

Tech E-Workshop

Definitely, one highlight for the TRF cohort of 2023 was the Tech E-Workshop with Dr. Mike Lehman at the Wilbur Power House. Dr. Michael Lehman is a Professor of Practice at Lehigh University and serves as the Director of the Master of Engineering in Technical Entrepreneurship program. The TE program received national recognition for its role in talent development by the University Economic Development Association. Graduate students in the M.Eng. in Technical Entrepreneurship program at Lehigh University are well-versed in ideation at the intersection of disciplines such as engineering, natural and social sciences, business, and design. The TRF cohort of 2023 had the chance to participate in this interactive workshop and meet American students from the TE program. At the outset of the workshop, a list of societal problems meaningful to the group was created. Subsequently, the students from the UA Ruhr and Lehigh University were divided into groups. Each group was tasked with selecting one societal problem and generating ideas on how to overcome or minimize the issue. The five societal problems were: "Decrease the number of war conflicts," "Decrease the number of homeless people," "Increase the use of renewable resources to boost sustainability," "Improve energy systems," and "Ensure freedom of the press." Ideas were documented using sticky notes. Finally, each group presented their outcomes. This interactive workshop aided the fellows in expanding their ideation toolkit while simultaneously broadening their professional network. Following the workshop, a lunch provided the fellows with an opportunity to network with American students and get to know one another.

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