

## Reuben College Entrepreneurship Forum for graduate students

(sponsored by Reuben Foundation, Panacea Innovation and Mishcon de Reya)

The third Reuben College Entrepreneurship Forum will take place at Reuben College on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025. The keynote lecture will be delivered by **Dr Mina Bekheet (CEO, Panacea Innovation)**. Mina is a Millennial Serial Entrepreneur and Venture Capitalist. He is the Founder and CEO of Panacea, an innovative enterprise committed to discovering, launching, financing, and scaling the next wave of life sciences and health tech companies.

Between 80 and 100 graduate students from across the whole University are expected to attend the Forum, including 6 invited teams for a pitching competition after the keynote lecture, with a first prize of £30k and a second prize of £10k. These teams will have been pre-selected from the Oxford Saïd Entrepreneurship Centre and EnSpire programme, Oxford Venture Builder, as well as from Oxford University Innovation (OUI) and the Oxford Edge student entrepreneur programme, StEP Ignite.

The Forum will start with opening talks from Cath Spence from OUI and a Reuben Fellow, and Kirsty Lloyd-Jukes, Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Oxford Science Enterprises (OSE), who will explain how they help to support student entrepreneurship. We will then hear from CEOs who started their companies as Oxford students and gradually go further afield, before the keynote lecture and pitching competition.

The provisional programme is as follows:

### Session 1

1. 9.30: Lionel Tarassenko (President, Reuben College) – Welcome
2. 9.40: Catherine Spence (OUI and Reuben College)
3. 10.05: Kirsty Lloyd-Jukes (Entrepreneur in Residence, OSE)

10.30: Coffee break

### Session 2

1. 11.00: Patrick Brown, winner of last year's pitching competition
2. 11.25: Dr Christoph Birkel, founder and CEO of Brill Power
3. 11.50: Srey Tirunagari, Head of Customer Deployment, quench.ai

12.15 Lunch in Hall

### Session 3

1. 13.15: Andy Thompson (Silicon Valley and Reuben Visiting Fellow)
2. 13.40: **Dr Mina Bekheet (CEO, Panacea Innovation)**

14.30: Tea break

**Session 4 (Pitching competition)**

The final session will start at 15:00 and will feature the pitching competition, with each team of pre-selected students pitching their start-up ideas to the judging panel for 10 minutes. They will then have 10 minutes of questions from a Panel chaired by Nicola McConville. Other members of the Panel will be Andy Thompson, Kirsty Lloyd-Jukes, and Paul Bate.

17:00: Drinks and canapes

**Session 8**

Announcement at 17:30 of the winners of the pitching competition, who will receive a prize of £30k (with the runners-up awarded a prize of £10k).

Professor Lord (Lionel) Tarassenko and Catherine Spence  
Reuben College