

Transcript

Title: Swinburne Accelerator Program - Pitch Night

Creator: Swinburne Innovation Studio

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Audio/video for this transcript available from: <https://commons.swinburne.edu.au>



JOAN NORTON: So the main focus of the Accelerator Program is to give students, staff, alumni, and people that are part of the Swinburne community the ability to take an idea or at very early stage startup and move it to the next level.

ABHAY SETH: That they get confidence of what their idea is, that ability to be able to pitch it and to have these conversations that can further engage them on their venture journey.

ALEX WASHINGTON: Going through the program, it helped lessen the anxiety because you start learning - what's the lingo? What does this mean? You never feel like there's a dumb question. You feel like you do matter. You are an entrepreneur. You are special and so is your idea, that's why you were selected.

AMIT CHAWATHE: I think tonight is a very good milestone because it got all of us through that pressure cooker and we can all get our pictures published. We have an audience to present to. To me, this is just the key practice so that we can start talking to investors and our main stakeholders.

DR WERNER VAN DER MERWE: I think this night he gives them the opportunity to just get out there, get the story out, float their idea and get some feedback and hopefully get some good connections to actually build these companies.

MARIYAM SAYERS: The program helped me understand how to validate this problem and actually go to businesses and talk to them. But also ask the right type of questions.

CHRISTINE TURSKY GORDON: So all the founders coach each other, they help each other. And I think those connections with other founders, they one of the best things that people will get from programs like this.

JOAN NORTON: And there's so many nerves as you get towards pitch night and the culmination of all of that hard work. And they all pulled it together wonderfully and really delivered these presentations that got across the problem they're trying to solve and the solution that they're trying to present.

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