Center for Food Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The Center for Food Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CFIE) is an integral part of the Leavey School of Business. Since its inception in 1973, the Center has graduated more than 1000 MBA students, many of whom now hold important management positions in food business firms as well as government agencies throughout the United States and the world.

CFIE offers a concentration in Food Entrepreneurship which combines a fully accredited MBA degree with an emphasis in food innovation, entrepreneurship, strategy and management.

- Students can engage in a range of opportunities including internships, international case study competitions, events, field trips, and networking.
- SCU is uniquely positioned to offer educational and career opportunities in food innovation and entrepreneurship. SCU is strategically located in Silicon Valley, approximately an hour away from the agriculturally-rich Salinas and Central Valleys as well as California’s Napa and Sonoma wine regions.

“There is no bigger industry on our planet than food and agriculture, with a consistent, loyal customer base of 7 billion. In fact, the World Bank estimates that food and agriculture comprise about 10% of the global GDP, meaning that, food and agriculture would be valued at about $8 trillion globally based on the projected global GDP of $88 trillion for 2019.”

Ingrid Fung, TechCrunch, The present and future of food tech investment

Financial Aid

CFIE awards up to $170,000 per year in financial aid and a maximum of $12,000 to students pursuing the concentration. The application can be accessed at scu.edu/business/cfie/.
This concentration empowers those who desire to make a real impact in the food industry. Students who complete the concentration will be able to: 1) identify key issues in the global food industry, 2) provide complex business recommendations through case analyses, and 3) create and articulate innovative solutions for an ever-changing and perishable supply chain.

**Erica Riel-Carden**, Principal, Global Capital Markets, Inc., JD ’15

SCU’s concentration in Food Entrepreneurship shines a light on the opportunities and importance of improving the environmental, human and social health of the food system. Students will learn about the intricacies and complexity of the food industry and supply chain that represents more than a trillion-dollar market and feeds every person in the nation.

**Peter Herz**, General Partner, 1st Course Capital, Co-founder & CFO, Foodsystems6

**IFAMA Case Study Competition**

MBA students can join SCU’s award-winning case study team as part of the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) annual conference. Students solve realistic business challenges and real-world issues and compete against teams from around the globe.

IFAMA 2018 in Buenos Aires was a fantastic experience. From the preparation, team building, faculty relationships, culture, and global networking; this opportunity was a great experience to test our skills on a global stage. I can’t thank CFIE enough for this great learning opportunity.

**George Borden**, E-Commerce Sales Manager, E. & J. Gallo Winery, MBA ’19

Contact Information
Center for Food Innovation & Entrepreneurship
408.554.4086, cfie@scu.edu, scu.edu/business/cfie

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
Leavey School of Business