The eighth annual Ocean Exchange, hosted in Savannah, GA, featured the fourth year of the BIG Pitch Award, sponsored by Georgia Southern University, College of Business Administration, Business Innovation Group.

The winner of the 2018 BIG Pitch Award in the amount of $10,000 USD is Vita Inclinata by a team from Seattle University. Vita Inclinata is a leading developer of chaotic motion control systems, providing counter swing systems to military agencies, private contractors and local governments for improved human safety and operating efficiency.

Dr. Allen Amason, Dean of the College of Business Administration at Georgia Southern University commented after the award was announced. "Vita’s Load Stability System has the potential for huge impact. Certainly they are to be applauded for developing a device will actually save lives. The pitch was compelling, and they’ve come a long way already. So, we’re happy this award will help them make the next big step in development. We’re honored to be a part of such a significant event”

In addition to the winning grant recipient, seven additional collegiate innovators presented sustainable solutions to a distinguished group of conference guests representing business and industry, entrepreneurs, academia, government, and NGOs. Schools represented in the finalist round were from NYU, Yale, Brandeis, UC Santa Barbara, Texas State, Boston University, Virginia Commonwealth, and the Monterrey (Mexico) Institute of Technology and Higher Education with solutions in fields of energy, robotics, and agriculture/aquaculture.

About Ocean Exchange

Each year, the Ocean Exchange seeks innovative, proactive and globally scalable sustainable solutions with working prototypes and applications that can cross industries, economies and cultures, in a competitive process in which two $100,000 and one $10,000 awards are granted to early-stage companies.

About Georgia Southern University Business Innovation Group

The Business Innovation Group (BIG) at Georgia Southern University, located in downtown Statesboro, GA, is the business outreach arm of the university, committed to developing a vibrant entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystem for the southeast region. BIG provides resources for students and entrepreneurs to gain skills and training necessary to understand business principles, experience how businesses operate, and successfully launch new enterprises.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research University founded in 1906, offers 118 degree programs serving 20,673 students. Through eight colleges, the University offers bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degree programs built on more than a century of academic achievement. Georgia Southern is recognized for its student-centered and hands-on approach to education. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

For more information and a listing of major sponsors please visit www.OceanExchange.org or contact Millicent.Pitts@oceanexchange.org. She can be reached at 912-257-0209.

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