

[stü-d<sup>ə</sup>nt-trə-p(r)ə-'nær]

# STUDENT PRENEUR

*(noun)*: a student who undertakes the journey of entrepreneurship

EOGSEA

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GLOBAL STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

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An Entrepreneurs' Organization Global Competition

1998

The program originates at the John Cook School of Business (Saint Louis University), encompassing participants from Canada, the United States and Mexico.

2002

The competition's name changes to "GSEA" to reflect its new global scope.

2006

Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) takes over the program to provide a sustainable model, and continued growth and expansion.

2007

EO GSEA expands into Australia, Africa and Asia.

2008

Student nominations reach 1,000.

2009

EO GSEA expands into 12 new countries, for a total of 18.

2014

Local and national competitions grow to over 50 locations.

2016

Fifty student finalists from 50 different countries attend Global Finals in Bangkok, Thailand.

2017

EO GSEA expands into six new countries, for a total of 56.

## Entrepreneurs' Organization's GLOBAL STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

(EO GSEA) is the premier global competition for student entrepreneurs who actively run a business. EO GSEA nominees compete in qualifying competitions at the local, regional and global levels in hopes of earning the title of Global Champion.

"THE THING THAT SETS EO GSEA APART FROM EVERY OTHER BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION IS THAT THEY REALLY CARE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE. THEY WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOUR STORY IS; THEY WANT TO KNOW THE CHALLENGES AND OBSTACLES YOU'VE OVERCOME, AND THEY'RE WILLING TO LOOK PAST WHERE YOUR COMPANY IS AND SEE THE POTENTIAL."

– **Chelsea Sloan,**  
2012 EO GSEA  
Global Champion

## OUR VISION:

Empower student entrepreneurs to become the world's most influential change makers by providing the platform, exclusive resources and mentorship needed to excel in business.

## WHERE IT BEGAN

*The EO GSEA program was founded in 1998 by the John Cook School of Business at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, USA.*

The program's mission has always been to give student entrepreneurs the opportunity to accelerate their success, challenge the status quo, connect to an instrumental peer group and make the greatest impact possible in their communities.

EO began leading the EO GSEA program in 2006, and since then, student entrepreneurs have tapped into the collective knowledge and experience of EO members, gaining access to global networks and to a community that understands passion, struggle, drive and success.

"IT IS ABSOLUTELY WORTHWHILE TO SEE EO GSEA COMPETITORS AND EO MEMBERS CONNECTING TOGETHER AND LEARNING FROM EACH OTHER.

– **Alex Read,**  
Past EO GSEA  
Sub-Committee Chair

# HISTORY





EO HAS GIVEN ME A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IT MEANS AND WHAT IT TAKES TO BE AN ENTREPRENEUR. EO GSEA GAVE ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON MY JOURNEY AS A STUDENT ENTREPRENEUR AND CONNECT WITH MY INTERNATIONAL PEERS. WHILE WE COME FROM ALL CORNERS OF THE GLOBE, WE FACE SIMILAR CHALLENGES AND HAVE A PASSION FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

—**Benjamin Conard**,  
2017 Global Finalist, Germany

“BEING A PART OF EO GSEA ALSO HELPED ME UNDERSTAND BUSINESS WASN’T JUST ABOUT MONEY; IT WAS A COMBINATION OF AMAZING CONNECTIONS, BUILDING PUBLIC RELATIONS, LEARNING LESSONS THROUGH SUCCESSES AND FAILURES, AND MUCH MORE.

—**Ritesh Marwadi**,  
2014 Global Finalist, Nepal

EO GSEA MADE A HUGE DIFFERENCE IN MY LIFE AS I MET A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS AND ADVANTAGES. THIS PROGRAM LETS YOU CONNECT WITH PEOPLE ON A LEVEL THAT CAN’T BE EXPERIENCED AT ANY OTHER COMPETITION. THE COOLEST PART IS SHARING THAT CONNECTION WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD AND EVEN WHEN THERE ARE A LOT OF CULTURAL DIFFERENCES, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMEONE WHO IS AT THE SAME STAGE IN LIFE.

—**Sam Vynckier**,  
2017 Global Finalist, Belgium

“I GOT TO HEAR THE STORIES OF ‘STUDENTPRENEURS’ FROM AROUND THE WORLD AND LEARNED HOW THEY OVERCAME CHALLENGES; I’LL APPLY THE SAME TECHNIQUES THEY’VE USED TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL IN MY OWN BUSINESS.”

—**Mohammad Asad Raza**,  
2017 Global Finalist, Pakistan

I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN A SEMI-SLUM AREA IN KENYA WHERE THE BIGGEST DUMPSITE IN THE COUNTRY IS LOCATED. SINCE EO GSEA GLOBAL FINALS, I HAVE GIVEN SEVERAL TALKS ABOUT WHY I WON THE AWARD, EXPLAINING THAT STARTING A BUSINESS IS TOTALLY POSSIBLE. MOST PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT NOTHING GOOD COMES OUT OF OUR AREA. THIS SHOWED THEM THAT IT’S POSSIBLE, THAT IN OUR SMALL WAY WE CAN REACH THE ENTIRE WORLD.

—**June Syowia**  
2017 Global Finalist, Kenya

“I LOVE WORKING WITH EO GSEA ‘STUDENTPRENEURS’ BECAUSE OF THE ENERGY AND CREATIVITY THEY BRING TO SOLVING PROBLEMS, FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR LOCAL OR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES. THIS REINFORCES MY BELIEF THAT THE FUTURE IS IN GOOD HANDS.”

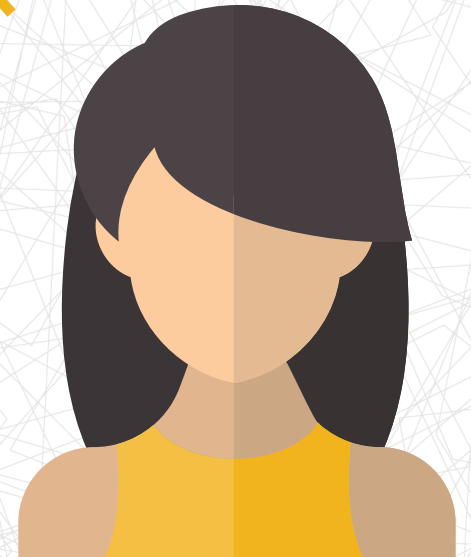
—**Stephen Shortt**,  
EO Ireland

“TO BE SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE THAT SHARE SIMILAR MISSIONS AND VALUES IS HUMBLING AND VERY POWERFUL.”

—**BreAnna Fisher**,  
2012 Global Finalist, USA

# GLOBAL COMMUNITY PERSONAL

## IMPACT OF EO GSEA



# PAST EO GSEA GLOBAL CHAMPIONS

2015

**Steinar Henskes** (Netherlands)

Founder and CEO, Bird Control Group

"I started my business through intuition ... I saw a major opportunity to solve a problem and create value."

2016

**Violeta Gladys Martinez** (El Salvador)

Founder and CEO, Vaiza

"EO GSEA absolutely helped me become a stronger leader. As the first Latin American woman to win the title of Global Student Entrepreneur of the Year, I can use my experiences to empower women to become entrepreneurs, to follow their dreams and to not be afraid of being the boss."

2017

**Julián Ríos Cantú** (Mexico)

Founder, Higia, Inc.

"Entrepreneurship is a very lonely place most of the time. It's very hard to find people that are constantly fighting for their passion, so EO GSEA makes a wonderful world, bringing people together—and that is invaluable, I think."

## LIFETIME GRADUATES *(noun)*

: an entrepreneur who participates in an EO GSEA competition, graduates from the EO Accelerator program and becomes an EO member

"It's fun to see the passion—I love seeing that twinkle in a competitor's eye when they see what's possible by hanging with other student entrepreneurs."

— **Tyler Olson**, 2007 Lifetime Graduate  
EO GSEA Competitor, 2007



## HIGHLIGHTED MEMBERS:



**Tim Hamilton**  
(EO Austin)  
EO GSEA Competitor, 2007



**Maria Mahadaly**  
(EO Saudi Arabia - Jeddah)  
EO GSEA Competitor, 2009



**Ryan Unger**  
(EO Chicago)  
EO GSEA Competitor, 2008

"THE STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN EO GSEA HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT TO A WIDE NETWORK OF PEERS AND SEASONED ENTREPRENEURS, ALL WHO HAVE RESOURCES AND EXPERIENCE FROM WHICH THE STUDENTS CAN LEARN. THESE STUDENTS ARE HUNGRY FOR MORE AND ARE CONTINUALLY FINDING NEW WAYS TO USE THEIR ENTREPRENEURIAL ENDEAVORS TO CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND LEAVE A LASTING IMPACT."

—**Chelsea Dennison**, Director, EO GSEA

# EO GSEA THROUGH A YEAR

## FOR STUDENTS



| Promotion                             | Application                      | Local Competition                                                    | National Competition                                                                | EO GSEA Finals                                                                                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Interest list open from March to June | Student application opens 1 July | Students compete in local competitions to qualify for the next round | Students compete in national competition to identify each country's Global Finalist | 55+ students from 55+ countries compete at the Global Finals for the title of Global Champion |

## FOR EO CHAPTERS AND COMPETITION HOSTS

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| April                        | May – June                                                   | July – August                                                | September – December          | January – February                                               | April                     |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| EO GSEA competition training | Promotion of EO GSEA program and competition dates confirmed | Student applications open and competition planning continues | Local competitions are hosted | All competitions, including national competitions, are completed | Global Finals competition |

EO GSEA IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY



Thomas Pride International



THANK YOU, FRIENDS OF EO GSEA