



CENTER FOR
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

e-EntrepreNews

CFE Classes

ENGR407, the Distinguished Innovator Speaker Series, is a highly successful class focusing on entrepreneurs who tell us about their life-lessons. All talks are at the Walgreen Drama Center, Stamps Auditorium from 3-4 p.m.

Who are the upcoming speakers for the fall semester?

- Furqan Nazeeri, president and CEO of [Viridus, Inc.](#) on October 9
- John W. Barfield, founder of the [Bartech Group](#) on October 16
- Margaret Boryczka, COO of [Apex CoVantage](#) on October 23
- Michelle and Aaron Crumm of [Adaptive Materials](#) on October 30
- Art Fry, inventor of the [Post-it Sticky note](#) on November 6
- [David Green, Ashoka Fellow](#) on November 13
- Nick Yang, CFO of [KongZhong](#) on November 20
- Robert Wolfe, [founder of Moosejaw](#) on December 4
- Student Entrepreneurs on December 11

Start thinking about next semester and how you can pursue your ideas in your classes:

1. Got an idea? Can it be a business? – Enroll in ENGR 408, a CFE short-course, with Marc Weiser, Managing Director of RPM Ventures, and spend two quick weeks exploring the potential of that idea. Application required, see CFE website in November. Questions can be forwarded to: centerforentrepreneurship@umich.edu
2. Working on your own business? Thinking about starting your own venture? Join the community of students working on their own ventures and enroll in the Center for Entrepreneurship Capstone Course: ENGR490-094. Students are assigned entrepreneur mentors as they work on their ventures for a semester and attend weekly seminars to learn about the critical questions businesses should address as they grow. Students also share their experiences with each other to help cultivate the entrepreneurial community and network. Application required, see CFE website in November. centerforentrepreneurship@umich.edu

Change the World with Alternative Energy Solutions

Alternative Energy Solutions: Lessons from the Developing World Competition is designed to encourage students to create cost-effective alternative energy solutions that are scalable to all income levels in the U.S. and beyond. Currently, most alternative-energy solutions available in the market are not affordable to individuals in the median- to low-income range. The task is to develop affordable alternative-energy solutions by learning from innovative approaches used in developing countries. Check out:

<http://mpowered.umich.edu/index.php?n=Alternative.Energy>

Michigan China Conference 2009

The Michigan China Conference aims to bring people together from different fields to think critically and creatively about the current financial crisis and how to survive the crisis by thriving in China. The conference will share information and initiate discussions on timing, opportunities, policies and procedures required for the

development of business in China. Speakers from distinguished universities and corporations will share insights into the recent financial crisis, and their personal experiences on how to successfully start a U.S. business in China. For more in-depth dialogue on specific topics, panel discussions will be held after keynote speeches. Students, faculty, staff and local business people, who would like to explore opportunities in China business ventures, are all welcome.

Time: October 31, 2009, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Place: Blau Auditorium, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan

For information about CEN: <http://www.ourcen.org>

For information about the Michigan China Conference: <http://www.ourcen.org/mcc>

Contact: CEN-board@umich.edu

Mingle 'n' Match at the Zell Lurie Institute

The Zell Lurie Institute and the Center for Entrepreneurship are sponsoring a Mingle 'n' Match event on Thursday, 10/22 at 4:30 p.m. at the Ross School of Business (R2220). MPowered, the Entrepreneur and Venture Club and NetImpact are co-hosting this event. Please also consider attending our future Mingle 'n' Match session on Monday, 11/16 at 4:30 (R0320).

The purpose of the event is to provide a venue for entrepreneurially minded students to find one another to discuss forming teams and combining efforts. At Mingle 'n' Match, students with business ideas will present to a room full of students interested in joining an entrepreneurial venture. During the event, attendees will talk, share ideas and discuss whether they want to form a team together. Attendees will give their contact information to the event sponsors and indicate which company ideas they were most interested in. The next day, the presenters will receive contact information of interested students at which point discussion about the "next step" can begin.

The team you create at this event may apply for the Dare to Dream Grant Program for Student Start-ups and the 2010 Michigan Business Challenge.

If you are interested in attending this free event and learning about the business ideas, please register here: http://www.bus.umich.edu/forms-uploads/zlireg/events_programs/mnreg06.asp Registration is not required but is appreciated.

If you have a business idea that you would like to present, please send an email to teambuilding@umich.edu with a 1-2 sentence description of your idea.

Please send any questions about this event to aperigo@umich.edu.

1000 Pitches is back!

Get ready for another round of 1000 Pitches, the competition that seeks to get a limitless number of entrepreneurial ideas from the U-M community and beyond. Start thinking BIG. Five new award categories have been added with \$12,000 in prize money available. Stay tuned for more information on the Pledge Program initiative which is an opportunity for student groups to raise money in exchange for collecting pitches. The Kick-off is Friday, September 18. Visit us at the new and improved website on Monday, August 10 at 1000pitches.com

Become a CFE Fan!

The CFE now has a [Facebook fan page](#). Become a fan and stay updated on new competitions, events and CFE news. And by becoming a fan, you will automatically be eligible to receive cool prizes. So [become a fan today](#).

There is now a [Social Network for University Michigan Entrepreneurs](#), and we want you to join it. The Wolverine Entrepreneurs website is a great way to meet other students, alumni and professional entrepreneurs. It's an invaluable tool for finding an experienced entrepreneur who will act as a mentor for you or your student group.

Check out the new look of our CFE website

More information, more resources, more of "What's Cool"! Our Resources tab now features "Jump Start Student Entrepreneurs" for fast information. Need to know how to take advantage of our Program in Entrepreneurship? Find it under Education, and click on the "I Declare" button to participate. Looking for a chance to stretch your entrepreneurial wings? Check out our [Work Opportunities](#) section!

Andrew Scott Crawford Entrepreneurship Library of Resources

Interested in a fun read? Not sure what to do for your business or idea? Learn from the best and check out the Andrew Scott Crawford Entrepreneurship Library of Resources available at the Center for Entrepreneurship. Students and faculty are invited to make use of the resources and/or contribute media to the library. The newly formed CfE library has valuable information about starting businesses and cool entrepreneurial stories. Look over our collection and check out ones that interest you.

MPowered Career Fair

Save the Date for the third annual MPowered Career Fair for small companies, January 26, 2010, from 2-6 p.m. in the Michigan Union. Check out: <http://mpowered.studentorgs.umich.edu/index.php?n=Fair.Main>

"Serious Games" Show and Tell in November

Flight simulators, prediction markets, virtual reality, medical training, land use planning, business and more. Games work, simulations work. Where are they at the University? Who's using them, creating them and why?

More than 40 people interested in "Serious Games" showed up in February to talk about their ideas. If you know people who are involved in/with simulations, prediction markets and other forms of serious games, let them know about the event and encourage them to bring demos. Come to the workshop on Thursday, November 19 from 5-7 p.m. in 265 Chrysler Center.

Contact Ken Ludwig kludwig@umich.edu to arrange for space to display what you are working on/with and to let us know you're coming so we have enough space and food! These tools are used in thousand of ways but rarely are people who use them able to get together to talk and brainstorm, much less see what others are actually doing in fields outside their own.

A2Geeks Get-Together

A2Geeks will be holding the New Tech meetup in Chesebrough Auditorium, October 20 from 6-8 p.m. Space is limited, so RSVP to Dug Song (dugsong@a2geeks.org) to reserve your spot.

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. Awards will total \$5,000. The winner will receive \$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 in Ann Arbor. 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 Brian Coatta (bcoatta@gmail.com).

MPowered Entrepreneurship

MPowered is a student organization that focuses 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.

Peer Advising Office Hours

"Got Questions?" Come see us at the CFE (251 Chrysler) for open office hours:

Meet with CFE Peer Advisors 12- 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

- Curricular questions
- Identify resources
- Where do I go from here?
- CFE Co-curricular programs

Meet with Wes Huffstutter, U-M Office of Tech Transfer, 1-3 p.m. every Wednesday

- How can I monetize my idea?
- I've got an idea what do I do next?
- What is U-M's Intellectual Property Policy?
- What are my funding options?

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 Programs office.

The CFE crew wants to hear from you. Give us a shout at 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.