



Awards 2024

Outstanding Entrepreneurial University

Institution Name	Imperial College London
Submission title or project name	Imperial College London - The Founders' Choice
Nominee / key personnel	Simon Hepworth, Director of Commercialisation; Ben Mumby-Croft, Director of Entrepreneurship; Sarah Ranchev-Hale, Head of Imperial Enterprise Lab; Victoria Nicholl, Head of Incubation Services; Graham Hewson, Head of Incubation and Prototyping Spaces; Alyssa Gilbert, Director of Undaunted; Hiten Thakrar, Head of Imperial SuperConnector
URL	www.imperial.ac.uk/entrepreneurship
Submission	Since its founding in 1907, innovation and entrepreneurship have been at Imperial's core. The new 2024 strategy, "Science for Humanity", stresses the importance of student and academic founders in ensuring Imperial remains a world-leading and a world-changing university. Anchored by three flagship initiatives - Enterprise Lab, Advanced Hackspace and White City Incubator - Imperial has developed one of the UK's leading university-based innovation ecosystems. Recognised as the best large university in Europe (£1bn+) for start-up creation by the 2024 Redstone University Startup Index, Imperial's goal is to be an internationally recognised university of choice for entrepreneurial students and academics.



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Institution Name	London South Bank University
Submission title or project name	Entrepreneurship for all: LSBU's focus on bridging the entrepreneurial 'attainment gap'
Nominee / key personnel	Alex Elkins, Director of Research Innovation Services; Mohammed Ali, Head of Entrepreneurship
URL	https://www.lsbu.ac.uk/starters
Submission	LSBU was founded to address challenges in the most deprived communities of London and has a proud heritage of providing opportunities through technical education. The Enterprising Futures team drives LSBU's entrepreneurial strategy through empowerment, experimentation and elevation. This has created 40+ start-ups and supported 3,000+ students to develop entrepreneurial skills for graduate-level careers. We bridge the entrepreneurial "attainment gap", demonstrated through parity in engagement and venture-creation outputs from flagship programmes, notably from under-represented demographics. Entrepreneurship is integrated into our academic structure and enhanced through the Enterprising Academic Forum, developing impactful pedagogies for entrepreneurial education. Our student-led services - South Bank Collective, Business Solutions Centre, Legal Advice Clinic and Solutionise - engage 5,000+ SMEs and students a year. Our support extends to the local community, delivering 8,000+ learner hours to aspiring entrepreneurs, awarding £50,000 in seed funding, and offering guidance from Entrepreneurs-in-Residence. Our international collaborations attract distinction, fostering innovation and knowledge-sharing locally and globally.



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Institution Name	University of Dundee
Submission title or project name	Institution-wide Strategic Entrepreneurship
Nominee / key personnel	
URL	https://europe-africa2024.triple-e-awards.com/finalist/id/932 "> https://europe-africa2024.triple-e-awards.com/finalist/id/932
Submission	The University of Dundee has always championed an entrepreneurial culture, but this has now been cemented within our core identity. Our new strategy, co-designed by members of our community and its leadership, resulted in Enterprise and Engagement becoming one of three cornerstones that will define our work for years to come. Our focus on entrepreneurship at all levels is drawn from innovative research and education and is strongly geared towards creating prosperity and well-being. This has resulted in Dundee being consistently recognised as one of the top universities for successfully supporting new ventures, with Octopus Ventures naming us top in the UK in September 2023 for spin-out support. With Enterprise now formalised at the heart of our strategy, building on years of consistent success, it clearly demonstrates our effort to embed an entrepreneurial culture across our community, providing joined-up support to help fulfil our shared vision.



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Institution Name	Cardiff Metropolitan University
Submission title or project name	A catalyst for a culture of enterprise
Nominee / key personnel	Centre for Entrepreneurship
URL	https://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/business/cse/Pages/Default.aspx
Submission	Enterprise and Entrepreneurship are engineered into the DNA of Cardiff Met, with a pipeline of successful innovators and change-makers being built through an entrepreneurial approach to curriculum design, mentoring, staff training, and a teaching and learning (enterprise) community. The Centre for Entrepreneurship acts as a catalyst for the entrepreneurial journey of students, graduates and colleagues, with many entrepreneurs and business leaders engaged with the university and over 1,000 students taking part in sessions aimed at helping them spot opportunities and develop an entrepreneurial mindset. A holistic approach to start-up support has placed Cardiff Met in the top 20% of UK universities for student start-ups for the past five years. The teams at Circular Economy Innovation Communities (CEIC) Wales, the Creative Leadership and Enterprise Centre (CLEC) and the Food Industry Centre also provide support to businesses spanning the circular economy, leadership, and food development and marketing.



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Institution Name	University of Westminster
Submission title or project name	Westminster Enterprise Network: Inclusive Entrepreneurship
Nominee / key personnel	
URL	https://www.westminster.ac.uk/current-students/employability-and-career-development/exploring-careers/enterprise-and-entrepreneurship
Submission	The University of Westminster has developed an inclusive approach to entrepreneurship appropriate for its diverse student community, where 58% of home undergraduates are the first in their family to go to university. Because its students lack capital and access to professional networks, the University developed the Westminster Enterprise Network (WeNetwork) a community of entrepreneurial alumni, freelancers and intrapreneurs, able to demystify entrepreneurship and make it achievable for students. In 2022-23, more than 80% of home undergraduate students taking part in extra-curricular entrepreneurship activities were from disadvantaged backgrounds. WeNetwork activities, including student consultancy for local businesses, are being embedded across the curriculum. This sector-leading approach was recognised in 2023 when WeNetwork won three National Enterprise Educator awards. The WeNetwork community's entrepreneurship, job creation and business innovation impacts will scale further in 2025, when it moves to a new Entrepreneurship building at 29 Marylebone Road, London.



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Institution Name	University of Edinburgh
Submission title or project name	Unlocking Innovation
Nominee / key personnel	Andrea Taylor, Chief Executive, Edinburgh Innovations
URL	https://www.ed.ac.uk/edinburgh-innovations/for-staff
Submission	With entrepreneurship at the heart of our mission to make the world a better place, the University of Edinburgh works with all our communities to nurture and grow the vibrant Edinburgh region entrepreneurial ecosystem. Our activity embeds our values of diversity, inclusiveness and sustainability throughout this pathway and builds cross-university and regional activity, through the Data-Driven Initiative, to support the whole entrepreneurial journey. Our Data-Driven Hubs and our world-class Edinburgh BioQuarter provide even more opportunity for direct links to industry collaborations, and space for young enterprises to grow in a connected network. We inspire and equip every student and staff member with the entrepreneurship skills to solve the world's biggest challenges and we support the whole adventure from idea to investment from Old College Capital, our in-house venture investment fund. Our entrepreneurial ecosystem enabled 123 new staff and student companies and secured £108m of investment in associated companies.