

# Industry working group

## Remit

The YAS Industry Working Group has diverse membership base consisting of serial entrepreneurs, industry representatives and academic and support staff from universities. We are brought together under the common vision of building a thriving, prosperous economy in Scotland by enabling close working relationships between universities and industry and stimulating entrepreneurial spirit in Scotland. More specifically we work towards:

- ☞ Supporting **innovation** & knowledge transfer from Scottish academic and research institutions.
- ☞ Integrating **entrepreneurship** into the **academic curriculum**.
- ☞ Promoting **socially impactful** and **mission driven entrepreneurship** in the tech & STEM domains.
- ☞ Shaping **policy** directions to foster the above activities.

## Approaches

Our approaches are largely based on collaborating with bodies external to YAS and facilitating the discussion necessary in order to achieve our vision. Our main tool is the organisation of events that bring together all the ecosystem and its stake holders.

## Activities

Some of our activities included:

- On the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2017 the WG supported the organisation and promotion of an event with the aim of fostering socially impactful entrepreneurship in life sciences and healthcare innovation. The event included a panel discussion with Director and C-level key players from the Scottish life sciences, socially impactful investment and accelerators, discussing the challenges of the aim, but also proposing solutions. A socially impactful life sciences start-up competition followed (right). The outcome of the event was published on an influential online biotech portal and a whitepaper is currently in preparation.
- On the 8th June 2016, the Industry WG also hosted a knowledge exchange exhibition between academics and companies around the theme of antimicrobial resistance in advance of the talk by the Chief Medical Officer, Dame Sally Davis. The Industry WG partnered with the Health and Wellbeing Group and the Research the Headlines Group to deliver an afternoon of events.
- On the 2nd June 2016 there was a Follow-up of the Entrepreneurial Education Paper, which reached culminations at the Education Journey of an Entrepreneur event.
- In October 2015, The YAS Industry WG ran a joint pitching networking event for entrepreneurs with YAS, Converge, Saltire and RSE

