

Founder Testimonials

Lan Huang

CEO, SEED Therapeutics
Life Sciences, '24-25 Cohort Graduate

“The NYU EFL program helped to teach scientific founders to bridge the high-science idea to sustainable and scalable business enterprise. The engagement from the EFL team and experienced and dedicated mentors elevates the learning experience. In short, this is the best start-up bootcamp to attend for scientific founders.”

Moran Snir

CEO, Nest Genomics
Digital Health, '24-25 Cohort Graduate and
Elizabeth Elting Venture Fund Award Recipient

“EFL came at the perfect time for us, we were focused on preparing for growth, building out our commercial team, and scaling up. The mentorship was thoughtful and hands-on, and the community was incredibly supportive. It really helped us sharpen our focus and take the next step forward with confidence.”

Tuhin Bhowmick

CEO, Pandorum International
Life Sciences '22-23 Cohort Graduate

“The best gift of EFL is perhaps in bringing together a group of like-minded - startups working on scientific breakthroughs with potential to be transformative to the society, and trying to translate them into high growth businesses. I feel honored to be a part of such a high energy community, driven by purpose”

Amy Thomson

CEO, Moody Month
Digital Tech, '23-24 Cohort Graduate and
Elizabeth Elting Venture Fund Award Recipient

“We have learned a huge amount and have been inspired by the quality of both mentorship and companies involved. Running an early-stage tech company is challenging and isolating, but this program has transformed it into a motivating experience, providing an incredibly supportive community to alleviate the sense of loneliness.”

Mentor Testimonials

Arthur Klausner

Life Sciences Executive and Investor
EFL Chief Mentor

“You've got the mentors, you've got a wide range of experiences there. You've got the MBA students who actually do some real work, and that's important. And the overall length of the program, at something like nine months, is something where you can really create some value. And I've never heard any of the graduates say, ‘Boy, it wasn't worth my time, wasn't worth my effort.’”

William O'Farrell

Co-Founder and Former CEO Body Labs, Speechworks
EFL Chief Mentor

“I haven't been in an environment where you're bringing together such high-quality operators, seed funders, and scientists regularly to advise startups. It's a powerful mix - there are some really smart people in that crowd.”

Elizabeth Elting

Founder and CEO of The Elizabeth Elting Foundation
Founding Partner of EFL

“I think that these entrepreneurs, these founders are so fortunate that EFL exists. When I see what they are given, I see how fortunate they are. I mean, they're amazingly talented and they have so much to offer the world. But having Stern provide the mentorship to provide the potential investors and then the wonderful talent and expertise of the MBAs, I mean that I would have loved to have had that.”

Promise Phelon

Founder and General Partner of Growth Warrior Capital
Digital Tech Mentor

“The thesis that Deepak developed for the program is low volume/high conviction, which I would say allows the mentors to get to know the companies, to get intimate with what their challenges are, and to talk amongst each other about how we can help.”

MBA Student Testimonials

Jeremy N.

EFL Class of 2025

“EFL gave me a better understanding of how early-stage startups actually work. Biotech startups often differ from tech in how they raise money, the timelines, and how much longer it takes to get to market. Working with Rejuvenation Technologies really brought that to life for me. Choosing the right disease to go after first, figuring out cash flow and runway, and balancing long-term vision with immediate investor needs is a very tricky balance.

Overall, EFL helped me connect the dots between theory and reality. It showed me that startups are messy, expensive, and take a long time, but with the right strategy and investor relationships, a founder can make it.”

Chunge Y.

EFL Class of 2025

“The EFL course had a significant impact on my understanding of early-stage entrepreneurship and venture capital. It provided a hands-on view into the founder–investor dynamic, from ideation and product-market fit to pitch preparation.

By working directly with a seed-stage company, I gained a deeper appreciation for the practical challenges founders face, including refining their value proposition, balancing vision with execution, and navigating investor expectations. In particular, this engagement made me far more familiar with the R&D lifecycle and FDA approval pathways—and how these technical and regulatory milestones directly affect investment timing, risk assessment, and valuation.”

Kyle C.

EFL Class of 2023

“The scope of this program was greater than anything I could have imagined. For me, it was an introduction into the ecosystem of startup ventures and investors, the work that they do, and the personalities involved. Prof. Hegde's coursework taught me highly applicable knowledge about entrepreneurship. Working directly with the startups was also extremely rewarding as I was able to apply my current coursework to help my startup achieve their goals. Coming from a background in healthcare and marketing, EFL has given me opportunities to demonstrate my business acumen through real-world challenges in other business contexts. I can confidently say that EFL was a priceless chapter of my MBA experience!”