

Centre for Technology Infusion
College of Science, Health and Engineering

10/11/2021

Re: Technology Infusion Grand Challenge 2021-22

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CAMPUSES

Melbourne (Bundoora) Albury-Wodonga

Bendigo

City (Collins Street) Mildura

Shepparton Sydney

Greetings from La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia!

I am delighted to write to you to invite your institution to take part in an annual initiative called **Technology Infusion Grand Challenge** which is now open for the fourth consecutive year.

This initiative is an innovation competition for students engaged in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines as well as Business Studies, where students will use the skills they have gained in their studies to solve some of today's pressing societal or industry problems.

By engaging in this innovation competition students could benefit from: (i) global exposure and an opportunity to display their work at a *showcase event* towards the end of 2022, (ii) if appropriate, the project entry could also be part of student academic work for example a major or final year team project, (iii) eligible to win a small investment in their project between AUD \$250 - \$1000 for up-to 10 selected teams each year, and (iv) an opportunity to win the final prize (judged by an international panel of experts) – an all-expense paid mentorship stay in Melbourne to work with me and my award winning team at the Centre for Technology Infusion, and my colleagues from La Trobe Accelerator Program, La Trobe School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences and the La Trobe Business School.

2021-22 theme: Smart City Innovation

No region in the world is urbanizing faster than Asia, and Asian cities have their own unique challenges which are different from European cities. With urban growth also come challenges of economic growth, sustainability, efficiency and liveability. This year we are inviting student teams to use technology to develop a solution to solve their own city's challenges. More information for this initiative can be found at: https://latrobe.edu.au/grandchallenge. To view last year's show case event, follow here.

One or more teams from each institution can participate – online registrations will open from 15 November 2021 to 30 January 2022. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or our Grand Challenge team at grandchallenge@latrobe.edu.au.

We will be holding three Zoom information sessions where academics and students can join to ask questions and obtain more information about the competition.

Friday 26th November 2021, 8.30pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT): Meeting ID: 835 7836 2294 Monday 6th December 2021, 3.30pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT): Meeting ID: 881 9663 4252 Thursday 16th December 2021, 8.30pm Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT): Meeting ID: 891 4943 3808

I look forward to participation of your institution in our 2021-22 Grand Challenge: Smart City Innovation!

Best Regards,

Professor Aniruddha (Ani) Desai

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