

What We're Up To

- Setting up our makerspace and study room
- Recruiting new members we are looking at over ten potential members, 6 of whom are especially promising
- Our application to be a 501c(3) nonprofit is in the hands of the IRS - expecting approval in February or March

On Going Projects

- Designing luxury furniture for a sponsor
- Christian running an anime and comic products store
- Andrew is running an artisan pen company
- Neil is running a patented knifemaking business

Needs

- Funds to cover legal expenses
- Office essentials to stock the study room and makerspace (particularly whiteboards, chairs, and desks)
- Funds to have a more robust and involved recruitment process for our next recruiting season
- Experienced entrepreneurs to volunteer as guest speakers

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Startup Weekend

Students from the 2026 ESCALATE class participated in Startup Weekend (Oct. 21-23). Startup Weekend is organized by Techstars, Rose Innovative Student Entrepreneurs (RISE), Delta Rho Sigma, and ESCALATE. The event allowed students to experience what it's like to take an idea and start transforming it into a business. Students were able to speak with mentors and receive feedback to help shape their ideas.



Looking Ahead

Recruiting

We have started recruiting new members for next year. We're hoping to have enough new members to lease a second house. We are hosting regular events such as cookouts to attract new members, primarily targeting this year's ESCALTE class.

Starting a Speaker Series

We're looking to host speakers to help further the entrepreneurial education of our members. This series would cover topics such as:

- Marketing
- How to pitch
- How to sell your product
- Legal contracts
- How to create and manage a team (employees)
- Taxes/payroll/ accounting
- How to find investors
- When, and if, to sell
- Technical entrepreneurship (innovation)
- Work-life balance
- Idea generation
- Networking
- How to work with a business partner
- Corporate entrepreneurship