

Advancing Student Innovation & Impact



2025 COMMUNITY COLLEGE INNOVATION CHALLENGE



The Community College Innovation Challenge- Why Your Students Should Apply!

February 6, 2025

2:30 – 3:30 pm Eastern



Speakers



Ellen Hause
Associate VP for
Academic & Student
Affairs, American
Association of
Community Colleges



Courtney Larson
Program Manager, ATE,
American Association of
Community Colleges



Jana Blum
Associate Professor of
Chemistry, Perimeter
College at Georgia State
University, GA



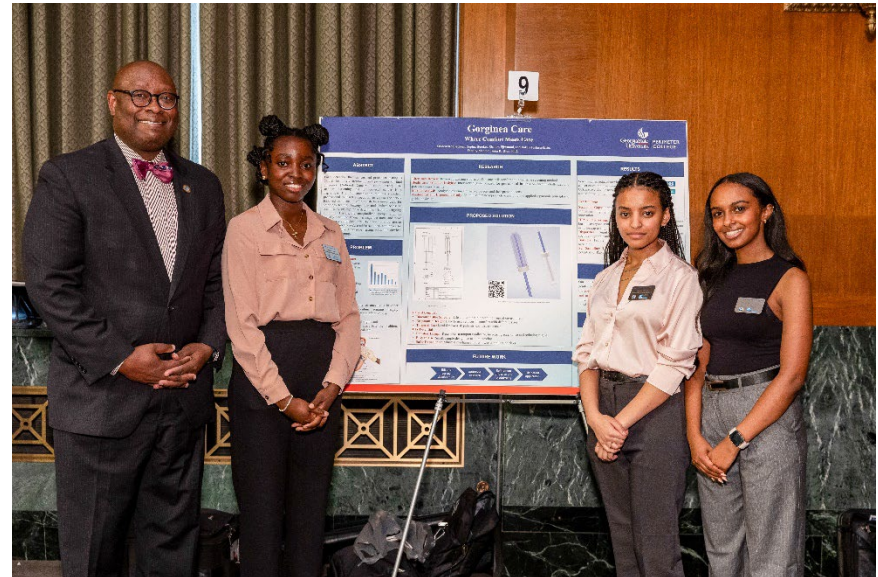
Chris Dennis
Assistant Professor of
Engineering Technology,
Columbus State
Community College, OH



LaTasha Starr
Engineering
Professor, Dallas
College, TX

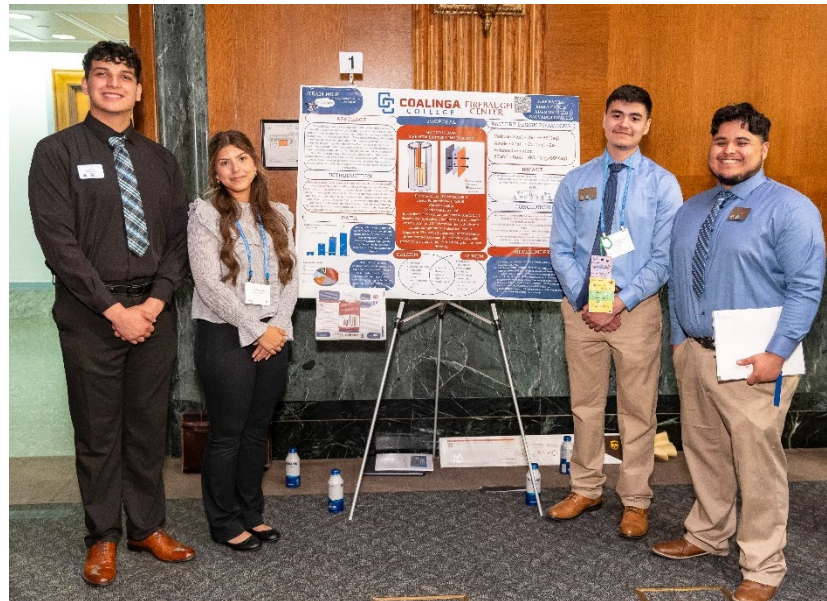
Community College Innovation Challenge

- CCIC run in partnership with AACC & NSF
- Student teams submit STEM-based solutions to real-world problems of local to global concern
- Up to 12 finalist teams attend the Innovation Boot Camp, for technical assistance & coaching to build skills in:
 - Business of Innovation
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Strategic Communication



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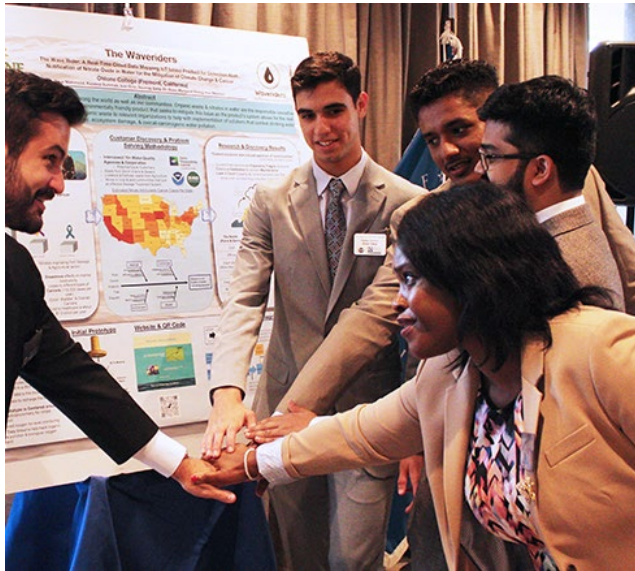
- Teams interact with entrepreneurs, experts, & industry professionals.
- The Boot Camp culminates in two capstone events:
 - Poster Session & Reception with key Congressional and STEM stakeholders
 - Pitch competition in front of panel of judges



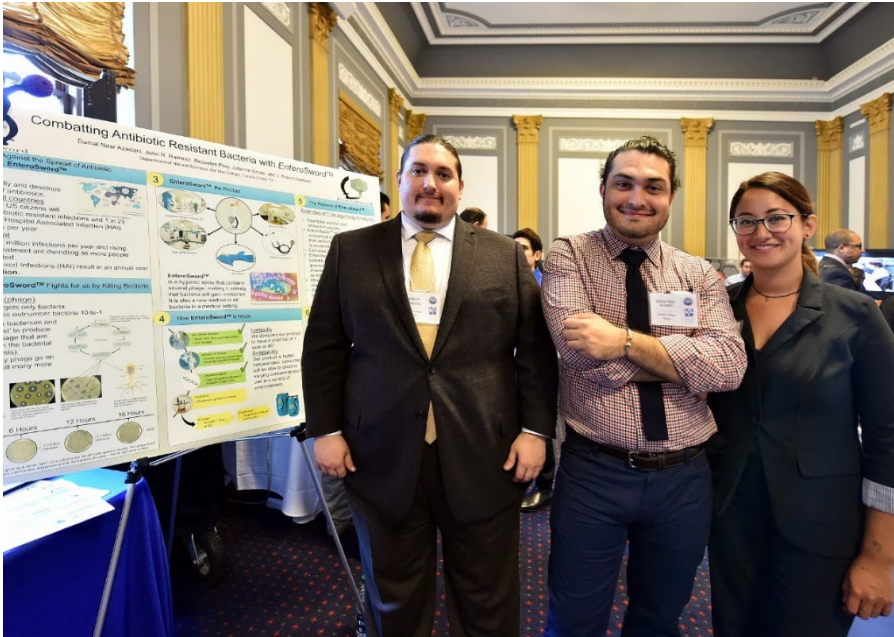
Community College Innovation Challenge

- Winners receive:
 - A plaque for all finalist schools;
 - Recognition certificates from NSF and AACCC for each finalist team member;
 - Full travel support for all finalist team members to attend the Innovation Boot Camp in Washington, D.C.;
 - A \$500 cash honorarium;
 - Cash awards made to **each** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place team member
 - 1st place: \$3,000
 - 2nd place: \$2,000
 - 3rd place: \$1,000





Stakeholder Engagement



- Teams of 2-4 students with a faculty/administrator mentor
- Develop STEM solution to real-world problem
- Submit a written entry and 90-second video addressing:
 - The problem – relevant background, context of problem
 - The solution – describe the solution, the science/technology that informs it, how it is different & innovative, identify challenges & barriers
 - The impact and benefits – how impact and benefits would be measured, potential societal impact
 - Video to tell compelling story and how team's solution is innovative and unique in addressing problem

www.aaccinnovationchallenge.com

Community College Innovation Challenge



Entries will be evaluated based on innovation and impact, feasibility, and clarity of communication



Up to 12 finalist teams selected to advance to the Innovation Boot Camp taking place June 9-12, 2025, in Washington, D.C.



Finalist team members are required to attend the Innovation Boot Camp

2025 CCIC TIMELINE

April 3	Submissions due
Late April	12 finalist teams notified
May 2	Welcome & Orientation to the Innovation Boot Camp Webinar at 1:00 p.m. EDT
May 9	The Customer Discovery Journey in STEM Innovation Webinar at 1:00 p.m. EDT
June 9-12	Innovation Boot Camp in Washington, D.C.
June 12	First, Second, & Third Place Winning Teams announced at the end of the Boot Camp



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