Seena Amidi ’13 (left) welcomes his dad, Saeed Amidi, back to campus for SBA DAY ’11.
Saeed Amidi, Alumnus, Founder/CEO
Plug and Play Tech Center

Keynote Speaker at Menlo College’s SBA Day ’11

Saeed Amidi, alumnus, founder/CEO, Plug and Play Tech Center was the keynote speaker at SBA Day 2011. He discussed his past 30+ years as a highly-successful international businessman and entrepreneur. He described how he started his lucrative world-wide plastics and bottled water businesses and proceeded to become an integral part of Silicon Valley through investing in his strategic partnerships. This is an excerpt from his speech on being a successful entrepreneur:

...When you meet someone, ask yourself where can this relationship take you? What can you do for each other? What sort of business model could you generate that would be sustainable for both parties? Being honest and telling people what you want from them and what you could deliver to them are the keys to success. Then, have the right partner in your business. Choose the right partner because it’s a tough journey. A lot of times, I’m telling you, I cried a lot. I’m a crybaby anyway, and I cry in movies and stuff. To cry because the business is not going well is bad but there are days that you feel like crying because you have worked hard and a certain wall comes in front of you. If you have a team member, they can lift you up, or you can lift him or her up on the tough days, so I really believe in a team. I believe in working in groups rather than individually. Relationships and connections are important. I really cannot emphasize enough the students you are sitting with. If you can hang around the ones who have more drive, more passion, and keep in touch with them, you could do great things in life.
SBA DAY ’11: A Timeless Tradition is Honored

November 17 was an unusual Thursday for Menlo College: there were no classes, but the campus was filled with people—students, alumni, faculty, and staff. The Menlo community gathered for the School of Business Administration (SBA) Day. After the morning kicked off with a networking breakfast and keynote speech by Saeed Amidi, Menlo alumnus and Founder and CEO of Plug and Play Tech Center; everyone could choose one of six breakout sessions to attend. The day rounded up with a Mini Business Plan competition where five teams of freshmen presented their projects to a panel of judges, as well as their fellow students, faculty, and staff.

Students had a choice of six breakout sessions to attend.

Alayna Negrillo awarded for being the “Most Engaged Twitterer.”

Tweets on SBA Day

I hope Menlo will continue to have SBA Day because this is a great experience!! Yay for SBA Day!! @anegrillo

You know its legit at #sbaday11 when the wrestlers you see daily are suddenly in suits @koto_Mateh

It’ll cost you nothing to dream... And everthing not to so dream big at Menlo College:) @Gustavo11Lopez11

It’s not what the ACORN can do for you, it’s what YOU can do for the ACORN @kpsmith7

Thinking about Saeed Amidi’s theme from #sbaday11...reminds me of a quote “luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.” @DerekStimel

Great return of Menlo SBA Day - Congrats to SBA Adv Brd and speaker - Saeed Amidi, SBA alum/Plug&Play founder. Need more alums! @addisonMkt

Fantastic keynote address by Amidi, glad to have been here to hear it. Inspiring, and good advice about how to succeed. @profmichelson

The #SBAday11 made me realize that coming to @menlocollege was the right decision… @vmena10