations during the competition for the teams participating in the final competition in Guangzhou.
Judges and Crediting Rules

Judges of the in-school preliminary competition are selected by each GISU member university. Judges of the online semi-final competition and the final will be nominated and elected by the organizing committee under the supervision of GISU Secretariat Office.
Youth Leadership Forum

In addition to the entrepreneurship competition, GISU will hold a series of activities during October 26 – 29 to include the GISU Rectors’ Conference and several international symposia. These activities will offer opportunities for project display and demonstration, entrepreneurship network, opportunities of potential investment and others.

Each Alliance university will be provided a stipend of up to 20,000 RMB to assist with the international airfares for two students to participate in the Forum. Each alliance member is responsible for choosing their student representatives. Local accommodations and meals for this group of students participating in the Forum will also be covered by the Secretariat Office of GISU.
Project Submission Requirements

- All entry material and on-site defenses are in English with project demonstration videos, PPTs, and business plans to be provided.
- Project display video: MP4 format, five to ten-minute video duration with size to not exceed set limits. Videos submitted should be encoded as H.264 while audio is encoded as AAC with the resolution being 800 * 600.
- Project presentation PPT in the format of ppt or pptx with the size to not exceed 20M.
Contact Information

For further information, please contact:

University of Padova
Research Valorization Office
E-mail: clabveneto.padova@unipd.it
The Entrepreneurship Forum and Competition organizing committee for the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities (GISU) reserves the right to require competitors to sign an affidavit that they meet each of the eligibility requirements as outlined in the application process.

By participating in the forum and competition, competitors agree that the Alliance of Guangzhou International Sister-City Universities assumes no liability, and shall have no liability or obligation whatsoever for disclosures of information provided by a competitor as part of a submission or otherwise during the course of the forum and competitions.

Failure to comply with forum and competition requirements may result in disqualification at any time in the sole discretion of the Entrepreneurship Forum and Competition organizing committee. The Entrepreneurship Forum and Competition organizing committee reserves the final say in all disputes and may at any time require that a finalist or winner of any cash or service award that failed to comply with requirements as outlined in the application process forfeit and/or repay any such award. Guidelines, rules and awards for the competitions are subject to change at any time as might be required by the Entrepreneurship Forum and Competition organizing committee.