Today’s innovation driven economy requires a new class of graduates - skilled in both the discipline of their academic major, and equipped with entrepreneurial training to launch new ideas into the world. Texas State faculty are preparing graduates with an entrepreneurial mindset who are self-motivated innovators and creators. We are developing new ways to engage students in the theory and practice of creating value from ideas and opportunities.
**A BIG Impact - INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

Today’s innovation-driven economy requires a new class of graduates who are both skilled in the discipline of their academic majors and equipped with entrepreneurial training to launch new ideas into the world. This initiative seeks to engage, educate, and equip talented and hard-working students with the skills, experiences, mindset, and resources needed to be the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs working to solve complex, real-world problems.

**Key Elements and Activities**

**Students benefit from:**
- hands-on, experiential learning
- access to resources
- co-curricular training
- creative working spaces
- support and mentorships

**BIG Philanthropic Opportunities**

- Endow the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program Fund to provide flexible resources to implement and sustain this initiative
- Establish an Entrepreneur in Residence fellowship program
- Create Innovation Fellowships to work with a faculty innovator
- Endow needs-based scholarships to support students with residence in an Innovation & Entrepreneurship Living Learning Community
- Fund an Alumni Mentorship program
- Establish an Innovator and Entrepreneur Award
- Award funding for an Innovation Challenge to seed new initiatives
- Provide grants to support the purchase of materials and training for students to prototype new ideas in a makerspace on campus
- Funds for boot camp style training in entrepreneurship
- Sponsor student pitch competitions and design showcases, such as the Innovation Lab at SXSW

**Your Invitation**

We invite visionary philanthropic partners to support our students and faculty in discovering sustainable solutions for global issues through innovative research.