

Participants' Reviews - Summer 2013

*"The course has allowed us a glimpse into the greatness being built in and done in Israel, a sneak peak of what is to come. It has opened my South African perspective on how to approach and do business. **The can-do attitude of the Israeli nation and the absolute and fearless determination to make a success of your start up is something that I feel very few people have managed to instill in many South African entrepreneurs and which I will take as a core lesson from this course.**"*

Marrelie Le Roux

MBA, GIBS - University of Pretoria in Pretoria, South Africa



*"The course gave me deeper insights into emerging technologies and also new business opportunities for cooperation between Dutch and Israeli businesses. To my surprise I found it most interesting to discuss and to learn about the impact of technology on human evolution. I was amazed and even felt a concern about the ramifications of these technologies for human society. **The CEO and the professors we have met were leading figures in their area of expertise. It is quite amazing to achieve this high of a standard for an experimental course.** The concept of receiving education, not just in a classroom, but on the location where a specific technology is developed, is very inspiring."*

Job Rosenhart

Senior advisor, Dutch Industry Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands



*"InnovNation was a phenomenal experience that resonated on so many different levels. The genius of this program was that the people I met made me believe in the dream that is Israel, the dream "Is Real". **Israel is a bastion of creativity, innovation, and thriving entrepreneurial spirit. This is the dream I believe that many other countries aspire for.** Through a series of incredible meetings with prominent scientist and business people ranging from Google, to IBM, to Rafael, to the Technion and everything in between, **I have seen what makes Israel amazing now, and what will continue to make Israel amazing in the future.** I was astonished and thrilled that I was able to meet with all these people, this is what makes InnovNation incredible and different from any other program. I now look towards the future with optimism and the inspiration to act."*

Connie Lien

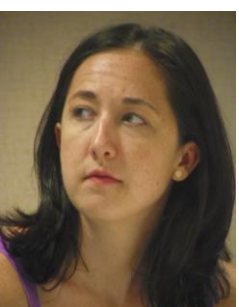
BSc in Physics, University of Toronto, Canada



*"InnovNation is such an amazing program. For the whole month, I have immersed myself in the world of entrepreneurship and technologies. By visiting numerous companies and meeting with various Israeli experts, I have gained a broad view of how Israeli companies grow in the global market. I have also seen the significant role of technologies in shaping our life. **This program is indeed one of the most unforgettable experiences in my life.**"*

Yaqing Tang

Entrepreneur & BSc, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, China



"InnovNation is a truly outstanding program that exceeded my expectations in every way. It was inspiring, engaging, and eye-opening, offering a unique portal into the world of entrepreneurship, innovation, and breakthrough technologies using Israel, the "Start-Up Nation" itself, as a backdrop. The agenda consisted of meetings, site visits, and lectures by prestigious professors, researchers, CEOs, and entrepreneurs who share their experiences and insights with our group. The access to such renowned professionals was truly astonishing and made for an unmatched learning experience, one that will forever shape my understanding of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Israel and beyond. I cannot say enough good things about the program and feel extremely fortunate to have participated."

Laura Ginsberg

Director of Course Development at Loom, Inc., USA

Participants' Reviews - Summer 2013

*"I had the amazing opportunity of being part of the InnovNation: Breakthrough technologies and I have to say that I could not have asked for a better program. **I was consistently blown away by the speakers, the companies and of course the innovations. It was a unique experience to learn about a country, the people and inspiration. I would recommend this class to anyone who's curious about innovation and new technologies.**"*

Lauren Maman

MBA, EDHEC business school, Paris, France



*"After having been the Director for the Region of Santiago of Corfo, the Unit that promotes innovation in Chile for three years, **this is one of the best innovation programs that I have attended. The quality of teachers, lectures, academics and visited companies far exceeded any expectations.** This program has led us to discover the best of Israel and why Israel is one of the world leaders in the ecosystem of entrepreneurship and innovation.*

Raul Aldunate

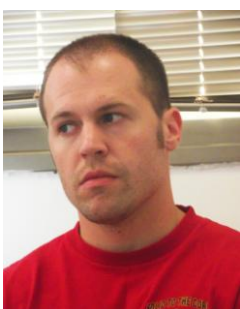
Former Director Metropolitan Region, CORFO Economic Development Agency, Chile



*"The InnovNation Program exceeded my expectations in every way. This course was incredibly effective and extremely well organized. To have been accepted to and completed **this summer program has been one of the greatest learning and cultural experiences in my life.** The day trips were fantastic additions and really helped make this program such a great opportunity, as well as the speakers made the conversations fun, informative, and helpful. Our instructor Roey Tzazana is one of the nicest and most intelligent people I've ever had the pleasure to learn from. In terms of my academic and cultural experience, this program exceeded any and all preconceived notions and expectations I had."*

Noemi Bozek

MSc Physics, Cracow University of Technology, Poland



*"The InnovNation program provides **a once in a lifetime opportunity to experience everything that makes Israel an amazing country,** and it also gives the student a real, inside perspective that is face to face with highly experienced entrepreneurs and those who fund them. What I took from this course above a typical university program is the immense, applied knowledge from the standpoint of those who are successful and out there doing it today. You simply can't learn the same information from an outdated textbook that doesn't even interact with you if you have questions. There isn't a better country for facilitating startups, and we couldn't have asked for a more brilliant instructor than Liad Agmon to teach our class."*

John C. Born

BSc in Finance & International Business, University of Tennessee, USA



*"Entrepreneurship is all about people and experience. InnovNation connects both by letting you dive deep into Israel's entrepreneurial ecosystem in a fun, comprehensive, and long-lasting way. It is great to see what great flair is taking over the minds of such a founders mind-set. Israel is an amazing place. The ingredients are a young and open minded culture, the drive to change the world to a better place, and the willingness to share experiences with others. **InnovNation is the best starting point to connect those dots in an extremely valuable hands-on way.**"*

Martin Weber

Project Manager, Investment Department, StarTAU, Germany

Participants' Reviews - Summer 2013



*"The program exceeded my expectations, since we were given access to prestigious companies, innovative start-ups, and prestigious individuals. Sitting in the classroom, listening to the lectures and learning by heart the theories and not knowing how to apply them... is different from being able to see it in reality. The idea of getting speeches by Angel Investors, by CEO's and personnel of the companies listed was brilliant, because professors in the universities can give only part of the theories, which usually leaves you with the feeling of uncertainty and fear, "how am I going to do this," but being able to hear some hints and advice, ask them questions and listen to their opinion inspires you to create. **I am leaving Israel inspired to create without fear of "what if it would not work," since I have seen that even if it did not work the first time, there is always the possibility to start again.**"*

Makhina Mirzoeva

BA in Business Administration, American University, Bulgaria



*"InnovNation was a really amazing experience. From excellent lecturers who are subject matter experts to many company visits with access to top-level management. **For anyone who wants to learn more about entrepreneurship or what's happening in the world of technology, you must attend this excellent program.**"*

Kevin Croff

Entrepreneur & MBA, GIBS - University of Pretoria in Pretoria, South Africa



*"I am so very thankful for the opportunity to participate in the InnovNation Program. The highlight of this program centers around the field trips to such organizations as eBay, Google, Microsoft, IBM, Check Point, Stratasys, Bar-Ilan University, Sorek Desalination Plant, EvoGene, Hadassah Medical Research, Bessemer Venture Partners, Jerusalem Venture Partners, WIX, and so many others. Our field trips included tours as well as informative presentations by influential, prominent members of each organization's management team. Our instructors, Dr. Roey Tzezana and Liad Agmon are outstanding lecturers who captivate your attention with every presentation. Through InnovNation, I made many new friends from all over the world. Each class member's background and unique perspective contributed to making this opportunity **a once in a lifetime, life-changing milestone, one that I will always remember**"*

Rena Seals

Director of Technology, Piedmont City School District, USA



*"Huge multinationals like Google and IBM were visited and we got a first-hand experience in the way their companies build, innovate and create amazing projects. The program also focused on startup businesses by looking at the assets that lead to success and creation of the companies. This was combined with the thriving high-tech culture in Israel by visiting companies involved in breakthrough technologies like nanotechnology, 3Dprinting and self-driving cars. I learned a great deal about the Israeli way to handle business. **It was truly inspiring to see this much entrepreneurial spirit in such a small country.** The fact that Israel is often portrayed as a small version of silicon valley suits perfectly what I saw during my studies there. I honestly feel privileged that I have been able to get so much knowledge and experiences during the InnovNation program. It showed one of the best sides of Israel and inspired me in many ways in creating new start-ups myself."*

Bas van den Vergh

Entrepreneur and BA in Neuroeconomy, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

Participants' Reviews - Summer 2013

"I had the great privilege of participating in the course "Start-ups and Innovations: the Israeli Model." I was very impressed by the wide variety of business exposure that I received during the course. I found the entire experience to be very informative and enlightening. I enjoyed the opportunity to see some of the new business and technological development that is going on in Israel. Entrepreneurship is something that interests me very much, and I found this class to be very stimulating. Our professor, Liad, was very intelligent and insightful, and I was consistently engaged throughout all of his three-hour lectures. I would highly recommend the course to anyone who has an interest in start-ups, or who generally just wants to see and learn more about Israel. I am grateful for my opportunity, and very satisfied with the product."

Jacob Price

BA in Mechanical Engineering University of Tennessee, USA



*"The InnovNation program is the exact definition of innovation in the education sector as it is a new version of university courses including key lectures and amazing field trips. Everything that I have learned from the lectures to the field trips is the most updated. During the field trips, students got the opportunity to communicate with government officials, entrepreneurs and staffs in well-known companies. Moreover, this program successfully created a casual environment for students to get involved. Students can ask personalized questions relating to their own interests and get more specific and direct answers from experts in those domains. From my perspective, **these unique features of the InnovNation program are exactly the missing parts in the Canadian high education** because lectures or seminars are usually the most common way of teaching."*

Jingjie He

BA in International Relations, University of British Columbia, China



*"I have no words to describe this program. It was perfect. I met interesting people, not only the speakers, but also others participants. They were great, all of them were very important to me. They helped me to develop my skills, open my mind for new ideas - I could see different points of view, different ways to get successful. This program helped me with a lot of tips, sometimes simple tips, but totally important for any entrepreneur. I really recommend this program. **If you want to know more about start-ups and entrepreneurship, this is the correct program.**"*

Marcos Nigri

BA in International Relations, Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil