



WARWICKTECH

Make. Create. Innovate.

Sponsorship Opportunities

2016-17



Who are we?

WarwickTECH is a technology society founded in October 2014 who's core aim is to build and foster a community of technologists on Warwick University campus.

We provide students with the opportunity to learn technical and business skills, to build exciting



What do we do?

We are the centre-point of the tech community on campus and strive to support all of our makers, creators, and innovators with the training, resources, and mentorship that they require. In our first 18 months we've seen over 250 members sign up, hosted four internationally recognised hackathons, facilitated and maintained startup growth, hosted acclaimed speaker sessions, worked with National Grid on an innovation project, hosted one of the world's largest accelerators on campus and also a tech diversity event at the Shard - we even backed a football team!

What does our team look like?

We're a multidisciplinary executive team with students from multiple years running the team. Next year, our team will be expanded with a specific partnerships team to continue to foster relations with internal departments, and to lead pitches to early-stage startups, high-growth organisations and corporate firsts in industries new to technology. We will also build out a development team to code internal tools and resources for our rapidly growing membership, and bring on a People Operations Lead to maintain talent, workflow and change management to allow WarwickTECH to continue to be a diverse and inclusive society.



With many of the founding members of our team graduating this year, we have set up a board of trustees to oversee the overall direction of the organisation.

This will start with our founders Alex and Harry who originally started the venture. We are excited to see how the society will flourish over the coming years and aim for WarwickTECH to continue to solve some of the biggest issues in tech. We are fully confident that the new members of the team will continue to add value to the campus community and develop into accomplished tech leaders in their own right.



Hackathons

WarwickHACK was the first large scale event that we ever ran - a 24-hour hackathon designed for students to learn the skills to build prototypes of products in teams and share them with the hackathon and tech community. Since then we've funded, hosted and run four hugely successful hackathons with students from all over the world attending and competing.

On October 10th 2015 we ran Local Hack Day (running for the first time in Europe) a 12 hour mini-hackathon that ran simultaneously in 87 locations around the world to bring together over 4,000 students to celebrate building awesome technology; this resulted in the largest ever single day of student hacking.

Our most recent hackathon, WarwickHACK 2016, brought over 100 attendees from all over the UK together to learn, build and share. What makes our hackathons different from most is our high levels of student diversity and beginner-focused approach.



"I'm reaching out to tell how much of a great experience WarwickTECH has been for me this year. I feel it has helped me feel more optimistic and positive about my direction."

Christian, 3rd Year Student Entrepreneur



Campus Startup

Campus Startup is the heart of the tech community on campus. Every fortnight we bring the whole tech community together over drinks to share advice, collaborate and network. Each event brings aspiring innovators and entrepreneurs who give each other insight into their past experiences and pain-points - our event acts as a platform for them to develop their skills and push their projects further.



However, the value we provide to our community does not stop there. Given the nature of the event and the broad depth of experience of our team, we are able to provide specific advice about problems that members of our community may have - usually, we already provide an event or initiative to help them.

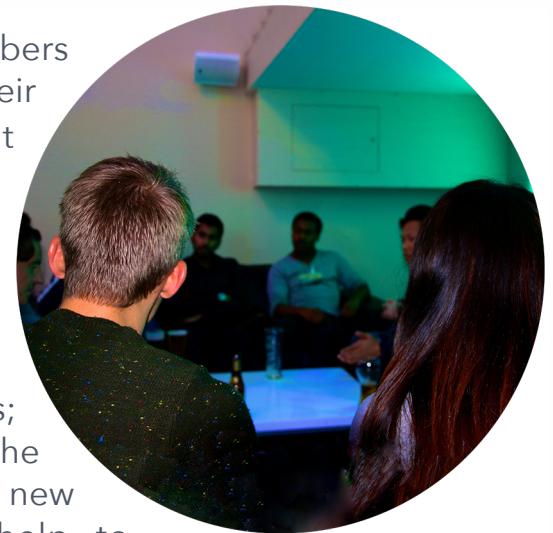
This way, we naturally leverage diversity throughout our whole organisation making it even more inclusive.



Speaker Sessions

We use our speaker sessions to engage with our members on a more individual basis and to tailor toward their specific needs and interests; they serve as excellent ways of testing whether the campus community is ready for the wave of technology in a particular sector. Last year, we tested the Law and Health sectors to great success.

In December, we invited digital health advocate, startup geek, and data journalist Ben Heubl to campus; he has experience freelancing for TechCrunch and the Economist. His main interest is to research how new technology finds its way into healthcare and help to implement it. We look forward to further developing relations with tech leaders in the life sciences space and preparing our entrepreneurs for the Big Data wave in the next year.



Tech Night London

Our last event of the year was Tech Night LDN, a conference embracing diversity by raising the visibility of accomplished women and underrepresented groups in tech and focusing on their achievements and knowledge, at the Shard with UCL Tech and UCL Leading Women - generously supported by Credit Suisse, Warwick Business School and Major League Hacking.

The event included workshops and talks with Kathryn Parsons, the co-founder & CEO of Decoded, Google Deepmind Senior Research Scientist Raia Hadsell and Lyst Data Scientist Sandra Greiss amongst others, as well as talks, panels and networking opportunities for all people curious about technology - open to all university students and graduates less than two years out of university of any technical skill level (including complete beginners) and best of all it was absolutely free for all attendees. IBM also ran an introductory coding workshop on the night, while a fireside chat with Improbable CTO Rob Whitehead took place alongside a 'Breaking into Tech' panel with leaders in minority communities. We look forward to hosting such an important event against next year and partnering with more exemplary organisations at the forefront of tackling the prevalent issues of diversity in the tech sector.





National Grid Project



Last summer, engineers at National Grid were struggling with a problem they'd come across in the field; how to accurately measure the volume of an excavated hole.

After a National Grid Engineer finishes a job, whether it's an installation or a repair, the excavated hole needs filling in - National Grid generally contracts out this work. The contractor then charges National Grid for the labour and expense of the filling material.

National Grid could produce these models but had no way of calculating the volume from these holes.

They reached out to us to help them engage with students at Warwick by challenging them to design an iPad app that lets their engineers calculate the volume of a 3D scanned hole on the go. Students spent 6 weeks designing an iPad app that lets their engineers calculate the volume of a 3D scanned hole on the go - the winners have now gone on to refine their app with National Grid directly.

"WarwickTECH is a testament to the university's entrepreneurial presence. I would very much encourage everyone to follow WarwickTECH and attend their events even if they do not know any programming. Other companies must seize the opportunity to make use of the creative technical skills of the motivated students of Warwick University."

- Sirvan, Member of the Winning Team

Partnered Events on Campus

In early March, we hosted non-profit Mass Challenge, one of the largest accelerators in the world to the WarwickIncubator Demo Day providing the opportunity for 12 Warwick startups to pitch for funding and placement on the programme. Our startups have already made some incredible achievements, placing in initiatives including Seedrs, Makers' Academy, Startupbootcamp as well as gaining notable attention from the top newspapers and publications. We look forward to continuing working with Mass Challenge and other social impact organisations in the coming year.

At the end of January, we brought Mustafa Al-Bassam and L3 Technologies to the Warwick Technology Conference hosted by Warwick Engineering Society focused on cyber security - an increasingly important and relevant topic what with more and more of our day to day life relying on computers and the internet. Students spent the day hearing from a range of diverse speakers on everything from vehicle hacking to e-passports. Along with our blog posts in the EngSoc magazine, our partnership with them will only strengthen over the next academic year.



What is our plan?

For the 2016/17 academic year, our focus is on expansion, maintaining exponential growth and continuing to add value to our community of diverse technologists. There are a number of key areas we address to achieve our goals:

Diversity

Diversity is an incredibly important issue for the WarwickTECH team and is one of the biggest conversations in tech to date - and rightly so. We are fortunate to have leveraged diversity within our team beyond industry standards and are working hard to make sure that our community reflects that at the very least. Events like Tech Night LDN and partnerships with tech diversity leaders will allow us to come ever closer to achieving our vision of a diverse community of technologists on campus.

Long-Term Partnerships

Our partnerships with the School of Engineering, Computer Science Department and Warwick Business School have proved most valuable over the last 18 months. It is very important that we continue to fuel these partnerships so that we drive positive social change. It is clear to see that these deep relationships provide more value than either partner could deliver individually and we look forward to working with more internal partners and continuing to engage with our existing ones.

UK-Wide Engagement

Although the WarwickTECH mission started at the university, we managed to reach Duke University in the US within the first 6 months of our launch - clearly our reach is beyond campus. We look to work with exciting organisations like Mass Challenge, MLH and BCS to help us engage with leading innovators beyond campus to come and inspire our community to strive toward their dreams. Having already catalysed hugely successful projects and startups we look forward to helping even more people next year.

The Balance of Technical and Business Skills

WarwickTECH was founded because of a gap in the university community - there was nowhere for technologists to come together and share ideas, whether they had a technical or business background. Our mission extended beyond this issue very quickly but we still recognise it as a key problem to solve. Whatever background our members may have, we will always afford them the opportunity to diversify their skills and network so that they become the tech leaders of tomorrow. We are very excited to see what each person achieves in the future.



Images and Quotes

All images used in this brochure are from events hosted by WarwickTECH and our partners. Quotes are lightly edited for brevity. We invite you to visit our social media pages for even more!

Contact Us

To partner with WarwickTECH, get in touch with your contact for further information. If you have any ideas not mentioned here then please tell us - we will strive to make them a reality!

If you haven't spoken to us before, drop us a message at info@warwick.tech and we'll get you on track!



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