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National Collegiate Inventors
& Innovators Alliance



SCHEDULE

AI2V 1: Waltham, MA 8/1-4
 AI2V 2: Urbana, IL 9/9-12
 Southfield, MI - 9/28
 Kansas City, MO - 9/29
 St. Paul, MN - 10/6
 Fargo-Moorehead, MN - 10/12

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About the Host

With two campuses and five teaching and research sites across south Mississippi as well as France, Mexico, England, and Spain, The University of Southern Mississippi serves the state, the Southeastern U.S. region, and the nation through its strong, varied undergraduate programs built upon a sound general education curriculum; through its master's and doctoral programs in the sciences, education, psychology, economic development, the humanities, business, health, engineering technologies, and the arts; and through its faculty's innovative research achievements. Southern Miss' academic and research initiatives demonstrate its commitment to knowledge-based economic development and to enhanced quality of life.

The University of Mississippi has nine academic divisions on its main campus: College of Liberal Arts; the Schools of Accountancy, Applied Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Pharmacy, and Law; and the Graduate School. Research excellence has led to the University of Mississippi's selection as home for more than 20 major research centers that garner national and international attention. The health sciences complex in Jackson trains health professionals in the fields of medicine, nursing, health-related professions, and dentistry.

The University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Mississippi are collaborators on the National Science Foundation-funded Entrepreneurial Medicinal and Polymer Science (EMPS) program, which addresses America's long-term need for top-notch scientists capable of translating research results into new technologies and new businesses. It combines excellent interdisciplinary science education with entrepreneurial and business training. Faculty and students from the two Mississippi universities are tied together through research projects, broad education in business and entrepreneurialism, and interactions with industry both nationally and internationally. Specific program components include basic research projects coupling medicinal/pharmaceutical science and polymeric materials; discipline-centered, interdisciplinary and entrepreneurial education involving students-teaching-students, workshops, seminars, short-courses, industrial internships, and international experiences.

Students experiencing this program will be able to start their own companies, perhaps even at or before graduation, and will be able to be highly effective members of larger company research and development teams. It is expected that this EMPS program will serve as a model for integration of science and entrepreneurial education that have immediate and long-term impact on other Mississippi programs, and will result in new businesses that will enhance economic development in the state and quality of life everywhere.

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