QUICK FACTS: Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurial Initiative Fund

Event Details

- The Lang Fund Board Meeting takes place in late spring, after Spring Venture Showcase.

Event Description

- The Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurial Initiative Fund fosters an entrepreneurial environment at Columbia Business School by providing early stage investing opportunities to qualifying student business initiatives.
- The Fund will make an immediate initial investment, typically in the amount of $25,000-$50,000, in the form of a convertible demand note in ventures that meet its investment criteria.
- The Fund retains the right to make an additional equity investment in the business when the business raises its first round of equity backed by professional investors.
- At the Lang Fund Board Meeting, each company will have the opportunity to make a formal presentation followed by Q&A for investment consideration.

Eligibility

- Finalists selected from the Spring Venture Showcase event pool (second-year students only) are eligible to participate.
- Students may work individually or with a partner.
- Proposals for all types of enterprises: small- or large-scale, high- or low-tech, start-ups or service, manufacturing, or retail operations.

Application Requirements

- See Spring Venture Showcase.

Selection Process

- The Board retains sole discretion for deciding which businesses it will fund each year and may decide in a given year to forgo the funding of any projects if none of the ventures presented meet its investment criteria.

Evaluation Criteria

- Feasibility of the proposed venture and its prospects for success.
- Strength of the student’s commitment to the venture and his/her qualifications to make it succeed.
- Prospects for raising additional funding as may be required.
- Technical or conceptual originality or social value.

Admission Decisions

- Announced within one week of the meeting.

Questions?

- Contact Sandra Merrill: skm2147@columbia.edu