

2025 Annual Report



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Letter from the Executive Director



Dear GCEC Community,

Resilient. Creative. Purpose-driven. Scrappy. Those are some of the traits that make a successful entrepreneur, and they're the same traits that define the leaders and teams at our entrepreneurship centers. In 2025, the challenges have been real, yet so much continues to go right. Students continue to launch new ventures. Faculty and researchers continue to innovate. Mentors still share their expertise. And through it all, we support our entrepreneurs and each other.

Because this is an annual report, it's tempting to focus solely on everything the GCEC has accomplished during the past year. But right now, I'm most energized by what's ahead. In 2026, just as in 2024, we'll offer our members two opportunities to come together: the second annual Global Summit in São Paulo, Brazil, July 23–25, and our annual Conference next fall at Florida State University.

We'll keep expanding ways to connect beyond our in-person gatherings. New virtual programs will give members opportunities to share ideas year-round. We're also launching a research study on entrepreneurship center activities and outcomes designed to provide valuable benchmarks to help you strengthen your work.

For now, we're thrilled to bring the 2025 GCEC Conference to one of the most breathtaking places in the world. More than a year ago, I drove to Lake Louise and Banff during my first visit to the University of Calgary. I instantly knew this was a place where people should come together. The natural beauty and crisp mountain air left me inspired. Coupled with the vibrant energy of the city of Calgary and the university campus, it was clear this was a fantastic location for our conference.

The University of Calgary planning team has crafted an outstanding experience focused on Resiliency and Inclusivity in Innovation. I hope you reconnect with friends, meet new collaborators, and leave inspired. My immense gratitude goes to the Calgary team for their dedication, excellence, and signature Canadian warmth.

Whether you're a long-time member or new to the GCEC, thank you for being part of our community and contributing your expertise, curiosity, and passion for entrepreneurship.

Cheers!

Holly DeArmond
Executive Director at GCEC



>Welcome to the University of Calgary



Dear GCEC Community,

On behalf of the University of Calgary's Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking, I'm thrilled to welcome you to this year's GCEC Conference.

Over the coming days, we look forward to sharing best practices, launching new initiatives, and strengthening our collective efforts to empower the next generation of entrepreneurs and changemakers.

This year's theme, "Resiliency and Inclusivity in Innovation," reflects a core belief at UCalgary: entrepreneurship should be a force for positive impact and accessible to all—not just the privileged few, and we are committed to fostering innovation that positively transforms lives and communities.

As an institution, we support entrepreneurship in all its forms and foster an environment centred on collaboration. By bringing the GCEC community to our city, we are tremendously excited to provide educators from across the globe with the opportunity to engage with like-minded individuals right here in Canada's entrepreneurial university.

We are also proud to welcome you to Canada's "blue-sky city"—a place of rich innovation history, from leading Canada's energy sector to our rapid rise as an emerging innovation capital, Calgary and UCalgary are where big ideas begin.

Thank you for being part of this extraordinary community. We are excited to share this experience with you.

Sincerely,

Kurt White

2025 GCEC Conference Chair

Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking
University of Calgary

Download the Conference App!



For the full conference experience—including the agenda, speaker bios, breakout session details, and more—download the 2025 GCEC Conference App. Simply scan the QR code and have everything you need right at your fingertips!



*Please note: A printed conference agenda is not available. All conference information should be accessed through the app.



▶▶▶ GCEC Board of Advisors

The GCEC Board of Advisors plays a pivotal role in shaping the strategic vision and supporting the efforts of the GCEC Headquarters. Through their generous commitment of time, expertise, and talent, the Board of Advisors helps the GCEC deliver on its mission to foster the exchange of best practices and promote collaboration among university entrepreneurship programs worldwide.

THANK YOU TO OUR MEMBERS:

Marwan Ayache
Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship

Tim Barnes
The Centre for Entrepreneurs
(London, UK)

Wendy Bolger
Loyola University Maryland

Johnetta Hardy
Bowie State University

Brad Burke
Rice University

Jessica Cooley
University of St. Thomas

Monica Dean
University of Southern California

Richard DeMartino
Rochester Institute of Technology

Rodney D'Souza
Texas Christian University

Jerry Engel
University of California, Berkeley

Hayes Ferguson
Northwestern University

Elissa Grossman
University of Southern California

Elaine Hagan
University of California, Los Angeles

Jeff Hornsby
University of Missouri, Kansas City

Gurpreet Jagpal
Aston University

Priscilla James
Baylor University

Donald Kuratko
Indiana University

Bruce Leech
DePaul University

Leith Martin
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Jennifer Mathieu
University of Connecticut

Ebony Miller
Rochester Institute of Technology

Michael Morris
University of Notre Dame

Henry Mortimer
University of Baltimore

Erick Mueller
University of Colorado, Boulder

Victor Padilla-Taylor
Yale University

Michael Panesis
California Lutheran University

Rasmus Rahm
Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship

Jeff Reid
Georgetown University

Linda Ricchiuti
Arizona State University

Nik Rokop
Illinois Institute of Technology

Gregory Thomas
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Rebecca White
University of Tampa

Ted Zoller
University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill

IN 2025, WE WELCOMED THREE NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF ADVISORS:

Ebony Miller is the Director of the Center for Urban Entrepreneurship (CUE) at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

Erick Mueller is the Executive Director of the Deming Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Michael Panesis is the Executive Director of the Steven Dorfman Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at California Lutheran University.



Board members at the 2024 GCEC Conference

The Advisory Board committees are where much of the board's work takes place, driving key initiatives and ensuring focused attention on critical areas such as Strategy, Awards, Governance, and more.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Gurpreet Jagpal (Chair)
Richard DeMartino
Elaine Hagan
Jeff Hornsby
Erick Mueller
Ted Zoller

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Bruce Leech (Chair)
Marwan Ayache
Wendy Bolger
Jessica Cooley
Victor Padilla-Taylor
Nadine Bentis (Ex-Officio)

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Monica Dean (Chair)
Brad Burke
Elaine Hagan
Jeff Reid
Nik Rokop

MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Jennifer Mathieu (Chair)
Johnetta Hardy
Linda Ricchiuti
Nik Rokop
Ebony Miller
Michael Panesis

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

Leith Martin (Chair)
Marwan Ayache
Tim Barnes
Hayes Ferguson
Jeff Hornsby
Michael Morris
Gregory Thomas

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

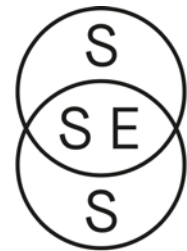
Jeff Reid (Chair)
Brad Burke
Rodney D'Souza
Hayes Ferguson
Elissa Grossman



»»» GCEC Launches New Teaching Certificate



In partnership with the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship (SSES), the GCEC is proud to offer The Educator Lab, a virtual certification program designed to enhance how members teach entrepreneurship.



STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Certified by the GCEC, The Educator Lab equips educators with cutting-edge tools, frameworks, and best practices for teaching entrepreneurship. The program integrates live virtual discussions, on-demand resources, and reflective exercises to support participants in developing practical, real-world approaches to entrepreneurship education.

“GCEC is my go to, trusted source for networking, best practices and new ideas. We’re looking to expand for-credit courses and extra-curricular workshops. The new The Educator Lab hosted by the Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship and certified by GCEC was a natural fit. I appreciated the opportunity to network with educators from multiple countries, access new reading materials and explore learning with an AI agent.”

—Mindy Baierl, Senior Director, Veale Institute for Entrepreneurship, Case Western Reserve University

The Educator Lab is ideal for a wide range of participants, including early-career educators, experienced faculty, and professionals exploring entrepreneurship teaching. Whether seeking to refine current methods or build new instructional capabilities, participants will gain meaningful insights that can be immediately applied in the classroom.

Participants can choose between two tracks based on their time commitment and budget. Both tracks include access to Sana, a cutting-edge AI-driven learning platform. Expert facilitators lead each session and emphasize peer collaboration. Core topics include Teaching & Learning, Course Design & AI Enablers, Examination, and Society, Ethics & Values.

The Educator Lab began as a research-driven initiative to reimagine the way educators teach and learn. Through multiple cohorts and continuous feedback loops, the SSES team honed every aspect of the experience – content, format, facilitation, and tools.



For more information on the program and to enroll, visit educatorlab.sses.se.

For questions about the program content and design, reach out to info@sses.se.

Center Leader Certificate

Developed and led by an international team of entrepreneurship center directors, the Center Leader Academy's (CLA) Center Leader Certification program offers comprehensive training in the essential skills needed to launch a center or serve as a first-time administrator.

In partnership with the GCEC, CLA supports the career growth of current and aspiring entrepreneurship center leaders across disciplines.

"Serving as the inaugural Executive Director of the CIE at Harris-Stowe State University, the Center Leader Academy Certification helped me develop new skills, connections, and confidence to take my leadership to the next level. It's not just a program—it's a community of powerhouse leaders that I am extremely proud to be a part of."

—Kristy Daniels Jackson, Ed. S., Cohort 2, CLA
Executive Director, Center of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, Harris-Stowe State University



THANK YOU TO THE CLA CO-FOUNDERS AND INSTRUCTORS:

Misty Fox
Syracuse University, Co-Founder,
Center Leader Academy

Gurpreet Jagpal
Aston University, Co-Founder, Center
Leader Academy

John Laurie
Co-Founder, Center Leader Academy

James Arvanitakis
University of Western Australia

Elaine Hagan
UCLA

Nina Lanzon
King's College London

Il Luscri
Washington University, St. Louis

Luis Martinez
Capital Factory

Erick Mueller
University of Colorado Boulder

Blake Petty
Texas A&M University

Steven Phelan
Kennesaw State University

Jeff Reid
Georgetown University

Melissa Roberts
Florida State University

Elinor Vettrano
Aston University

CONGRATULATIONS TO COHORT 3:

Mike Bradshaw
University of Tennessee Chattanooga

Aishwariya Chandrasekar
Maryland Institute College of Art

Cyrus Choi
The Hong Kong University of Science
and Technology

Luke Doster
University of Colorado, Colorado
Springs

Stan Hickory
University of Colorado Boulder

Jack Manzella
University of Louisville

Adam Melnick
Metropolitan State University of
Denver

Taryn Miller-Stevens
Babson College

Kevin Philipson
McMurry University

Caryn Rossiter
Bullis School

Beatrice Sirakaya
The Pennsylvania State University

Taleya Mayberry Smith
University of Tulsa

Isaiah Sparkman
Oral Roberts University

Farhan Zia
Toronto Metropolitan University



Pictured: members of Cohort 2 graduating at the 2024 GCEC Conference. Cohort 3 will be recognized at the 2025 GCEC Conference.

2025 GCEC Awards

Ceremony: October 4 at the TELUS Spark Science Center

The annual GCEC Awards honor and celebrate top centers, programs, and leaders in the industry. Winners of these awards serve as a benchmark for the best in higher education entrepreneurship. The award winners are announced on the final night of the annual conference.

Nine categories represent critical areas of entrepreneurship education and programming, with one award honoring an individual with a legacy of excellence and commitment to the GCEC.

- Outstanding Contributions to Venture Creation
- Exceptional Activities in Entrepreneurship Across Disciplines
- Excellence in Specialty Entrepreneurship Education
- Excellence in Entrepreneurship Teaching and Pedagogical Innovation
- Exceptional Contributions in Entrepreneurship Research
- GCEC Legacy Award
Given to an individual, not a university

Three award categories have two tracks: a track for schools with 7,500 or fewer students, and a track for schools with more than 7,500 students:

- Outstanding Emerging Entrepreneurship Center
- Outstanding Student Engagement and Leadership
- Nasdaq Center of Entrepreneurial Excellence

“Winning a global award judged by our peers is not only an incredible honor, but validation to our university, community, and stakeholders that we are on the right path to scaling innovation and entrepreneurship activities to drive economic development in our region.”

—Sharon Goldsmith, MA, MBA, Executive Director of Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programs, Tulane University Innovation Institute

Winner of the 2024 Outstanding Emerging Center Schools with Greater than 7,500 Students



“Winning the award was a powerful affirmation of our mission to build a world-class and inclusive innovation ecosystem at a student-centered university. It recognized the ambition, momentum, and collaborative spirit driving entrepreneurship forward at the University of Tulsa.”

—Chris Wright, Ph.D., Director, Center for Innovation & Entrepreneurship, University of Tulsa

Winner of the 2024 Outstanding Emerging Center Schools with Fewer than 7,500 Students



Want to learn more about the winning submissions? The GCEC website features the winning entries from past years.

THANK YOU TO OUR GCEC AWARDS COMMITTEE:

Gurpreet Jagpal (Chair)	Elaine Hagan	Erick Mueller	Ted Zoller
Richard DeMartino	Jeff Hornsby	Rasmus Rahm	

THANK YOU TO THE 2025 AWARDS JUDGES:

Barbara Agyapong	Jon French	Guy Levesque	Taya Sapp
Ryan Bain	Sandra Fujiyama	Il Luscri	Daniel James Scott
Paul Benedict	Lisa Getzler	Jennifer Mathieu	Phil Shellhammer
Wendy Bolger	Krystal Geyer	Sam McCabe	Matthew Smilor
Sara Cochran	Sharon Goldsmith	Amy McLain	Kassie Tucker
Jessica Cooley	Elaine Hagan	Erick Mueller	Ruth Weir
Amnon Dekel	Jeff Hornsby	Mike Panesis	Christoph Winkler
John Dick	Paul Jaques	Anne Perigo	Ted Zoller
Rodney D’Souza	Donald F. Kuratko	Rasmus Rahm	
Judi Eyles	Tracy Lea	Jeff Reid	
Hayes Ferguson	Bruce Leech	Nik Rokop	

▶▶▶▶ GCEC Leadership Circle

The Leadership Circle unites top universities committed to advancing entrepreneurship education and programming through the GCEC. These schools provide financial support and expertise, benefiting the GCEC and themselves by reinforcing their leadership role in the field. Support provided by members of the Leadership Circle is vital to the future of the GCEC.

PLATINUM CIRCLE SCHOOLS

BABSON COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY
DRIEHAUS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Coleman Entrepreneurship Center

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship

RICE ALLIANCE
Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship

TCU Neeley School of Business
Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
KEENAN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

IOWA
John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center

VENTURE LAB at the University of Pennsylvania powered by the Wharton School

UNIVERSITY OF St. Thomas
Schulze School of Entrepreneurship

VELOCITY

Western Morrissette Institute for Entrepreneurship
Powered by **IVEY**

GOLD CIRCLE SCHOOLS

California Lutheran University
STEVEN DORFMAN CENTER FOR INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

HKUST
ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTER
香港科技大學創業中心

JOHNSON CENTER
FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION
Institute for Entrepreneurship & Competitive Enterprise

Office of Entrepreneurship
LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

MIAMI UNIVERSITY
FARMER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
John W. Altman Institute for Entrepreneurship

NYU Entrepreneurial Institute

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY
Arnold Center for Entrepreneurship

ATM
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ELLER COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT
McGuire Center for Entrepreneurship

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS
Sam M. Walton College of Business

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
PACE Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship
SHIDLER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
ROBERT H. SMITH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
DINGMAN-LAMONE CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP

RIT Rochester Institute of Technology

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE
CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

UMassAmherst Berthiaume Center for Entrepreneurship

UMKC
BLOCH
REGNIER INSTITUTE
FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE KNOXVILLE
ANDERSON CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

LASSONDE ENTREPRENEUR INSTITUTE
DAVID ECCLES SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

VENTUREWELL.
idea to impact

SILVER CIRCLE SCHOOLS



babson.edu/blankschool



Some Institutions Build Programs.
BABSON COLLEGE BUILT A SCHOOL.

At a time when *values-based entrepreneurial leaders* are needed more than ever, Babson is helping them emerge and thrive around the world. Ignite your entrepreneurial leadership passion with the Arthur M. Blank School of Entrepreneurial Leadership.

BABSON COLLEGE
Arthur M. Blank School for Entrepreneurial Leadership

WE'RE UP NEXT!
Join Us At Babson College
For #GCEC2024!



The Coleman Entrepreneurship Center (CEC) at DePaul University empowers students, alumni, and community members to build and grow businesses. Located in the heart of downtown Chicago, the CEC serves as a dynamic hub where innovation, collaboration, and opportunity converge.

Student and Community Engagement

- Startup Advising Workshops
- Internship Programs
- Startup Clinic
- Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization
- Mentoring Program
- Social Impact Incubator
- Vidagua - Student Business
- Study Abroad Programs

Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

- Memberships with mHub, ISTC, & TechNexus
- Sunshine Enterprises Community
- Women in Entrepreneurship Institute
- Halperin Emerging Company Fund

Annual Events

- Student Innovation Expo
- Purpose Pitch Competition
- University Pitch Madness
- Hackathon Challenge



start something
Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship

INNOVATE at Iowa State

#14
in the country
by *Princeton Review*®
2025

2024 GCEC Entrepreneurship Research Award

2024 USASBE Model University Accelerator

2023 ACEEU Entrepreneurial University of the Year

2022 GCEC Nasdaq Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence

2021 USASBE Model Program Award Winner

GET INSPIRED.

start something
Pappajohn Center for Entrepreneurship



HOST OF THE RICE BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

Applications Open: November 2025
Competition: April 9-11, 2026



Connecting Startups to Capital, Networks and Success

@Rice Alliance
alliance.rice.edu



Programs

- Accelerators
- Training
- Mentorship

3,526 Startups Supported
RAISING \$27.8+ BILLION IN FUNDING



Events

- Funding
- Connections
- Pitches

\$31+ Million in Prizes
AT THE RICE BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION SINCE 2001



Ecosystem

Leading programming at the Ion - Houston's innovation hub

250+ Ecosystem Partners
LOCAL AND GLOBAL

#1 best graduate entrepreneurship program by Princeton Review six consecutive years - Jones Graduate School of Business

POWERING PROGRAMMING AT ION

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iondistrict.com

TCU Neeley Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation

TAKE THE LEAD ON INNOVATION



The **TCU Neeley Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation** champions big ideas that make an impact in the ever-evolving business world. It's a hub for creating connections and programs for students and community partners, empowering the innovators of tomorrow.

- From human-centered farm machines to real-time organ donor communication, the **TCU Richards Barrentine Values and Ventures® Competition** invites students from around the world to pitch ideas for conscious capitalism ventures that make a profit while also solving a problem. Winners take home thousands of dollars to help make their ideas come true.
- Our cross-disciplinary **Venture Builder Program** pairs vetted students with early-stage growth companies and consulting opportunities throughout DFW.



Neeley School of Business

Learn more about the institute's programs at neeley.tcu.edu/entrepreneurship



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Keenan Center for Entrepreneurship

Education | Experience | Mentorship | Community | Funding

400K

non-dilutive funding awarded to student-led ventures

240+

student-led ventures supported

STUDENT VOICES

“The people in entrepreneurship are so energetic and inspiring. I love being surrounded by that energy.” - Amani Kimball-McKavish

“I never really associated myself with having a legit business until I came to Ohio State. I just thought I had a side gig, but I found this path here.” - Jonah Mikesell

Empowering student entrepreneurs in their endeavors to change the world



Discover more at Keenan.osu.edu

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA JOHN PAPPAJOHN ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER



\$
MORE THAN
\$430,000
IN SEED FUNDING AWARDED TO
STUDENT BUSINESSES

**STUDENTS FROM
MORE THAN
90
DIFFERENT UNDERGRAD DEGREEES
ACROSS CAMPUS TOOK
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
CLASSES**

IOWAJPEC.ORG



The John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center (Iowa JPEC) is the hub for entrepreneurship education and outreach at the University of Iowa. We strive to prepare entrepreneurial leaders and innovators through interdisciplinary academic programs that integrate applied classroom learning, community and international engagement, and extensive co-curricular experiences.

MAJORS

- BBA Management with an Entrepreneurial Management Track (for business students)
- BA Enterprise Leadership (for liberal arts and sciences students)
- BBA Entrepreneurship

CERTIFICATES

- Certificate in Entrepreneurial Management (for any University of Iowa student)
- Technological Entrepreneurship Certificate (for engineering students)


BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

- Startup Incubator - student business incubator
- Okoboji Entrepreneurial Institute (partnership with multiple universities)
- Business Consulting and Internship programs
- International experiences
- Entrepreneurship student organizations
- Innovative events and competitions

2025 STUDENT BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS


General Robotics

Keegan Fogarty, an engineering student, is launching General Robotics with Iowa JPEC's support. Creating software to simplify automation for manufacturers. Proving innovation comes from any major.



CommonGround

Megan Minday, with support from Iowa JPEC, is redefining inclusion in sports, equipping teams and programs with tools and training to unite athletes with disabilities, and show that impactful change extends beyond the playing field.



VENTURE LAB/



Right now, more than 4,000 students are building, developing, scaling, and launch the next generation of world-changing ideas, concepts, and ventures.

We are the University of Pennsylvania's physical "start here" button for student entrepreneurship...

for those with a desire to challenge the status quo, and a determination to create meaningful change.

for those drawn to big ideas, excited by innovation, and eager to explore what's possible.

for those who thrive in collaborative environments, where your strengths in execution, strategy, or creativity can help a venture grow and succeed.

find your path.
start your journey.
lead the future.



get the inside track

115 S. 40th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

venturelab.upenn.edu [venturelab.upenn.edu](https://www.linkedin.com/company/venturelab-upenn)
venturelab@upenn.edu [venturelab.upenn.edu](https://www.instagram.com/venturelab-upenn)

#entrePENN eur



CHALLENGE YOUR STUDENTS. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Are your students driven by innovation and entrepreneurial spirit?

Join top universities from across the country in our acclaimed 2025 competitions. At **e-Fest—Home of The Schulze Entrepreneurship Challenge**, students compete for one of the largest undergraduate cash prizes in business plan history—an incredible opportunity to showcase entrepreneurial talent.

Encourage your students to tackle global social or environmental issues through the **Fowler Global Social Innovation Challenge**.

Students and advisors alike gain access to unmatched professional development and networking.

Learn more at stthomas.edu/schulze.

John Costello '25
Entrepreneurship and finance major

Founder of West Metro Solutions, a national commercial furniture and cubicle dealer specializing in new, remanufactured, pre-owned products.



Schulze School of Entrepreneurship | UNIVERSITY OF St. Thomas

VELOCITY

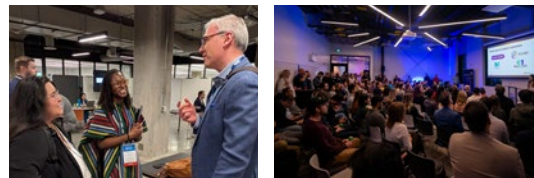


#1 school for entrepreneurs in Canada*



1 in 5 startup founders in Canada graduated from the University of Waterloo.**

Strengthened by the University of Waterloo, since 2008 Velocity has helped the founders of more than 500 startups achieve a collective enterprise value of \$40 billion, create thousands of jobs, and impact lives around the world.



In 2024, close to 1,400 students, translating to 395 student-led entrepreneurship teams were actively building with Velocity on campus, from idea-to pre-seed.

velocityincubator.com

*Pitchbook 2024 **2019 report from the University of Toronto Impact Centre



Western Morrissette Institute for Entrepreneurship



DID YOU KNOW?

#1

Largest contingent of entrepreneurship research faculty in Canada

250+

Student-focused events and networking opportunities annually

\$750K+

Awards, funding and scholarships distributed each year

6B

Raised by Western-run and Western-founded companies since 2021

1,000+

Top entrepreneurs from Canada's fastest-growing private companies, shaped through QuantumShift™

MORRISSETTE INSTITUTE FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY

Built for Impact. Built to Power Canada's Entrepreneurial Leaders.



JADE

Nursing Student and Entrepreneur

KARLIE

Fine Arts Student and Entrepreneur

RYAN

Computer Science Student and Entrepreneur



Western's Morrissette Institute for Entrepreneurship, Powered by Ivey, is open to every student from all disciplines and backgrounds. With access to courses, certificates, mentorship, funding, and Canada's largest alumni-powered network, students can turn their ideas into real impact. The new 100,000 sq. ft. **Ronald D. Schmeichel Building for Entrepreneurship and Innovation**—Western's first net-zero-energy facility—is more than a building: it's a launchpad where tomorrow's entrepreneurs cultivate their spirit. Inside: a digital lab, active learning classroom, and full maker space with 3D printers, woodworking, and metalworking tools. Wherever you are in your journey, Morrissette Entrepreneurship takes you beyond the start. entrepreneurship.uwo.ca

California Lutheran University

STEVEN DORFMAN CENTER FOR INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Connecting Innovation and Entrepreneurship to the Liberal Arts



Learn More at <https://bit.ly/clusdcie>

Visit Hub101, Cal Lutheran's Community Coworking Space



<https://hub101.org>

PURPOSEFUL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE

FROM THE ENTREPRENEURIOUS

TO THE FOUNDERS WHO

ARE READY TO FLY.



LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

香港科技大學 THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HKUST One Million Dollar Entrepreneurship Competition Platform 2026

The HKUST One Million Dollars Entrepreneurship Competition is a global platform designed to foster entrepreneurship development in Hong Kong and mainland China. Over the past 15 years, it has incubated more than 10,000 startup projects. In celebration of our 15th anniversary in 2025, we've introduced a new international student track, launched in 2024, which has already attracted over 70 applications from 22 countries. Join us for a chance to compete for a cash prize of USD \$20,000 and a free trip to Hong Kong!



Competition website



Join Us

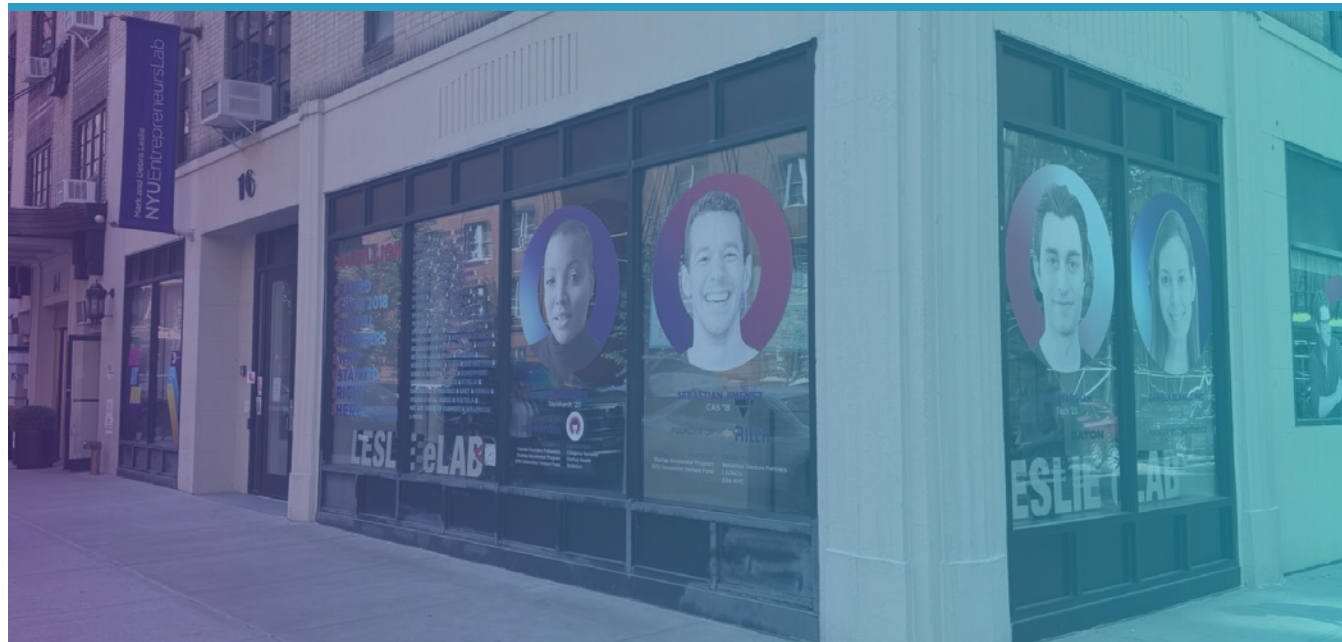
MIAMI UNIVERSITY | FARMER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
John W. Altman Institute for Entrepreneurship

Where ideas become ventures

AND VALUES BECOME IMPACT

We champion entrepreneurship as a mindset, empowering students from every major to launch bold ventures, tackle social challenges, and explore how faith and entrepreneurial purpose can intersect to shape meaningful change.





Helping NYU founders build scalable startups faster with training, funding, and community. Learn more at entrepreneur.nyu.edu.



THE HUB FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT TEXAS A&M



McFerrin Center for
Entrepreneurship

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

CURRENT STUDENTS

FORMER STUDENTS

VETERAN PROGRAMS

AN ATTITUDE THAT ACTS ON OPPORTUNITY

That's how the McFerrin Center defines entrepreneurship. In this spirit, we strive to deliver programs and events that are inspiring, engaging, motivating and life-changing. Our goal is to enhance entrepreneurial education by providing training, networking and assistance to enterprising students, faculty, veterans and former students.

The McFerrin Center enables the startup and growth of countless businesses and provides competitive opportunities, professional development and financial support to aspiring entrepreneurs in the Aggie community through the support of a robust volunteer mentor network, corporate supporters, faculty and staff.

Our philosophy has resulted in the McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship offering more than 30 unique programs each year that positively impact the lives of thousands of current and former students, high school students, veterans and other professionals seeking to blaze their own trail as an entrepreneur.

We invite anyone with entrepreneurial ambitions to EXPERIENCE MCFERRIN.

EXPERIENCE MCFERRIN

McFerrin Center for Entrepreneurship
Texas A&M University
4123 TAMU | College Station, TX 77843
1700 Research Parkway, Suite 130 | College Station, TX 77845
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@TAMUMcFerrin



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**STEPHEN F. AUSTIN
STATE UNIVERSITY**
Arnold Center for
Entrepreneurship

TOP 3 EMERGING ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS IN THE NATION

According to United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship

<p>\$150,000+ offered in scholarships each year</p>	<p>\$40,000+ awarded in pitch competitions each year</p>
<p>15+ unique entrepreneurship courses</p>	<p>4 different pitch competitions</p>
<p>\$40 million entrepreneurship center to open in 2027</p>	<p>100 entrepreneurial events hosted annually</p>

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
ELLER COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT
**McGuire Center for
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 Office of Entrepreneurship and Innovation

 heartlandchallenge.uark.edu



SHARED VISION, AMPLIFIED IMPACT

We are proud to announce our new name: **The Dingman-Lamone Center for Entrepreneurship.**

In recognition of our founder, Dr. Rudy Lamone, this renaming celebrates his pioneering role in shaping entrepreneurial education.

Our mission remains unchanged—his legacy continues to inspire.




UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
PACE Pacific Asian Center for Entrepreneurship
 SHIDLER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Celebrating 25 years

EDUCATING INNOVATIVE PROBLEM SOLVERS

Since 2000, PACE has empowered students at the University of Hawai'i to turn ideas into impact.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- ☑ **Walter Dods, Jr. RISE Center** – Entrepreneurial living learning community completed on time via historic public-private partnership, awarded LEED Gold certification.
- ☑ **\$10 Million Raised** – Funds support educational programs, 10,000SF innovation floor with recording studio and maker spaces, and student scholarships
- ☑ **GCEC Recognition** – 2024 Outstanding Student Engagement and Leadership
- ☑ **Local Acclaim** – 2024 Pacific Business News Inno Fire Awardee

@pacehawaii    

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Funding and support to activate the potential of university innovators

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VENTUREWELL.
idea to impact

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Host a GCEC Conference or Summit

GCEC convenings feature a distinctive, campus-based model. Each year, a host university opens its doors to entrepreneurship leaders worldwide, allowing them to showcase its programs, gain international exposure, and align its brand with GCEC. Since 1997, 26 universities, including four international campuses, have welcomed this flagship event.

Hosting a GCEC convening offers a unique opportunity to bring a global network of entrepreneurship leaders and teams to your campus for two to three days of networking, learning, and collaboration.

The GCEC Site Selection Committee leads the selection process. They receive letters of interest, select viable locations, and then invite them to complete an RFP.

OPPORTUNITIES TO HOST:

- **Annual Conference:** Our largest gathering, drawing 500–700 members each fall.
- **Global Summit:** Held biannually in June or July, Summits are held outside North America, with 150–250 attendees. We are now accepting letters of interest for the 2028 Global Summit.

THANK YOU TO OUR GCEC SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Leith Martin (Chair)	Marwan Ayache
Tim Barnes	Hayes Ferguson
Jeff Hornsby	Michael Morris
Gregory Thomas	

“By hosting the 2022 Conference, the Troesh Center strengthened its stature at the University of Nevada Las Vegas and our local ecosystem partners. The opportunity also amplified our reputation with academic entrepreneurship ecosystems, and among global entrepreneurship scholars.”

—Leith Martin, Executive Director, Troesh Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
2020 GCEC Conference Host (virtual), 2022 GCEC Conference Host (in-person)

JOIN A PRESTIGIOUS GROUP OF SCHOOLS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY HOSTED A GCEC CONVENING:

1997	University of Maryland, College Park	2014	University College London
1998	University of Maryland, College Park	2015	University of Florida
1999	University of Southern California	2016	University of Rochester and Rochester Institute of Technology
2000	Ball State University	2017	Dalhousie University, Saint Mary’s University, and University of New Brunswick
2001	Wake Forest University	2018	DePaul University and Illinois Institute of Technology
2002	Babson College	2019	Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship, Stockholm, Sweden
2003	Texas Christian University	2020	University of Las Vegas, Nevada – virtual conference
2004	University of Portland	2021	Loyola University Maryland and University of Baltimore
2005	University of North Carolina	2022	University of Las Vegas, Nevada
2006	Northern Kentucky University (with Univ. of Cincinnati and Univ. of Dayton)	2023	University of Texas at Dallas
2007	Syracuse University	2024	Global Summit at Sasin School of Management in Bangkok, Thailand
2008	University of Arizona	2024	Babson College in Boston, Massachusetts
2009	Rice University	2025	University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada
2010	Pennsylvania State University		
2011	University of Southern California		
2012	Georgetown University		
2013	University of Missouri, Kansas City		



If you are interested in hosting a GCEC convening, contact us at marketing@globalentrepreneurshipconsortium.org. You can find more details online at globalentrepreneurshipconsortium.org/host.



GCEC Headquarters & Conference Team



For 18 years, the GCEC was headquartered at Indiana University under the leadership of GCEC co-founder Donald F. Kuratko. In 2016, the headquarters moved to Rice University in Houston, TX, where the Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship serves as the global headquarters of the GCEC.

GCEC FULL-TIME STAFF:

Holly DeArmond
Executive Director, GCEC

Caity Hoover
Membership Administrator, GCEC

RICE UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP SUPPORT:

Brad Burke
Chair, Advisory Board, GCEC
Associate Vice President for Industry and New Ventures, Rice University, Office of Innovation
Executive Director, Rice Alliance

Quynhmai Nguyen
Executive Director of Operations for the Ion + Rice Alliance

THANK YOU TO THE 2025 CONFERENCE HOST THE HUNTER HUB FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL THINKING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY:

Kurt White
Specialist, Social Innovation, Conference Chair

Ricky Lam
Manager, Marketing and Communications

Guy Levesque
Executive Director

Tara Linsley
Executive Assistant

Ashley Regnier
Manager, Innovation Sandbox

Holly Hyatt
Operations Specialist

Kim Pasquino
Events Specialist

Evangelos Gnissios
Senior Manager, Operations, Venue West
Conference Services

Alex Titov
Manager, Facilities and Community

THANK YOU TO THE GCEC CONFERENCE COMMITTEE WHO SUPPORTED THE HOST TEAM:

Bruce Leech (Chair)
DePaul University, 2018 Conference Host

Jessica Cooley
University of St. Thomas

Marwan Ayache
Stockholm School of Entrepreneurship,
2019 Conference Host

Victor Padilla-Taylor
Yale University

Wendy Bolger
Loyola University Maryland, 2021
Conference Host

Nadine Bentis (Ex-Officio)
UNLV, 2020, 2022 Conference Host

2026: A Year of Global Connection

In 2026, GCEC members will have twice the opportunity to connect, collaborate, and celebrate—once in each hemisphere. First, we head south for the GCEC Global Summit, hosted by Escola Superior de Propaganda e Marketing (ESPM) in vibrant São Paulo, Brazil, July 23–25, 2026.

Then, we return north for the GCEC Conference, hosted by Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida, in Fall 2026 (exact date coming this winter). Two continents. Two unique experiences. One unforgettable year of learning, networking, and innovation.



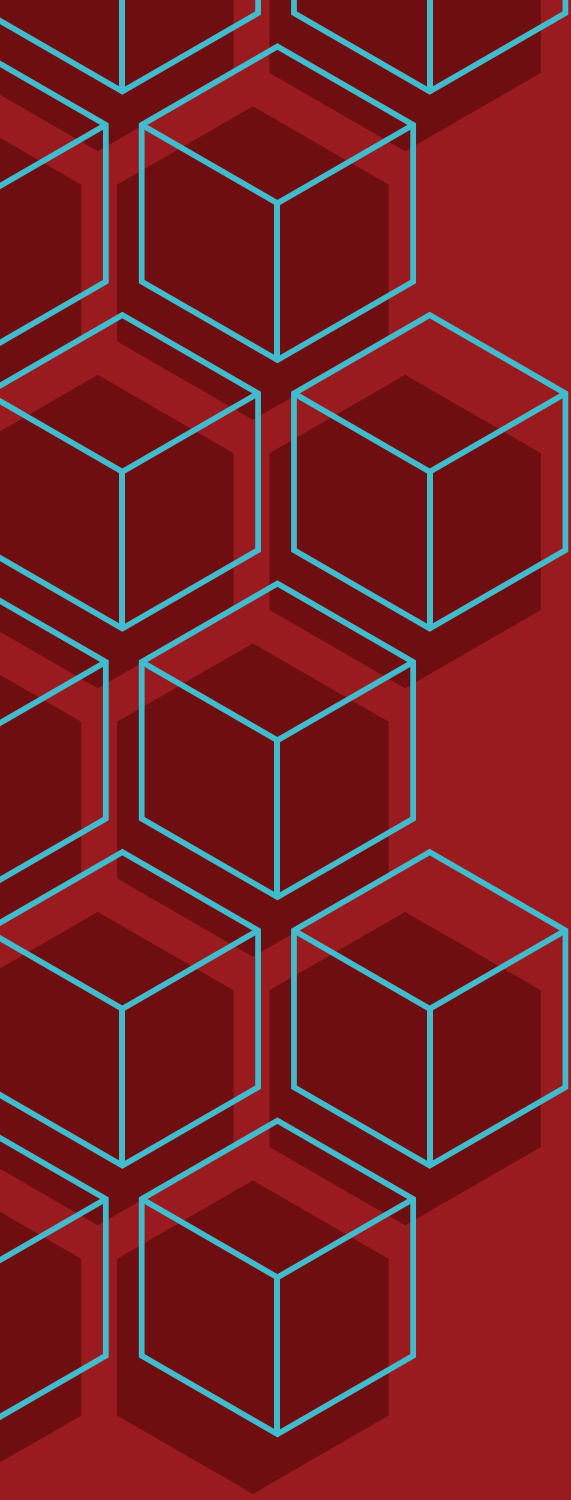
2026 GCEC GLOBAL SUMMIT HOSTED BY ESCOLA SUPERIOR DE PROPAGANDA E MARKETING (ESPM)

2026 GCEC CONFERENCE HOSTED BY FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Location: São Paulo, Brazil
Date: July 23–25, 2026

Location: Tallahassee, FL
Date: Fall 2026 (date to be announced in winter 2026)





Scan the QR code to
join us in the GCEC
Slack channel.

[GlobalEntrepreneurshipConsortium.org](https://www.GlobalEntrepreneurshipConsortium.org)

LinkedIn: Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers – GCEC

#GCEC2025