

Founded
2008

University
University of California,
Davis

C4E Program
Green Technology
Entrepreneurship Academy
2008

Alumni
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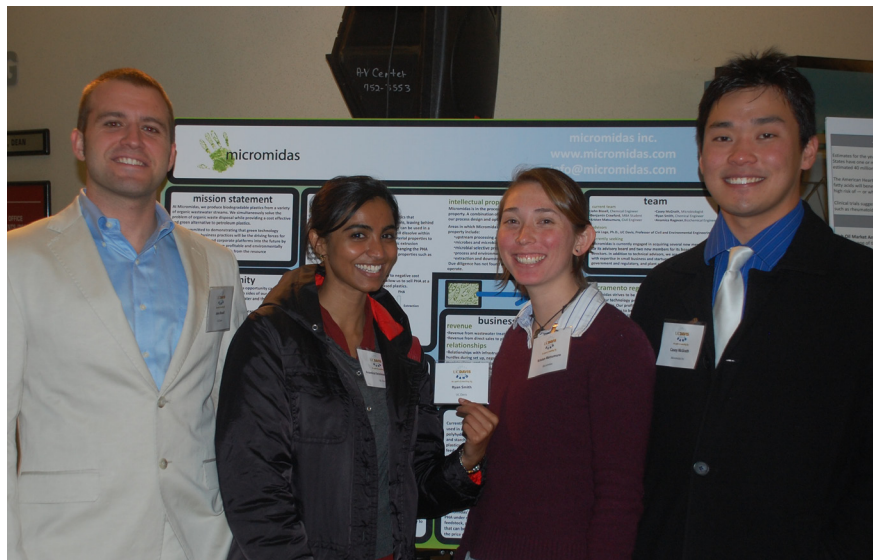
MicroMidas

Biodegradable plastics from wastewater

Each day, millions of tons of useless plastic waste accumulate in the environment, sending landfills past capacity and playing a role in the ever-rising costs of garbage disposal.

Founded by four UC Davis graduates with degrees in engineering and microbiology, MicroMidas has developed a process for converting organic waste streams like municipal waste water, agricultural and food waste, into pure-grade polyhydroxylalkanoate, a highly marketable biodegradable plastic. The process consumes carbon and other nutrients from the waste stream that would otherwise have to undergo such costly processes as incineration or chemical treatment. The research and technology won first place in the 2008 U.S. EPA People, Prosperity, and Planet (P3) competition for sustainability.

The company incorporated in fall 2008, after founders John Bissell, Casey McGrath and Kristin Matsumura attended the Green Technology Entrepreneurship Academy. It quickly secured seed funding to secure lab space and begin developing and testing the technology.



“GTEA provided us with a wealth of resources that were absolutely necessary for our progression as a commercially viable entity,” said Bissell. “The knowledge and experience provided by the multitude of executives, investors, and attorneys was invaluable in directing our first steps beyond the University, and will continue to guide us for the foreseeable future.”

