GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jeffrey Cornwall, D.B.A.
President, USASBE
The Jack C. Massey Chair in Entrepreneurship
Director of the Center for Entrepreneurship
Belmont University

It is with mixed emotion that I write this final “Greeting from the President” to all of you. I know that you will be in good hands when Mark Weaver assumes the presidency in January.

Thanks to all who agreed to run for the various offices open on our Board this year. Congratulations to those who will be assuming their new positions this January.

After much deliberation, the Executive Committee decided that our Central Office will remain at Belmont University for the next two years. I would like to extend our gratitude to Dean Raines of the College of Business Administration and President Fisher for their continued support of USASBE. Thanks to site selection committee that included Jeff Alves (Chair), Pat Dickson, Geralyn Franklin, Bill Jackson, Michael Meeks, and Mark Weaver. I want to give a special word of thanks to Mike Morris for shepherding this process.

Support for the work of USASBE continues to grow. I would like to welcome back the Kauffman Foundation as a sponsor. They have agreed to support our Doctoral Consortium, which George Solomon and Dale Meyer have made such a highly successful addition to our conference.

We have several new sponsors including VISA (thanks to ICSB for their work to bring this sponsor to USASBE), Emma, and SCORE. New university sponsors include Gardner-Webb University and the Journal of Ethics and Entrepreneurship, which is sponsoring a new
Eight Outstanding Preconference Sessions
By Michael Meeks & Matt Marvel

USASBE is pleased to announce an outstanding slate of pre-conference sessions taking place on Thursday, January 13th.

- Assessing Entrepreneurship Programs
- Teaching Entrepreneurship Legal Issues
- Publishing: Meet the Editors
- Teaching Family Business Courses
- Student Case Writing Competition
- New Law and Entrepreneurship Special Interest Group
- Teaching Entrepreneurial Finance
- Graduate Entrepreneurship Curriculum

Don’t miss this opportunity to take part in the cutting-edge conversations on these critical topics.

(Continued on page 3)

Jeff Cornwall

USASBE 2011 Hilton Head Update

Eight Outstanding Preconference Sessions
By Michael Meeks & Matt Marvel

USASBE is pleased to announce an outstanding slate of pre-conference sessions taking place on Thursday, January 13th.

- Assessing Entrepreneurship Programs
- Teaching Entrepreneurship Legal Issues
- Publishing: Meet the Editors
- Teaching Family Business Courses
- Student Case Writing Competition
- New Law and Entrepreneurship Special Interest Group
- Teaching Entrepreneurial Finance
- Graduate Entrepreneurship Curriculum

Don’t miss this opportunity to take part in the cutting-edge conversations on these critical topics.

(Continued on page 3)
topics. For details about all 8 available pre-conferences please click here to check out the pre-conference webpage. We highlight two of these marvelous pre-conferences:

**Publishing: Meet the Editors Pre-Conference**
What do the varying entrepreneurship journals look for in a manuscript? Please join us for a half-day session to discuss tips and strategies, differing editorial philosophies, topic coverage, and review procedures and other requirements that authors should know before submitting manuscripts. We have assembled an outstanding cast of editors from a broad range of scholarly entrepreneurship outlets. Journals represented include:

- Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice
- Journal of Small Business Management
- Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship
- Journal of Ethics and Entrepreneurship
- Family Business Review
- Journal of Family Business Strategy
- Journal of Management Education
- The CASE Journal

Participants are encouraged to ask questions that will assist them in developing high quality manuscripts.

**Assessing Entrepreneurship Programs Pre-Conference**
Assessment is undeniably one of the hottest issues across campuses, particularly for schools working to establish or maintain accreditation. In a long tradition of delivering meaningful and practical pre-conference sessions, USASBE is pleased to present a half-day workshop exploring best practices in entrepreneurship program assessment. Two unique measurement approaches will be presented and discussed. The pre-conference will focus on:

- Competency-based assessment;
- Developing student learning outcomes;
- Designing assessment protocols for measuring student progress relative to learning outcomes;
- Approaches to assessing non-curricular aspects of contemporary entrepreneurship programs;
- An expanded pool of resources to help those trying to implement assessment programs.

Successful Launch of Baylor-USASBE Student Case Research Competition
By Marlene Reed

The inspiration for this competition was the belief by Baylor that case research is a worthy form of academic research that should be encouraged and supported. Last year Baylor signed a contract with USASBE to host this competition at the annual conference for the next five years. Announcement of the competition was made at the conference last year in Nashville, and subsequently 25 student cases were submitted from 16 different schools. Several schools submitted multiple entries.

After reviews by 14 different case writers from around the country, six finalist cases were announced in November. These six finalist cases will be presented on Thursday, January 13, to a panel of three judges. The judges will select the top three winners, and the following awards will be made on Friday morning at USASBE’s general session: $2,000 for the first place winner; $1,000 for the second place winner; and $500 for the third place winner. In addition, abstracts of the finalist cases will be published in the Proceedings of the conference.

The deadline for submission of student cases for next year’s competition is Friday, Sept. 2, 2011. Faculty members are invited to encourage their students to write cases to be submitted to this event for next year. For additional information, please click here or contact Marlene_Reed@baylor.edu for further details.
USASBE 2011 HILTON HEAD: UPDATE CONTINUED

use of social media like Facebook, the members of the USASBE 2011 program committee drafted guidelines in the use of social media. Members can obtain these guidelines from Ethné Swartz at swartz@fdu.edu or Jo Roberts at jroberts@colum.edu.

Add USASBE to your Facebook. Search ‘USASBE’ and click ‘Add group’. USASBE is also on Twitter. Follow @USASBE.

Announcing the Career Center at USASBE 2011

USASBE is proud to announce that it will again host an onsite Career Center at the 25th annual conference in Hilton Head. Members will be able to use general or private interview space on a first-come first-served basis. New this year, job seekers can post their CVs at the USASBE website and list when they will be available at the conference to meet. The interview spaces are located within the confines of the conference breakout rooms. It is a safe and convenient location to conduct interviews, meet candidates, or provide information about your positions.

To make a reservation, email Mary Jo Jackson, USASBE Vice President of Placement/Career Center at maryjoj@mail.usf.edu. This year all career center service will be provided free of charge for USASBE members!

Celebrating Success in Entrepreneurship Education

Congratulations to the following for being ranked as “Top Programs” by Entrepreneur.com!

**Top Undergraduate Programs**

1. University of Houston
2. Baylor University
3. Babson College
4. Brigham Young University
5. University of Southern California
6. University of Dayton
7. Syracuse University
8. University of Notre Dame
9. Washington University
10. DePaul University
11. Xavier University
12. Temple University
13. Northeastern University
14. Lehigh University
15. City University of New York – Baruch College
16. Belmont University
17. Drexel University Philadelphia
18. Miami University, Oxford
19. The University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa
20. Loyola Marymount University
21. University of Wisconsin – Madison
22. University of South Florida, Tampa

**Top Graduate Programs**

1. Babson College
2. The University of Chicago
3. Brigham Young University
4. Rice University
5. Washington University
6. DePaul University
7. University of Southern California
8. Drexel University Philadelphia
9. University of Washington
10. Temple University
11. University of Wisconsin – Madison
12. Syracuse University
13. Simmons College
14. Wake Forest University
15. University of Illinois at Chicago
16. Chapman University

For a complete listing of the top programs, please visit [www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges](http://www.entrepreneur.com/topcolleges)
ICSB GLOBAL CONNECT

The United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) is the largest independent, professional, academic organization in the world dedicated to advancing the discipline of entrepreneurship, yet it also retains its affiliation with the International Council for Small Business (ICSB) dating back to 1981 (http://usasbe.org/about/History.asp). _ICSB Global Connect_ is an ongoing _LIAISON_ segment designed to keep USASBE members up to date with the latest information and news from this global partner.

Call for Abstracts - ICSB 2011 World Conference in Stockholm, Sweden

On behalf of the ICSB 2011 Organizing Committee, we are very excited to invite you to join us in beautiful Stockholm, Sweden, for the 56th Anniversary ICSB World Conference. Join well-known researchers, entrepreneurs, policy makers and business service providers from around the world under the theme, _Back to the Future_. We invite you to submit your paper, poster or workshop proposals to be presented during the conference. ICSB’s annual international conference allows members to share their expertise on the latest business developments and to receive constructive feedback from those researching similar topics. Over the last 50 years, the ability to develop these personal and professional contacts in other countries and across cultures gives ICSB members an advantage in the global marketplace. [Click here for more details]

ECSB Webinar: Getting Published

The European Council for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (ECSB) launches its Spring 2011 Webinar Series on January 27 with _Getting Published_. The presenter will be Professor Robert Blackburn, Kingston University London and Editor-in-Chief of the International Small Business Journal. [Click here for more information]
NEWS FROM THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Calling all Special Interest Group Members!
By Ethné Swartz

Feedback from the membership in January 2010 about the SIG meeting logistics caused us to make changes for the USASBE 2011 conference. Please note carefully when your Special Interest Group (SIG) meets. This year Joe Roberts has included a SIG Summit on Thursday, January 14, at 4:30 – 5:30pm. We have split the SIG meetings and you should check which day your SIG meeting is scheduled to be held. Instead of late afternoon (as we have usually done in the past), this year we invite you to grab breakfast from the Ballroom foyer and head to a breakout room assigned to your SIG. The assigned meeting rooms for SIG meetings will be in the proceedings and in the final programme.

Whitman School Conference on Entrepreneurship in Africa
By Peter Koveos

In the past couple of years, Africa’s business environment has witnessed positive and significant changes. The inaugural conference on “Entrepreneurship in Africa” was held in April, 2010, with over 100 scholars and business professionals from the US and many African countries attending. The conference was co-organized by the Africa Business Program at Whitman School of Management, Syracuse University and Makerere University Business School, Uganda.

Marilou Uy, the Director of Financial and Private Sector Development for the Africa Region at the World Bank, gave the opening keynote address on the competitiveness of African markets. Professor Lemma W. Senbet, the William E. Mayer Chair Professor of Finance at the Robert H. Smith School of the University of Maryland, gave the Luncheon keynote address on “African Finance Myths and Realities.” Discussion panels dealt with the “World Bank/IFC’s Doing Business 2010 Project: Relevant Findings for Africa; The Social and Economic Impact of Microfinance Institutions on Underprivileged Communities in Africa; Diaspora Investment in Africa; and the Impact of the World Cup on Venture Creation in South Africa and the Implications Beyond. Scholarly papers were also presented in sessions dealing in a variety of issues regarding entrepreneurship in Africa. Topics ranged from cross-country comparison of entrepreneurship and global experiences to financing entrepreneurial ventures in Africa to fostering the creative process of business development. Selected papers from the Conference will be included in a Special Issue on Africa of the Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship.

(Continued on page 8)
The Second Annual Conference on “Entrepreneurship in Africa” will be held May 22-24 in Syracuse. Click here to visit the Africa Business Program website at the Whitman School of Management for more details.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy

Launching in 2012, the *Journal of Entrepreneurship & Public Policy* (JEPP) was created to encourage and disseminate quality research about the vital relationships among institutions, entrepreneurship, and economic outcomes, and to improve the quality of the political discourse about entrepreneurship and development policies.

The journal seeks to publish empirically oriented papers and accepts a wide variety of empirical evidence, such as statistical analyses, simulations, case or historical studies, and survey, experimental, or computational methods. The journal also considers conceptual or theoretical papers that indicate a direction for future research, or otherwise advance the field of study.

Submissions are now invited for the inaugural issue, to be published in Spring 2012. Submissions to JEPP should be sent electronically to the Editor, Professor Noel Campbell (University of Central Arkansas, USA). Click here for more information, including author guidelines. If you have any further questions please contact Kieran Booluck.

Journal of Ethics & Entrepreneurship

The inaugural issue (Vol. 1, No. 1) of *Journal of Ethics & Entrepreneurship* (JEE) will be distributed at the upcoming 2011 USASBE Conference in Hilton Head. Members will receive a free copy of JEE in their registration packet. Be sure to visit the JEE booth at the Conference. JEE is a proud sponsor of the 2011 USASBE Journal of Ethics & Entrepreneurship Best Paper in Ethics and Entrepreneurship Award!

Manuscript submissions (conceptual, theoretical or empirical) or teaching cases that address the “relationship” between business ethics and entrepreneurship are now invited, to be published January 2012 (Vol. 2, No. 1). For consideration in this issue, please submit your manuscript

(Continued on page 9)
Western Connecticut State University Honors its Third Entrepreneur of the Year
By Fred Maidment

On October 6th, Paul Dinto of Dinto Electrical Contractors was honored as the third Entrepreneur of the Year of Western Connecticut State University at a luncheon on the Westside Campus.

Mr. Dinto founded his company in the 1980’s and it has grown to one of the largest electrical contractors in Connecticut, employing over 250 people with offices all over the state. The company specializes in commercial installations and has done some of the largest installations in the state including facilities for the State of Connecticut, and Yale University.

The luncheon was attended by over 130 people from the Danbury area and was the first luncheon event to celebrate the new Entrepreneur of the Year for Western. The program featured speakers from the University and the business community who discussed the importance of entrepreneurship in developing the economy of the western Connecticut region. Mr. Dinto will be joining the Entrepreneurship Advisory Board of the Entrepreneurship program at Western where he will be visiting classes and contributing to the program.

Looking for More Entrepreneurship News?

If so, you may find the following entrepreneurship focused newsletters of interest:

- NFIB SmartBrief... free daily briefing on top stories for small business owners.
- The Entrepreneurship Educator... free monthly newsletter aimed at those who teach entrepreneurship or are interested in moving into this rapidly growing discipline.

LIAISON is published quarterly by the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship. The Fall edition (Volume 22, Number 1) will be published on March 1, 2011. The deadline for submission of information for this edition is February 10, 2011. Please e-mail your materials to Mark T. Schenkel (mark.schenkel@belmont.edu), USASBE Assistant Vice President - Publications, Newsletter Editor.