

Thammasat SISU

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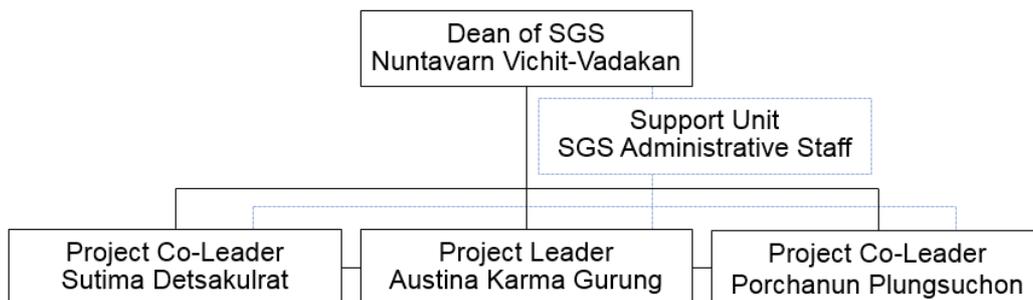
- Name of SISU: TU SISU
- Institution: Thammasat University (Rangsit Campus)
School of Global Studies (SGS)
- Description of team:

The team comprises of mainly 3 persons who report directly to the dean of the school.

- Prof. Dr. Nuntavarn Vichit-Vadakan: Dean of SGS
- Ms. Austina Karma Gurung: Assistant Dean for International and Student Affairs
- Ms. Sutima Detsakulrat: International Affairs and Student Affairs Officer
- Ms. Porchanun Plungsuchon: Research Assistant

See below for further details:

Organigram of SEASIN Project at TU-SGS



- Description of Department:

The School of Global Studies is a new and innovative academic initiative within Thammasat University and a front runner in global health and social innovation within Thailand, Southeast Asia and beyond with a track record of excellent research on determinants of the public's health, student centered teaching, and academic service relevant to community needs.

The School enjoys a unique position of being a national, regional and global focal point for global studies, human security and wellbeing with collaborative relationships with academic and professional communities.

- Position within University:

The school is quite young (estd. 2014), it provides international programs in two levels:

- BA in Global Studies and Social Entrepreneurship
- MA in Social Innovation and Sustainability

- Description of the Physical Space:

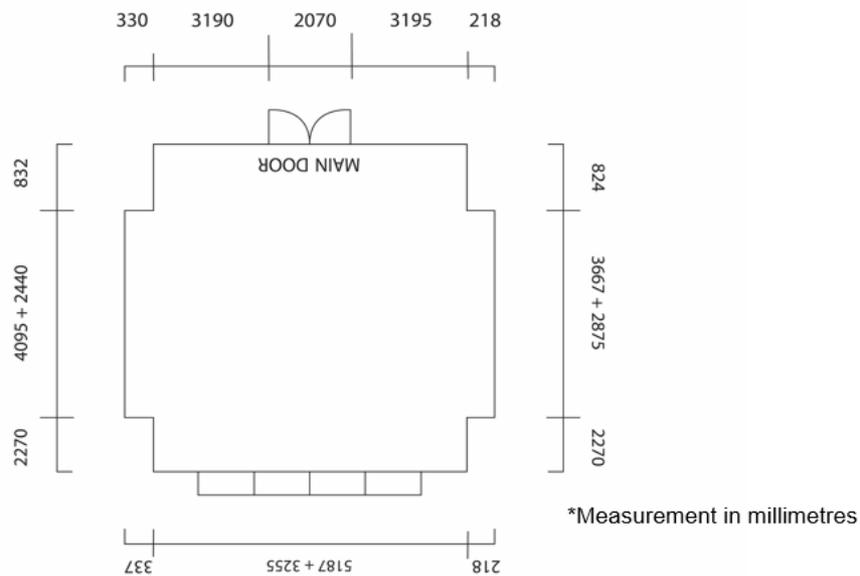
TU SISU occupies three physical spaces:

1. Makerspace
2. Co-working space
3. Media studio (floor plan not available yet)

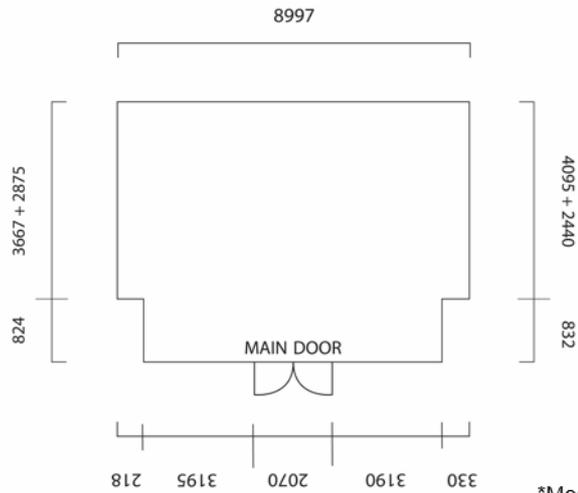
The makerspace and co-working space are at the old building that SGS used to occupy (TU-ARC) on the 3rd floor, the media studio is at the new building (Piyachart 2) on the 9th floor.

Floor Plans:

1. Makerspace



2. Co-working space



*Measurement in millimetres

TU Rangsit Map with building indicators:

Number 71 is the old building

Number 58 (Piyachart 1) is next to the new building

** As this is an old map, it does not have the new building listed
We will send a newer version when we get it



- SISU equipment and use

Makerspace

1. JWL – 1220VS - Variable Speed Wood Lathe 230 V
2. DC – 950A Dust Collector 230 V
3. PVC-Hose transparent, 100 mm, length 2.5 m.
4. JDP-10 M Bench Top Drill Press 230 V
5. 31A Combination Disc/ Belt sander 230 v
6. J – 8021 14 " Metal / Wood vertical bandsaw 1 PH
7. 3D Printer

Co-working space

1. 4 AIO Desktops, Dell
2. 1 Apple iMac 27 inch

3. 2 Action Cameras, GoPro
4. 1 Printer, Brother

Media Studio

1. iMac Retina 4k 21 Inch (2017)
2. Camera a7iii + 28-70mm zoom lens
3. RODE VideoMic GO
4. Camera Tripod
5. Wireless Lavalier - Movo WMIC50 2.4GHz Wireless Lavalier Microphone System with Integrated 164-foot Range Antenna (Includes Transmitter with Belt Clip, Receiver with Camera Shoe, Lavalier and 2 Earphones)
6. Camera Bag to Protect Gear
7. Lighting (3 lights)
8. Camera Stabilizer
9. White Backdrop
10. Light Stands (3 stands)
11. Google Cardboxes (60 pairs)
12. (Currently in procurement stage of more video recording equipment including a 360 camera in order to create interactive videos for learning processes)

- Services and activities

Currently the makerspace is being used by a faculty member to test produce 3D printer filament.

As the safety and security aspect of the makerspace has not yet been finalised, the space is not open to faculty, students, or anyone else lacking in experience and/or training to use heavy duty wood cutting equipment.

The co-working space is used by students as a study space for group work and brain storming sessions.

The space is also used to host workshops.

The media studio is seeing a lot of traffic from a combination of students, faculty, and staff alike.

The space and equipment are being used to produce media content and for projects.

- SISU Users

Students: Approximately 90+

Faculty: 13+

Staff: 6+

** Our stakeholders from Pakdome and Lukmai have expressed interest in using the media studio; however, due to their hectic schedule – we have not had a meeting to discuss this further.

- SISU Stakeholders

Students: Use the space as described above

Faculty: Use the space as described above

Staff: Use the space as described above

- **SISU Projects**

How we support them:

Pakdone: 3D printing

Lukmai: Incubation/mentoring

Echo: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

Fresh Coconuts: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

Hatch: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

NapLex: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

TTM: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

TukTuk: Incubation/mentoring/workshop(s)

Project Name: Pakdone

Our Beginning

The story begins with the dream and desire to lead self-reliant, sufficient and sustainable life. Through the course of pursuing the dream, I realize the importance of soil to farming. Preaching self-reliant lifestyle, I did not want to solve the issues with money. So instead, I picked up organic waste nearby my place for making compost to improve the quality of the soil. From every once in a while turned into every day; witnessing massive amount of waste going to the landfill and knowing how to make use of organic waste, I could not turn a blind eye. From two small restaurants and one fruit stall, I collected over 30 kilogram of organic waste each day. Until February 2017, I fell off the stairs, hurt my back and could no longer collect waste. It was at this point that I realized the flaw in my approach to tackle waste issue. I, together with two other co-founders redirected the approach by convincing people to manage their own organic waste at the source itself. We believe with the right tools and systems, waste is only resource waiting to be transformed. Pakdone is therefore constantly improving to create better tools and better waste management system for the better world.

Our destination: vision

We envision the world practicing the culture of sustainable living through connecting waste back to resource

Our vehicle: mission

To create an alternative waste management system that are driven by the people for the people through 1) raising awareness 2) providing and developing tools for waste management 3) increasing the value chain of waste with design

Project Name: Lukmai

*** pending*

Team Name: TukTuk

What is your social innovation project?

We want to be a platform that connects investors directly to highly skilled young people who wish to go back to develop their hometowns, outside of the capital city, to ensure the minimum cost with highest social impacts. On top of that, we want to liberate knowledge of social innovation and social entrepreneurship to local change makers to ensure the sustainability of the solutions.

There are over 100 NGOs around Thailand that work very hard to address social issues, yet, the issue such as poverty still keeps going on due to three reasons.

1) Change agents often come from outside of the communities or different countries. This makes it difficult when it comes to change in local level as it requires not only the understanding of the language but also cultures which allows change makers to create a relationship with communities members and understand problems in depth.

2) The solutions are not financially sustainable. Solutions that come from NGOs often are not able to be consistent due to the lack of financial support. This limits the potential for great solutions to succeed.

3) As communities rely on external change makers to bring about the change, they are not able to stand on their own when the change makers leave the community due to the lack of skills and financial support.

There are three reasons why we believe this project will be impactful.

1) Local people understand the problems best and they ensure the minimum investment with highest impacts. Allowing highly skilled young people to be able to go back and develop their hometowns enables them to tackle issues that matter most to the communities. With true understanding of the issue, they will be able to expand opportunities to other community members via social innovation and social entrepreneurship. Local change makers ensure solutions designed by stakeholders who really are involved with the issue to avoid the ineffective top-down approach that can harm the community. Having highly skilled local people work at home as change makers save cost and time. As they understand the people, the culture, and the language, things can go in a faster pace. Moreover, international travel expenses are not necessary as change makers are from the community itself. These local changes also serve the bigger purpose of achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations.

2) The liberation of social innovation and social entrepreneurship will make a revolution in development sector. And, it is scalable. This knowledge should be accessible to everyone as a right, not a privilege. Social innovation and social entrepreneurship are interdisciplinary, meaning that it can combine different expertise from change makers to collectively and holistically create solutions for their local problems. Not only they can deliver solutions for the wicked problems in the community but they also can be financially sustainable.

3) For the holistic development of the country, economic growth in Thailand needs to be decentralized. According to the statistics in 2018, Bangkok alone has the GDP of ฿5M million while it is ฿0.6 million in the north, ฿0.8 million in the south, and ฿0.5 million in the central of Thailand. Access to knowledge of social innovation and social entrepreneurship along with source of finance can be a solution to poverty in Thailand.

Why?

We are rule-breakers from Phichit, Sisaket, and Ayutthaya, and we want to break the cycle of brain-drain to seek for opportunities outside of our hometowns. We all realized that the purpose of our lives is never to just only live for ourselves. Instead, we believe in giving back to the people that made us who we are and where we are from. As young people who have to work very hard to find opportunities in Bangkok, we truly understand what it is like to leave home. It can be really lonely and painful, both for ourselves and the family we left. We want to change that by making going home a choice for everyone - going home for the betterment of our motherland.

This problem has two sub-problems;

1) The methods used in development sector always require external change makers from outside of the community, or even from a different countries. Not only it costs the higher expenses but also requires more time to implement due to language barrier and cultural differences. The root cause of the problem is the brain-drain situation among highly educated young people from outside of Bangkok migrates for the surge of better opportunities outside of their hometowns. Education is an investment and people tend to seek for opportunities that can pay off their investment. Going back home, outside of Bangkok, might not be the first choice among these talents as there are not as many opportunities to grow in their local communities compared to Bangkok. Financial stability is a huge factor that motivates this migration. When the solutions are from outsiders, local people are not able to be independent after the external change makers leave due to the lack of skills and financial support.

2) Work in development relies on donors and their financial support. This is because NGOs do not have a business model that can allow them to make the organization become financially sustainable. When an organization is not financially independent, the progress can be slow and may not be able to deliver the maximum impacts.

What makes this difficult is the lack of skills in social entrepreneurship. Social entrepreneurship in Thailand is coming but not yet successful. This is because of the limited access to knowledge in social entrepreneurship in development sector and among highly educated young people. The knowledge in social entrepreneurship can be the game changer to bring about opportunities to the least developed part of Thailand while making social change.

How?

We want to make a revolution in development sector of Thailand. We do this by connecting local talents with investors for solutions in community development. And, we ensure its highest impacts with social innovation and social entrepreneurship.

Our piece of the puzzle is that we are from Thailand and specialized in social innovation and social

entrepreneurship which we believe should be liberated to local people around Thailand. We also belong to the International Development Network that is made up of over 1000 social impact organizations in 65 countries that are ready to support our work. Moreover, we are good at connecting with people and building relationships which is very important when it comes to making community change. We believe that our experience and background can be very valuable to taking off this idea. Lastly, one of our team member will graduate in a few months and she is committed to continuing this idea afterwards.

We want to do two things;

- 1) Connect local talents to investors for solutions in community development.
- 2) Ensure the solutions are sustainable by using social innovation and social entrepreneurship as tools.

Team Name: Fresh Coconuts

What is your social innovation project?

Urban refugees in Bangkok, tackling malnutrition through food waste management. Food security is a basic human need. Enough food is being produced to feed everyone an adequate diet, yet it is not utilized and distributed properly.

Why?

We were inspired by the Courageous Kitchen Organization that we were introduced to in our TU100 class. The refugees do not have citizenship in Thailand, which inhibits them from getting a formal job. This leads to not having an adequate income to buy nutritious food. In order to tackle the root cause of the problem, we would need to work with the government, and understand about policies surrounding refugees in Bangkok. These policies are maybe influenced by other factors or stakeholders, which makes it hard to help the refugees in Bangkok solely.

How?

While the refugees wait for the government to grant them citizenship so they can find jobs, the food waste management system can provide them nutritious food while they still need the system. And by doing so the project also helps to solve the food waste problem in Bangkok. We are not trying to solve the root of the problem (citizen granting from the government). Our project will tackle the problem of a lack of access to nutritious food, as well as food waste management in Bangkok.

Team Name: 603's

What is your social innovation project?

To help newly graduated students to gain traction for their upcoming work life. The education system, apparently, does not equip and prepare the students to be ready to face to the real world. Youth unemployment and job transition rate in Thailand shows the uncertainty of people's life path and the effects related to psychological issues. This issue is often viewed as a personal issue that one should be able to handle by themselves, but we believe that this issue is caused by the larger system and they should be supported in a structural approach.

Why?

All group members share a common ideology on the holistic view of life and human development. The reason we choose to work on this topic is that we're surrounded by those who are facing this challenge. We feel the urge to create a constructive approach to help ease the pain of the new generation. We believe that the root causes of the problem involve the socioeconomic structure and education system that become constraints to people's choice and opportunity in life. It's a challenging issue because to solve it at the root cause must involve various stakeholders as the problem itself has many crucial touchpoints to different sectors in the society.

How?

Our role is to be a hub for people who have an unclear vision of their future to reconnect with themselves with self-exploration sessions. We're not coping with the whole complex issue, but focusing on individual's self-realization and life planning with the aim to create a ripple effect in a broader level.

Team Name: NapLex

What is your social innovation project?

Innovative solution: Flexible and affordable napping space for university students

The scope of the project:

- Project objectives: Provide comfortable, flexible and affordable napping space for university students.
- Vision: To have energetic, creative and active students in every afternoon class.
- Mission: To nourish student's capacity to concentrate and make the most of the learning.

The nature of the problem being addressed:

- University: University schedule puts students study in the long period of time in both morning and afternoon, which causes anxiety and exhaustion for them.
- Student: A large number of students fall asleep in afternoon class due to lack of appropriate napping space, leading to pressure to their mental health. Therefore, they are not fully active and engaging in class.

The reason for your work:

- We are working to utilize existing resources in university to turn into flexible napping space for every student so that they can refresh their minds for the afternoon classes.

Why?

a. According to our experience, we observe that most of GSSE students from year 1 to year 4 have got exhausted in the afternoon class. Also, currently, it is researched that up to 60% college students experienced bad quality of sleep. Moreover, it is essential to take a short nap to both regain the energy and prepare for the long period of afternoon class.

b. The root cause of this problem is that students are ignorant for the importance of a short nap and also in university campus, there are no appropriate places that officially allow students to take a nap, leading that they can be hesitant and afraid of sleeping.

c. The first obstacle is the collaboration with university to have a proper space for napping. Secondly, It is financial challenge to supply and build a separate space just for napping. The problem is that students just use this kind of room or space for a short period of time per day in noon; therefore, napping room can be a waste in other times.

How?

a. First, we initiate innovative idea to utilize existing resources for napping space and bring the importance of a short nap to both college students and university officers. Second, we are in charge to guarantee a qualified and comfortable nap so that students can feel refresh and energetic.

b. Our part of solution is that we can create a comfortable napping space that utilizes available resources inside university campus and combine online booking platform to navigate the accessible needs for all college students.

c. We are taking efforts to solve part of problems which is to create an innovative napping space to match with student's conditions.

Team Name: TTM

What is your social innovation project?

a. The scope of the project:

Students in the age range of 15-18 years old. (100 students)

Both in public school, private school, students who dropped out of school
Klong Luang, Pathumthani, Thailand

b. The nature of the problem being addressed:

The problem that we aim to address is lack of strong cohesion between the family members especially nowadays that parents and children seem to spend less time together. This problem might not considered as a mainstream social issues, nonetheless, it is undeniable that the family, as a first and fundamental institution of the society, creates huge impact on the children and the whole society. This problem is quite not apparently noticed because it comprises of different aspects whether it be the cultural belief, social and parents expectation.

c. The reason for your work:

A board game is accessible for everyone. Participants are allowed to express themselves and enjoy while improving an interaction between each other that leads to a closer or stronger relationship.

Why?

What is your reason for being interested in this topic?

Based in our own experience, there are some topics that we could not talk to our parent even though we wanted to. This incident is quite common for Asian cultures that parents would somehow play the major in children's lives. With the good intention, parents expect their children to gain higher education, get the job that secure their lives however it sometimes creates a lot of pressure towards the children without parents

knowing. Since many of Thai students are facing this ambiguous issue and it makes them feel uncomfortable. Therefore, we desire to take action on this issue.

High social expectation pressures children in everything they do and children at this age range are in a turning point, where they might be faced and influenced by surrounding such as friends, social media, or studying, motivations and advices from family are needed to help children find a right way to walk. Lacking of relationship in family can potentially create many social problems such as criminals, teenage pregnancy, and violence.

As the society has developed to be more urbanized, both parents are going out for work and children are spending time at tutorial schools, which reduce time and conversation that family members supposed to have together. These incidents slightly extend the gap between parents and children and eventually, the relationships between them become faded.

What is the root cause of this problem?

It is crucial in the modern age that every adolescent are capable of not only with academic skills but also with social skills. The most significant ability is to communication and exchange thoughts. Although having a conversation seems mundane, it is an issue that many people face. As family is the first institution that children develop their cognitive skill, so to strengthen the communication skill, it should starts within the foundation of society. Therefore, this review will discuss about the importance of conversation in family and how board game can strengthen the communication skill in both family and other area of social institutions.

The influence of conversation is indispensable. It contributes to the self-development of the individual. Initially, this development forms in the first institution, family, where people learn and socialize. To reinforce these skills, a conversation in the family must be constructed as it is the factor that creates a personalities, behavior and identities of children (Bietti 2010). The self-concept that these children have will be be unstable, the instability which later creates family issues and other social issues, if the family does not communicate. The significance of conversation is also mention in another study (Edward & Middleton 1998) said that the Conversation among family member is the key to build cognitive skill of children. It is a tool that provides rich information and story which contribute to the development of children's identity and also forming the memory through recalling the events and exchanging the idea. Therefore, it is accurate to say that conversation in family does play a vital role in child's development and the key is to engage the parent talk to their child as Lev Vygotsky(1978) said "the distance between the actual developmental level as determined by independent problem solving and the level of potential development as determined through problem-solving under adult guidance, or in collaboration with more capable peers". To clarify this statement, it means that in order to develop, the child must engage in the activities that build communication and collaboration with experienced people. Thus, this is the reason why parents should have a healthy conversation with their child.

The benefits of conversation might beyond one be able to imagine. However, it is still hard for modern-day family to communicate since the family is busy and has a hard time to comprehend each other stories and lifestyle. Thus, board game might be a new tool to strengthen family communication as board game is a common experience shared among most of modern-day family members. The reason why board game is very common can be told by the age that it existed as one study (Ghory 2004) mentioned "generations of humans have taken up the challenge of board games across all cultures, creeds and times, the game of chess is fourteen hundred years old, backgammon two thousand years but even that pales to the three and half millennia that tic-tac-toe has been with us". So this overlapping experience contributes to forming of group identity and collective memory. It is also the activity that can create a group dynamic which is great for building shared experience. The events that family remembers together will construct enabling them to rethink and remind the events within the family through having an interaction (Dijk 2008).

What makes it difficult to solve?

Problem in family is a sensitive topic that can be perceived in various dimensions and caused by different factors such as financial status, beliefs (in terms of religion and norm), and social expectations. Moreover, it requires a participation and willingness from parents and children in order to solve the problem. As the world develops every day, a perception of how parents see the world prone to be difference from children's, which makes it more difficult to make them understand each other.

How?

What is your role in solving this problem?

We are going to use board game as a mediator to connect or improve the relationship of family members which there is no limitation in access, meaning any kinds of family can use this board game; it does not have to be the one that has a relationship problem. We aim to be a tool to reduce the gap between family members and build sympathy on them in order to understand different perspectives of each other.

What is your piece of the puzzle?

Academic information and statistic are required for doing a research on the problem. In order to successfully create our work, we also need groups of people for prototyping the board game, which we can use insights or experiences from the groups as a data to improve the board game. Moreover, a feedback or advice from people who are expert in the field of board game and family counselling are an important contribution to let us fill all pieces of the puzzle.

Are you trying to solve the entire problem? Or, which part of the problem is your work trying to solve? We specifically focus on the relationship in family because it is a fundamental social institution of the society that shapes people's mindsets and personalities. Lack of family's relationship can be one of the factors that cause social issues such as criminals and teenage pregnancy. Just like the iceberg, the problems that we usually notice such as crime, drug, teenage pregnancy, are on the top of the iceberg. However, below the water there are the problems that we do not apparently notice which we believe that lack of strong cohesion in the family is one of them. Hopefully, by addressing this issue may indirectly relieve the problems that are seen on the iceberg.

Team Name: Echo

What is your social innovation project?

a. E-commerce local Thai fabric

-The locals have the skill and knowledge to produce the fabric, but lack opportunities to better promote and the budget to sell their products. Our goal is to provide a platform for the locals and consumers. In addition, we are also supporting a small social enterprise that works with Thai local fabric.

b. The problem is that in the local community, they produce local fabric. Moreover, the products are eco-friendly. However, Thai fabric is not popular and out-of-date and so it does not provide locals with a stable income.

c. We want to promote goods in a convenient and innovative way to conserve Thai fabric.

Why?

a. We want to provide a stable income for local people. We also promote responsible consumption and production by being a middle man. Thai fabric has faded away these days and we would love to conserve it because it represents the tradition of Thai local community.

b. The Thai fabrics are often viewed as untrendy and not functional to wear in everyday life. So, people lack interest in traditional Thai fabrics.

c. People lack interest in traditional Thai fabrics. The fabrics are often viewed as untrendy and not functional to wear in everyday life resulting in consumers not paying for this.

How?

a. Becoming the middle man by connecting between consumer and local fabric businesses. Also, provide transparency in the background of Thai fabric between the locals and consumers.

b. We are trying to address the gap between local people and consumer

c. We are not trying to solve the whole problem, but a small, yet important part of conserving Thai fabric by connecting the locals to consumers through an innovative platform.

- **Achievements and prospects for the future:**

Media Studio: the plan is to film online courses that the school is currently developing for general education.

This means that the students will not be only university students; but, participants from the general public.

Co-working space: Continue using the space for workshops and for students to use as their study location.

Makerspace: We are in talks with the engineering department on how we could potentially have some experts come in and coach some of our faculty members , staff, and students on how to use the equipment.

This will definitely add value to our curriculum as we have prototyping classes.

- Each partner should also include a short video showing the SISU and interviewing the team, users and stakeholders

** not completed yet