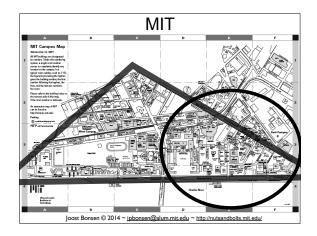
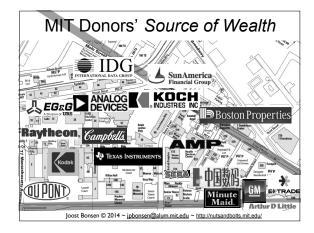


MIT Alumni Venture Exemplars		
AMCEN BIOGEN Genentech Inc. 25		
BOSE TERADINE DANALOG ThermoFisher SCIENTIFIC		
©aspentech atg. Avid. €IDG		
~ US\$ Hundreds of Billions in Market Valuation		
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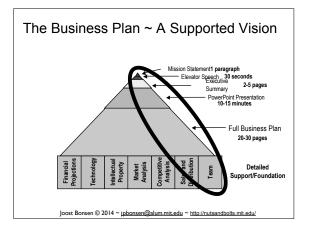


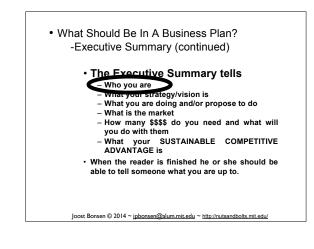


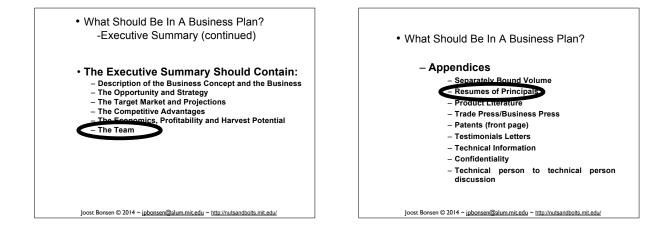
Today ~ People Issues • Why Care?

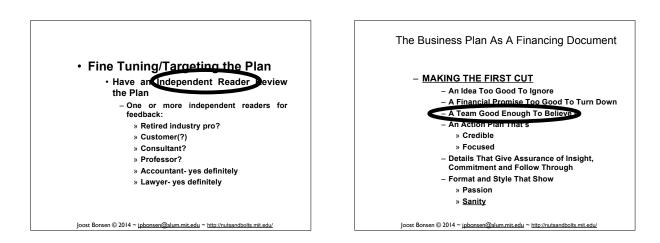
- Networking
- Team, Customers, Investors, Supporters, etc.
- Advisory Boards & Professional Counsel
 Personal & Organizational
- Teambuilding
 - Styles & Complementary Skills & Strengths
- Formalization of Venture - Equity & Roles & Phases
- Equity & Roles &
 Failure Modes
- Helping Others

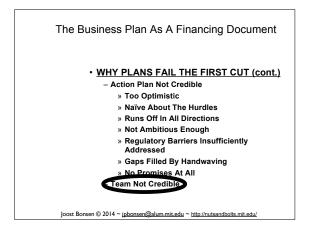
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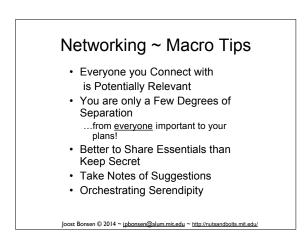


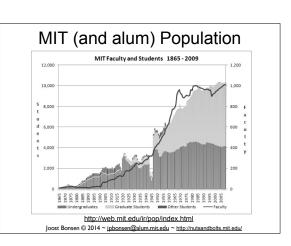


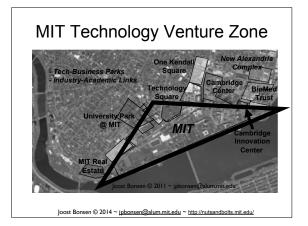
Networking ~ With Who, Why?

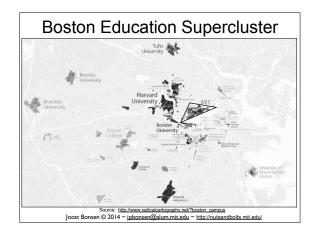
- Teammates
- Temporary Collaborators
- Customers
- · Supporters
- Partners
- Advisors
- Investors
- · Competitors

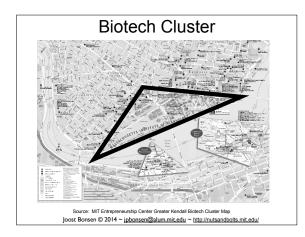
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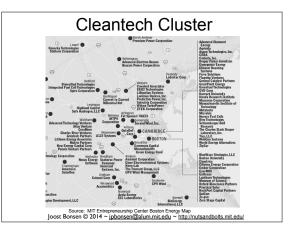


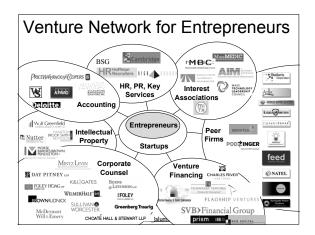


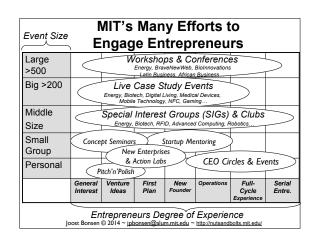


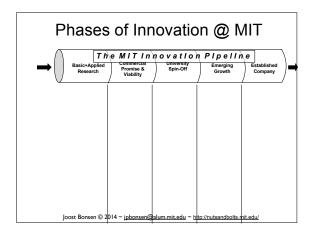


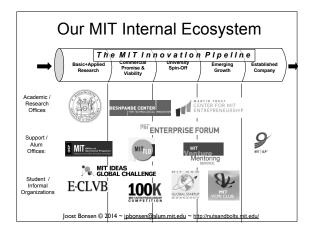


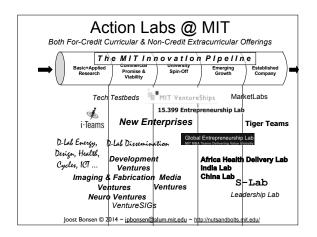


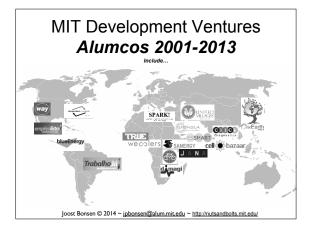














Where Find People?

- Word of mouth
 - Dorm connections
 - Department links
 - Alum ties
 - Colleagues & friends of classmates
- Lists
- IAP Events
 - Health & Wellness Workshop @ Media Lab, Big Data Hackathon @ Media Lab, QS Hackathon @ NERD, Build-Party @ MITERS, etc
- Extracurriculars
- Classes

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Networking ~ Digital Tools

- MIT Infinite Connection
- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- AngelList -- https://angel.co/
- What's your online presence?
 - Blog

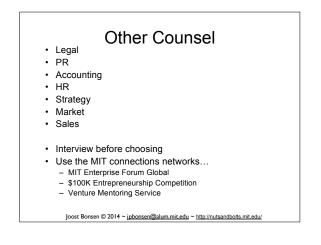
...

- Personal website
- "They will Google you"
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Advisors

- · Board of Advisors
 - Personal
 - Organizational
- Extended Informal Network
- Often better to seek advice than money...

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Teammates ~ What to Seek

- · Complementary Skills
- Getting to know people's strengths & weaknesses
 - (and live with the weaknesses)
- · Stress Test Them...
- Backgrounds of the People
 - Do they look like good fit on paper?
 - Are they in person !?

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Assessing Talent

- · Seeking Red Flags
- Due Diligence
 - Not enough to just call References
 - Meet in Person
 - Call beyond listed References
 - Follow-up gaps in resume, things they don't mention
 - Seeking out things they're uncomfortable with
- Advisors assess and co-interview
 - Especially if unfamiliar roles and skills involved

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Team ~ Plan Writing Tactics

- What is it about each team member that makes them essential
- Wordsmith bio & description to appeal to reader

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Who can you add as advisors?
 – (Get their permission!)

Choosing Co-Founder(s)

- · Communicating frankly, constructively
- Goal alignment
- · Agreeing on division of labor
- · Complementary skills
- · Experience together, ideally under stress

Co-founding a company like getting married

http://blog.eladgil.com/2012/02/how-to-choose-co-founder.html Joost Bonsen © 2014 ~ jpbonsen@alum.mit.edu ~ http://nutsandbolts.mit.edu

Phases of Commitment

- Role in Nuts, in \$100K, in Ventures classes, for Incorporation and beyond...
- Agreement to escalate to full-business should be win-win or no-deal, probably at each juncture
- What's a realistic role in the venture?
 CEO vs CTO vs Acting CEO
- CTO vs Founding Engineer
 MIT \$100K Legalities
- Risk of Premature Formalization

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Team Challenges & Failure Modes

- · Agreeing on How to Disagree
- · Founders Percentage Stakes
- Unrealistic Expectations
- Assessing talent from other domains of expertise
- · Character Surprises
 - ...lets illustrate with examples

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Character (& Personality) Surprises

- Misrepresentations
- Lying
- · Broken Integrity
- Mistreating others
 - ...Constantly be looking for clues...

Reputation is cumulative and long-lasting

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Core Team Disputes ~ Real Cases

- *Medevice* -- Inflated self-opinion; own-it-all
- Officegood -- Firing early bizguy; non-performance
- Softbotics -- Last-minute surprise disagreement
- · Chipco -- Lawsuit for founder fee during funding
- Softpix -- VC & CTO gang to eject founding-CEO
- Marketco -- Percent share ownership dispute
- Artco -- Mission creep --> Dispute brewing over time
- Winningco -- Bailout, take % prize fund

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Resolving Disagreements

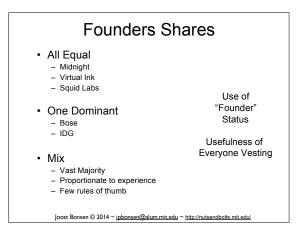
- Ideally have agreement on how to resolve disputes
- · Plus agreement to unite behind a decision
- Various mechanisms
 - Trusted Third Party
 - Mediation / Arbitration
 - Howtoons chose Rock-Paper-Scissors!

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Culture Crafting

- · Early decisions can be hard to shift from
- · Poor hires fester unless cauterized
- Cultural habits are developed from beginnings of company
- Founders set the tone, have biggest influence
- Aspiring for and designing the company to scale

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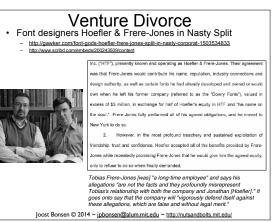


Unrealistic Expectations

- · Idea-person owns all (or Biz-person)
- · Inexperienced people expect central role
- "Be my own boss" means bossing others around

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- "We're all friends here" ...or "we'll all be professionals here"
- Better put it in writing



Going Forward --Practice Pitches Everywhere

- Keep refining
- Pitch to everyone
- · What are you doing
- · Why is it worthwhile
- · Who are you
- How do you do it
- · Where are you starting
- Practice this repeatedly and often to the point where it is second nature and you don't have the awkwardness of a memorized pitch, but it's smooth...

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Be Part of Bigger or Exploratory Project(s)

- Band together with classmates around larger, shared idea or interest group
- More neutral general domain
- Complements specific venture concept
- Examples...
 - Emerging Market Regional Airlines ~ Thesis
 - Brazilian Mobile Sector ~ Customers plus Startup
 - Agri Value Chain ~ SupplyChange and MIT Food/Ag Collab
 - DIY Kids Education ~ MIT Department of Play
 - Fashion Interest Group ~ Several proto-startups at MIT
- This allows you to explore a general area, collaborate between teams, and also to reach out more easily to interview people in competitive industries. Joost Bonsen @ 2014 ~ jpbonsen@alum.mit.edu/

Sectoral Interests (Groups)

- Geo x Tech x Market x Role x Phase
- Band together, reinforce each other, leverage your MIT time
- · Invites to coffee, beer, etc
- Start w/ grad students...
- Mine the alum DB

 <u>http://alum.mit.edu/</u>

Personal Action Strategy

- What can you only do at MIT?
- Leverage the brand
- Don't be too narrow
- All-purpose excuse to do nearly anything!
- Think holistically about your web of activities -- everything should mutually reinforce
- · Systematic weekly action!

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Rapid Iterations on Prototypes

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- Best ventures built on substantive product or service prototypes
- Start with workflow sketches, even simple mockups and pre-prototypes
- · Talk it through with peers and prospective customers
- Iterate and tweak and escalate
- The goal is to get better quickly and converge on your best possible start-product or service, which can include pruning your earlier, lousier ideas.

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Get Early Customer Feedback

- Tap Alum network
- · Look for friendly testbed users or markets
- Simple surveys
- Even preliminary data better than none
- Especially reach out to friends or alums in target market area or domain
- Be creative about early and cheaply validating market need and customer demand

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Help Each Other

- Suggest professional connections to friends
 & colleagues
- Send info links, tips
- · Brainstorm around ideas, names
- Be early test users and proto-market feedback
- Be temporary teammate for class or \$100K

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• Invest in the network and the talent, financially or otherwise

Particularly Good Venture Blogs

- Brad Feld -- <u>http://www.feld.com/wp/</u>
- Elad Gil -- <u>http://blog.eladgil.com/</u>
- Babak Nivi -- <u>http://venturehacks.com/</u>
- Steve Blank -- <u>http://steveblank.com/</u>
- Fred Wilson -- <u>http://www.avc.com/a_vc/</u>
- Reid Hoffman -- <u>http://reidhoffman.org/</u>

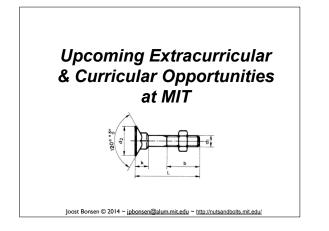
http://blog.eladgil.com/2014/01/5-people-who-destroy-your-culture.html Joost Bonsen © 2014 ~ jpbonsen@alum.mit.edu ~ http://nutsandbolts.mit.edu/

Top Entrepreneurship Resources at MIT

- MIT Entrepreneurship Center
- http://entrepreneurship.mit.edu/ MIT Deshpande Center for Technological Innovations
- http://web.mit.edu/deshpandecenter MIT \$100K Entrepreneurship Competition
- http://100k.mit.edu
- . MIT IDEAS Competition http://web.mit.edu/ideas
- MIT Technology Licensing Office http://web.mit.edu/tlo/www/ .
- MIT Venture Mentoring Services <u>http://web.mit.edu/ums</u> Lemelson-MIT Program <u>http://web.mit.edu/invent</u>

- MIT Enterprise Forum Global
- http://enterpriseforum.mit.edu/
- MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge http://www.mitforumcambridge.org/ ...and more!
- - Joost Bonsen © 2014 ~ jpbonsen@alum.mit.edu ~ http://nutsandbolts.mit.edu/

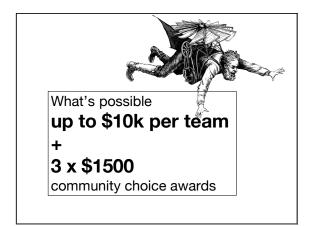










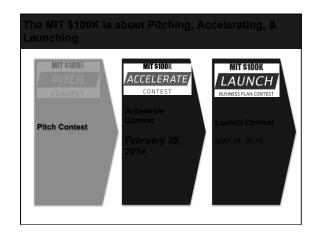


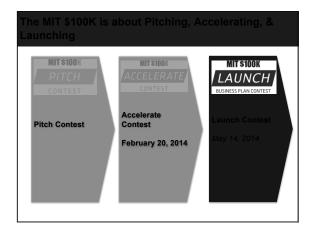






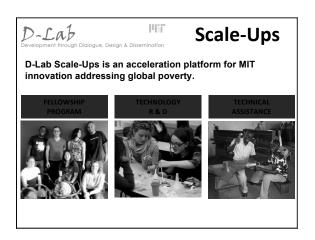
MIT \$100K	MIT \$100K	MIT \$100K
PITCH	ACCELERATE	LAUNCH
Contest	CONTEST	Business plan contest
	Accelerate Contest February 20, 2014	Launch Contest May 14, 2014

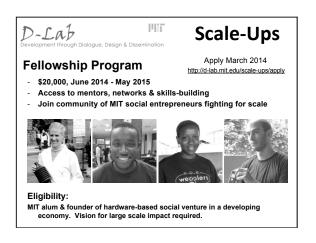


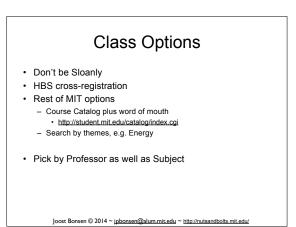


Key LAUNCH I February 20 th March 7 th May 14 th	Registration Opens Registration Deadline Finale	MIT STOOK LAUNCH BUSINESS PLAN CONTEST Launch Contest May 14, 2014

Apply to the *LAUNCH* contest Volunteer to help organize Attend our awesome events! INFO@MIT100K.ORG



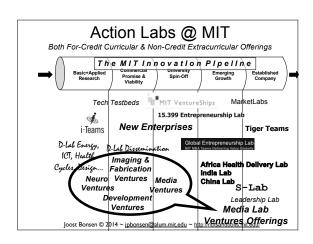






15.394 Dilemmas in Founding New Ventures

- The goal is to help you avoid startup-team mistakes:
 Who should I found with? Classmates? Coworkers? Family? Go solo?
 - How do we split the equity among us?
 - What is the "dark side" of VC & how can I keep from losing control?
- We use simulations, case studies, and guest speakers: – Negotiate the equity split for an actual company
 - Learn how to build a board; watch a real board meeting from a local startup
 - Hear from Bijan Sabet of Spark Capital, investor in Twitter & Tumblr
- Tues/Thursday 2:30-4 or 4-5:30 (more space at 4pm)
- Stanford, MIT Media Lab and HBS alum Prof. Matt Marx has 3 exits in the speech reco industry >\$1B
- Joost Bonsen © 2014 ~ j<u>obonsen@alum.mit.edu</u> ~ <u>http://nutsandbolts.mit.edu/</u>



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