

20 Bright 25 SC Idea CHALLENGE

ENTRANT HANDBOOK

£5,000
CASH
PRIZE

PITCH YOUR
BUSINESS PLAN
TO INDUSTRY
EXPERTS!

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY



WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Bright SCIdea COMPETITION TIMELINE

ONLINE TRAINING SESSIONS

**26-27 November
2024**



SUBMIT BUSINESS PLANS

**DEADLINE:
31 January 2025**

Using knowledge obtained in the business training, work with your team to put together a business plan. This is your chance to win a place in the final, so ensure your plans are well-researched! Business plan templates are provided.



APPLICATION DEADLINE

13 November 2024



COMPETITION FINAL

18 March 2025

Turn all your hard work into action and pitch your idea to industry experts. The winning team will receive a £5,000 cash prize, followed by a 2nd and 3rd prize of £500 for the runners up. All finalists will receive free SCI® membership.

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Bright SCIda

COMPETITION AIMS

The Bright SCIda Challenge is a competition devised by members of SCI®'s College of Scholars to allow university students to develop and showcase their entrepreneurial and business skills.

There will be an opportunity for each registered team to engage in exciting business planning and pitch training which will help to enhance their business acumen and employability. The training will support teams in completing their Bright SCIda business plan which should be submitted by Friday 31 January 2025, 12pm (midday).

The competition includes a number of networking activities, allowing participants to raise their profile amongst the commercial scientific community.

How does it work?



1.

Form a team of 3-4 university students.



4.

Attend online training workshops and access exclusive business training materials.



2.

Develop a plausible scientific concept with a societal benefit.



5.

Turn your concept into a compelling product or service.



3.

Register your team online soci.org/BrightSCIda



6.

Develop a business plan to commercialise your innovation.

Shortlisted teams will then be invited to the grand final at SCI®, London, to pitch their ideas to a panel of high-profile industry and investor judges.

All shortlisted teams will receive assistance with funding for travel and accommodation and free SCI® membership.

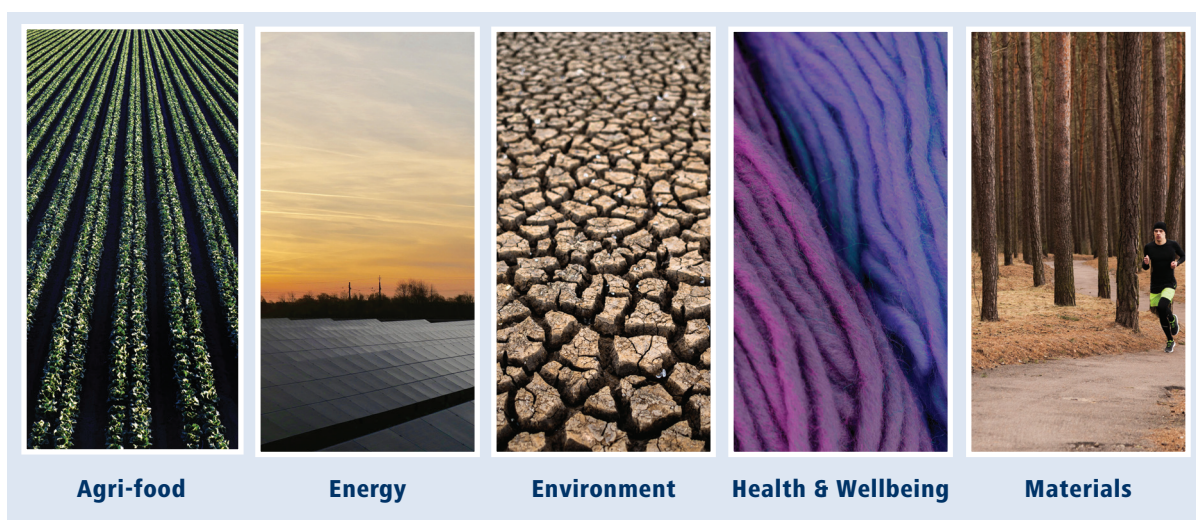
WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Bright SCIda

BUILDING YOUR BUSINESS CASE

SCI® is a multi-science organisation focussing on five key themes. Your Bright SCIda for a product or service should centre on one or more of below listed sectors. At a previous event finalists pitched ideas for an RNA-based implant to treat Alzheimer's disease, a low-cost desalination module and a non-profit enterprise that used undergraduate laboratories in universities to produce chemicals needed by local companies.

Once you have a team and a concept, register online at soci.org/BrightSCIda



Business training

To help you develop your business skills, SCI® will provide access to business training videos free of charge to all competition entrants. Topics which will be covered include:

We will then invite challenge entrants to join industry leaders at our Early Career Business Training Workshops online on **26 and 27 November 2024**.

Business plan

SCI® will provide a business plan template for your final submission. Teams must complete and submit their final business plan no later than **Friday 31 January 2025**.

MANAGING
THE MONEY

MARKETING AND BRANDING

THE PERFECT PITCH

AN ENTREPRENEURSHIP JOURNEY

PATENTS AND INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY

BRIGHT SCIDEA WINNERS
PERSPECTIVE

Bright SCIda

OUR BUSINESS EXPERTS



Lucinda Bruce-Gardyne

*Founder, Genius Foods and
Chair of Scotland Food and Drink*

**SCOTLAND
FOOD & DRINK**



After struggling to find quality alternative bread for her gluten-intolerant son, Lucinda, a professional chef who studied physiology at university, founded Genius Foods in 2009 with her gluten-free bread. First sold in Tesco, Genius bread is now the UK's leading 'free-from' bakery and is sold across Europe, the USA and in Australia. Lucinda has won numerous awards for her work at Genius Foods, including the Ernst & Young UK Emerging Entrepreneur of the Year 2012. The company has also been named as one of the Top 50 most valued Scottish brands. Lucinda has recently stepped back from Genius to concentrate on her new role as Chair of Scotland Food and Drink and a new entrepreneurial project. She is also an SCI® Board Trustee and NED of The Scale Up Institute.



Victor Christou

*Managing Partner
Hotdog Capital*

Victor has spent the last 25 years building technology companies as both a founder and investor. He was previously a Partner at YFM Equity Partners where he was responsible for the growth companies in the portfolio.

Prior to joining YFM, Victor was CEO of Cambridge Innovation Capital where he built up the team and portfolio, as well as being responsible for investments in CMR Surgical and Pragmatic Semiconductor. Before that, Victor founded Ophys, an organic electronics business, which he and the team sold to Cambridge Display Technology in 2002. Victor has a PhD in Chemistry from Imperial College, London and was a Sloan Fellow at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University. He began his career as an academic at the University of Oxford, where he was a Royal Society University Research Fellow. Victor was the Royal Society of Chemistry Entrepreneur of the Year in 2002.

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Bright SCIdea

SOCIETY OF CHEMICAL INDUSTRY



The Society of Chemical Industry (SCI®) is a learned society, **established in 1881** to promote the application of chemistry and related science into industry for the benefit of the public.

SCI® was established by **a prominent group of Scientists, Inventors, and Entrepreneurs**; with founder members going on to set up major businesses, producing many of the daily products we recognise today.

The Society is **unique, being a multi-science and multi-disciplinary international community**. SCI® works at the interface between science and industry, conducting a range of activities that focus on supporting innovation and the commercialisation of science.

We provide a forum for members to come together to develop commercially viable solutions to some of the biggest challenges facing society today. SCI® places great emphasis on providing support for the next generation of people moving into industrial and applied roles across the chemical using industries.

Terms & conditions

1. Teams should be made up of 3-4 university students members; open to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
2. Teams are encouraged to be multi-disciplinary: the best results will come from bringing together those with different skills and experience, just like in the real world.
3. Product or service concepts should be based on plausible, but not necessarily proven, scientific principles.
4. Entries should fall under SCI®'s focus areas of Agri-food, Materials, Energy, Sustainability and the Environment, and Health & Wellbeing (see page 4).
5. Submitted business plans must be the team's own work. Minor external guidance is acceptable; however, this must be acknowledged in submissions.
6. Entrants should note that SCI® is unable to protect any intellectual property submitted as part of the competition.
7. Business Plans must be submitted on the template provided by SCI® no later than 12pm (midday), Friday 31 January 2025; no entries received after this time will be considered.
8. Entrants must be available to travel to London and participate in the final taking place at SCI® 14-15 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PS on Tuesday 18 March 2025. Under certain circumstances, there may be a possibility for Teams to attend online.*
9. Assistance will be provided for funding of travel within the UK and accommodation costs. Any claim made must be done so in accordance with SCI® expense claim policy. For travel outside of the UK, please contact SCI® to discuss possible financial support.

* Please contact BrightSCIdea@soci.org if you are unable to travel to Belgrave Square for the final.

WHERE SCIENCE MEETS BUSINESS

Bright SCIda PREVIOUS WINNERS



2024

AGregen

AGregen walked away as 2024 winners thanks to their innovative biopolymer alternative to ammonia-based fertilisers.



UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

2023



Phagel

Phagel won the 2023 Bright SCIda Challenge with their hydrogel mix containing a combination of bacteriophages held in stasis that can be used in the treatment of burns.



2022



CardiaTec

CardiaTec achieved victory at the Bright SCIda 2022 final, the first event back in person at Belgrave Square, for their drug discovery tool to help fight cardiovascular disease.



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

2020



Metallogen

After a challenging year, Metallogen excelled and won the first ever virtual Bright SCIda challenge competition with their solution to assist phytoremediation which removes heavy metals from contaminated soils.

2019



Plastech Innovation

In the face of tough competition, Plastech Innovation emerged triumphant in 2019 with their pitch for a new method of processing waste plastic into plastic aggregates for use in construction materials.



2018



Team Glucoguard

Team Glucoguard fought off stiff competition from an excellent field of finalists to win the inaugural Bright SCIda Challenge with their pitch for a genetically modified bacterium for treatment of pre- and type II diabetes.



SCI® is
a global
organisation -
connecting
science with
business.

Society of Chemical Industry, 14/15 Belgrave Square, SW1X 8PS, London, UK

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