



CENTER FOR
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

To: COE - Students, Faculty, Staff

Title: e-EntrepreNews

Dear colleagues,

This is to highlight news and opportunities at the Center for Entrepreneurship for July.

CFE Classes: Sign up to some life-changing classes on entrepreneurship. Check out <http://cfe.engin.umich.edu/courses> for details. Consider ENG407, the Distinguished Innovator Seminar Series, a highly successful class focusing on entrepreneurs who tell us about their life-lessons. Who will the speakers be for the fall semester? Stay tuned for the list of amazing entrepreneurs in the August e-EntrepreNews!

Fall Entrepreneurship Classes: Fall 2009 BME599 Graduate BME Innovative Design Team: BME 599 is looking for Innovative Engineering Graduate Students from all engineering disciplines for AY2009-10. This is a two semester course that stimulates students to explore their own solutions to challenges in the field of biomedical engineering. Each week, students listen to prominent members of the medical community describe the current medical state of the art and technical challenges. Students then work directly with each other and the guest clinical lecturers to brainstorm potential technical solutions. By mid-fall semester, students form multi-disciplinary design teams and submit white papers describing a technical solution for a potential second semester design project in the winter term. The intent is to provide students with an opportunity to explore and experience the stages of innovation in the safety of a classroom environment, enabling them to take these skills with them as they pursue both academic and professional careers beyond their graduate education. Students are encouraged to participate in local and national technical and commercial competitions. Past student teams have been successful in seeking outside funding for their projects and patent submissions. More information can be found at <http://www.bme.umich.edu/classes/bme599/index.php>.

Get ready to "Dare to Dream": Dare to Dream is a grant program that encourages students to move through the business creation process by offering business development seminars and \$500 - \$10,000 in funding. Within the program, students meet deadlines to produce deliverables that guide them through the business development path that includes shaping opportunities, formulating and assessing potential businesses, and planning and launching these businesses.

The program has three different stages that propel a student team from a nascent idea to developed business ready for launch. Students may enter their business into the program at any stage, though once entered, the business cannot be re-applied for the same stage nor a stage before it. Fall applications will be accepted at the end of September. (http://www.zli.bus.umich.edu/events_programs/dream_grant.asp)

What Are the Best Industries for Starting a Business Right Now? What's hot? What's not? According to Inc.com, there are 18 fastest-growing categories for entrepreneurs. Check it out: www.inc.com/ss/best-industries-for-starting-a-business#0

Louis Braille Touch of Genius Prize for Innovation: National Braille Press would like to inform you of an exciting award to honor those innovating in the field of Tactile Literacy. The **Touch of Genius Prize for Innovation** was

developed to inspire an innovator to continue the promotion of braille literacy for blind and deafblind people worldwide.

The Prize of \$20,000 will be granted to a group or individual for a new educational method, a new tactile literacy product, or a new technological advance in tactile literacy. The **Touch of Genius Prize for Innovation** may be awarded for a completed project or anticipated concept that shows viability and will improve opportunities for blind people.

Applications must be received by July 20, 2009. For more information and to download the application, please visit the **Touch of Genius Prize** page at [nbp.org](http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/braille/louisbrailleprize.html). <http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/braille/louisbrailleprize.html>

A2Geeks will be holding the New Tech meetup in Chesebrough Auditorium every 3rd Tuesday (July 21st, Aug 18th) from 6-8pm. Space is limited; RSVP to Dug Song (dugsong@a2geeks.org) to attend.

Toy competition sponsored by Giddy Up!, MPowered, and the Center for Entrepreneurship: This competition is designed to provide an interdisciplinary effort for students to create and design new toys. The total award disseminated is \$5,000. The winner will be awarded \$2,500. There will be one second place award of \$1,000 and three third place awards of \$500. For more information, go to: <http://mpowered.umich.edu/index.php?n=Toy.Competition>

Maize Ventures: Maize Ventures is a student organization that seeks to connect and support active student ventures. Their goal is to provide student start-ups with the human, financial, and technical resources necessary to reduce time-to-launch, secure funding, and ultimately reach profitability. This is accomplished by interfacing with the University, its alumni base, and the surrounding community.

With the help of RPM Ventures, they've started an incubator in the basement of the Google building on E Washington. Approximately 25 students representing 10 ventures will be working in the space this summer. They're currently seeking new members. For more information about the incubator or how to join Maize Ventures, contact Jason Bornhorst at jborn@umich.edu

1000 Pitches is coming back! Get ready for another round of 1000 pitches, the competition that seeks to get many, many ideas from the University of Michigan community and beyond. Start thinking about this! We will be back at 1000pitches.com.

MPowered Entrepreneurship: MPowered is a student organization focused on students interested in entrepreneurship. The organization offers a great variety of programs and activities. The CFE is proud to partner with MPowered on a variety of programs. Check them out at www.mpowered.umich.edu.

Office Hours and Mentors: Sign up for office hours if you want feedback, help with your projects and ideas or legal advice. Specialists are available for entrepreneurs at all stages. Sign up at cfe.engin.umich.edu/mentors or mpowered.studentorgs.umich.edu/ for students.

Visit the Center for Entrepreneurship office at 251 Chrysler Center, only a few feet from the new fireplace, right next to the International Center!

The CFE Crew (centerforentrepreneurship@umich.edu)

The Center for Entrepreneurship exists to empower students, faculty and staff at the University of Michigan to pursue entrepreneurial achievements that improve people's lives and drive the economies of Michigan, the nation and the world.



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