Freidman Student Entrepreneurship Initiative

Skidmore is enjoying increased interest in entrepreneurship among its students and is seeking ways to support more students in their entrepreneurial ambitions. We are particularly excited to do so in ways that elevate the visibility of student-led startups on campus. The Freidman Student Entrepreneurship Initiative, which targets businesses that have identified Skidmore students, faculty, and/or staff as one of their key product markets, will provide $5,000 startup grants to each of three businesses conceptualized in various Fall 2012 courses as well as ideas generated from individual or teams of students so that the businesses' teams can develop and launch the businesses this Spring. To ensure the three teams receive ongoing guidance and develop skills in business plan execution and investor accountability, their Spring 2013 activity will be structured as a three-credit independent study with Professors Robert Braathe and Cathy Hill, Harder Chair serving as faculty advisors to each team via weekly feedback-intensive status meetings. Students will maintain journals that summarize key business activity, business plan milestones targeted and achieved, and financial accounting that details use of grant funds, and they will review their journal entries with the faculty advisor each week.