

# BABSON COLLEGE

The Babson Collaborative for  
Entrepreneurship Education

## BABSON COLLABORATIVE STUDENT NETWORK (BCSN)

### OVERVIEW

The Babson Collaborative invites students from member institutions to establish a local chapter of the Babson Collaborative Student Network (BCSN) at their school. BCSN Chapters serve as student-led organizations interested in fostering educational, cultural, and social connections with other chapters worldwide. The Babson Collaborative extends support by sharing resources, providing incentives, and establishing platforms to facilitate connections, but the effectiveness of each BCSN Chapter is determined by the active engagement of its leadership team and members, guided by a faculty advisor.

BCSN is a global university student network that fosters a dynamic community of future leaders committed to creating a better, more inclusive, and sustainable world. Working in collaboration, Chapters turn aspirations into actions that impact local and potentially global communities. BCSN is based on five pillars that reflect our vision for what the global network represents and can achieve through determination and collaboration:

#### Five Pillars of BCSN

- **Collaboration:** Embrace the power of teamwork within your BCSN Chapter and collaborate with other Chapters globally or within your region. Form diverse teams and leverage a variety of perspectives to develop and execute successful initiatives.
- **Leadership:** Step into leadership roles and cultivate your leadership potential. We encourage BCSN Chapter leadership teams and all members to lead by example, inspire others, and proactively drive positive change.
- **Entrepreneurial Mindset:** Think creatively and boldly through an entrepreneurial mindset. Take risks, identify opportunities, act quickly, learn from the experience, seize opportunities, and develop solutions to address challenges at your school and in your community.
- **Global Connections:** Expand your horizons and build connections with peers from around the world. Engage in global dialogue to deepen understanding of different contexts and perspectives on critical issues, identifying opportunities for collaboration.
- **Social Impact:** Be a catalyst for positive change in your university and local community. Draw attention to critical social issues, engage in service, and develop initiatives that make a meaningful impact on people's lives.

#### BENEFITS OF BCSN

- Develop a global network of peers with similar interests.
- Serve as a student leader from your school.
- Utilize your university resources and global network to plan activities and create new opportunities.
- Share your cultural and regional perspectives and learn from others about their unique backgrounds.
- Gain valuable insights from peers, entrepreneurship educators and other experts.
- Earn recognition from Babson through annual awards and increased publicity.
- Gain visibility for yourself, your BCSN Chapter and your school.

#### HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Schools that are members of The Babson Collaborative have an exclusive opportunity to launch a Chapter of the global Babson Collaborative Student Network (BCSN).
  - Schools must name a faculty/staff Advisor and Lead Student Ambassador to serve as the liaisons to the rest of the BCSN Chapters.

- Schools have a lot of autonomy.
  - Schools determine their own criteria for selecting/changing their BCSN Advisor/Lead Ambassador/Leadership Team/Members
  - Schools determine the specific structure and roles for their BCSN Chapter. Options include:
    - Create an official new club at your school
    - Exist more informally as a small team (like the previous BCSN model with four ambassadors)
    - Co-brand an existing entrepreneurship/leadership/international relations club at your school as the BCSN Chapter
    - Have the BCSN Chapter be a separate branch of an existing entrepreneurship/leadership/international relations club
    - Combine bachelor's and master's students or have a separate chapter for each level
- BCSN Chapters plan events/opportunities that are open to:
  - Members of specific BCSN Chapters (leadership teams or all chapter members);
  - Chapter members in a region;
  - Chapter members around the world; or
  - All students at all Collaborative member schools.
- BCSN Chapters regularly plan events and opportunities that are relevant and valuable, fostering connections and providing education on important topics through the lens of the host country's culture.
  - Events can be academic, cultural, professional development, competitions, panels, etc.
  - Events must have interactive components. Be creative.
  - Events can also be purely for social, networking and fun.
  - English is the official language for BCSN communications.
  - Events can be held in other languages if that is the primary language for the school(s) invited to participate.
- Examples of past events include:
 

○ Startup Scaling: A Whole Map to Success	○ Make it Big or Go Home (Featuring Chilean Startups and YCombinator)
○ Create Leadership in Chaos	○ Afghan Women Entrepreneurs Symposium
○ Power Women in Entrepreneurship	○ BCSN Connectors (networking events)
○ BCSN Prototyping Challenge	○ BCSN Olympics
- BCSN Platforms:
  - Directory: Contact information for Lead Ambassadors and Advisors
  - WhatsApp Group: For Lead Ambassadors, Leadership Team, and Advisors to initiate connections and share timely news, events, opportunities.
  - LinkedIn and Instagram: Anyone can follow; BCSN Chapters may post

## BCSN ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

To host a BCSN chapter at your school, you must identify a lead student ambassador and a faculty/staff advisor. The chapter should be established and lead by an executive board/committee with various leadership responsibilities.

### REQUIRED ROLES

- **Faculty/Staff Advisor**
  - Primary liaison to the Babson (with Lead Ambassador)
  - Primary contact to other BCSN Chapter Advisors
  - Help students establish the BCSN chapter at your school
  - Advise, support and encourage your chapter's leadership team as they plan and execute meetings, events and initiatives throughout the year.
- **Lead Ambassador**

- Primary liaison to Babson (with Advisor)
- Represent your BCSN Chapter to the global BCSN community
- Share opportunities and seek collaboration with other BCSN Chapters
- The role of Lead Ambassador can be combined with another leadership position – that is up to your chapter.

## **SUGGESTED BCSN CHAPTER LEADERSHIP ROLES**

- **President**
  - Provide overall leadership and direction for the chapter.
  - Plan and lead chapter meetings and events.
  - Coordinate with other chapter officers and members.
- **Events Coordinator**
  - Plan, organize, and execute chapter events and activities.
  - Coordinate event logistics, such as venue, supplies, and scheduling.
  - Encourage and support chapter members as they plan events
- **Marketing Coordinator**
  - Create visually appealing promotional materials, including posters, flyers, and digital graphics.
  - Manage the chapter’s social media accounts, including regular posting and engagement with followers.
  - Write and edit content for chapter announcements, newsletters, and social media posts.
- **Secretary**
  - Maintain the chapter’s official documents and records.
  - Manage chapter correspondence and communication.
  - Responsible for submitting award nomination on behalf of the chapter
- **Membership Coordinator**
  - Maintain a database of your chapter members.
  - Organize recruitment activities.
  - Welcome new members and facilitate their integration into the chapter.

## **AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

The Babson Collaborative will recognize the hard work of BCSN Chapters through annual awards and through quarterly spotlights that celebrate the best BCSN program of that quarter.

### **QUARTERLY SPOTLIGHT: BEST BCSN PROGRAM**

The spotlight recognizes the most innovative and impactful program taking place that quarter, as determined by the Babson Collaborative leadership team. BCSN Chapter(s) will receive a Babson Collaborative certificate, with key individuals named and will be featured in various ways/on various platforms including, at minimum, the BCSN website, Babson Collaborative newsletter, and in LinkedIn posts, all of which will reach a global audience.

#### **Quarterly BCSN Spotlight Timeline:**

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Eligibility period	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
Nominations due	Nov 5	Feb 5	May 5	Aug 5
Winner announced	Nov 10	Feb 10	May 10	Aug 10
Interview/publicity	Nov-Dec	Feb-Mar	May-June	Aug-Sep

## **ANNUAL AWARDS**

Annual awards recognize exceptional BCSN Chapters and individuals who have demonstrated entrepreneurial leadership. Winners will receive a Babson Collaborative award and will be featured in various ways/on various platforms including, at minimum, the BCSN website, Babson Collaborative newsletter, and in LinkedIn posts, all of which will reach a global audience.

### **Annual BCSN Awards Timeline:**

Annual Awards	
Eligibility Period	June-May
Nominations Due	June 5
Winner announced	June 10
Interview/ publicity	June-May

### **BCSN Chapter of the Year Award**

The BCSN Chapter of the Year Award is presented to the Chapter that been the most successful throughout the year, based on five pillars that reflect our vision for what the global network represents and can achieve: Collaboration; Leadership; Entrepreneurial mindset; Global connections; and Social impact. Winner(s) will receive a Babson Collaborative award and will be featured in various ways/on various platforms including, at minimum, the BCSN website, Babson Collaborative newsletter, and Babson LinkedIn posts, all of which will reach a global audience.

### **BCSN Changemaker Award**

The BCSN Changemaker Award is presented to student members of BCSN who have demonstrated entrepreneurial leadership\* in the service of others. While the individual(s) must be a member of a BCSN Chapter, the efforts they are being recognized for do not have to be directly connected to BCSN. This award will not be given every year, only when we have nominees worthy of the high honor. Winner(s) will receive a Babson Collaborative award and will be featured in various ways/on various platforms including, at minimum, the BCSN website, Babson Collaborative newsletter, and Babson LinkedIn posts, all of which will reach a global audience.

#### **\* How Babson's defines Entrepreneurial Leadership:**

*Entrepreneurial leaders harness the power of relationships and put people first, and that enables them to take on, and solve, daunting challenges. Entrepreneurial leaders solve problems collaboratively. They value action and are outcomes-oriented. They believe that things can be better, and that they can make a meaningful impact. They inspire an entrepreneurial approach in others, which has the potential to create strong risk managers, exceptional uncertainty navigators, and highly skilled ambiguity explorers. These three traits work together, enabling entrepreneurial leaders to take action, solve problems, and create value while others are still analyzing the situation. This goes far beyond business, allowing entrepreneurial leaders to impact organizations, the economy, and society.*

This award was inspired by four BCSN students from Universidad del Desarrollo in Chile who utilized their network and resources to evacuate a peer studying at the American University in Afghanistan as the Taliban captured Afghanistan in 2021 and resettled her safely in Santiago, Chile. [Read more about the story here.](#)

## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

There are additional resources on how to launch and maintain an active BCSN Chapter on the BCSN website: <http://babsoncollaborative.org/BCSN> including answers to FAQs:

- How do I start a BCSN chapter at my school?
- What are BCSN benefits that I can promote?

- How can I encourage participation in the chapter?
- How do I motivate members if engagement is low?

Updated 11.22.23