



## IE Founder and Director Dr. Richard Cherwitz Retires



**[Austin, TX—September 3, 2019]:** Congratulations to Dr. Richard Cherwitz who after 41 years officially retired on August 31, 2019 from The University of Texas at Austin (UT). To reward his accomplishments the UT Board of Regents named him the Ernest A Sharp Centennial Professor Emeritus.

*Wrote UT President Gregory Fenves: "It has been a wonderful experience to see how much you have accomplished through IE as well as your teaching, research, and mentorship. The university community will surely miss your dedicated leadership. I am grateful for all you have done, and I wish you the best."*

Cherwitz received three of the National Communication Association's top awards given to scholars in communication: the Karl R. Wallace Memorial Award, the Douglas Ehninger Distinguished Rhetorical Scholar Award, and the Donald H. Ecroyd Award for Outstanding Teaching. He also was the recipient of the University of Texas AMOCO Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award, the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award, the College of Communication Thomas R. McCartin Teaching Excellence Award, the Texas Alumni Association's Top 10 Most Inspiring Professors, and the College of Communication Research Award.

In addition, Professor Cherwitz received the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Innovation Award, the National Speakers Association Outstanding Professor Award, the Conference of Graduate Schools Outstanding Contributions to Graduate Education Award, the Texas Blazers Faculty Excellence Award, the Ernest A. Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service & Academic Outreach (New England Resource Center for Higher Education), the Examples of Excelencia Award (Excelencia in Education) and Honorable Mention in Fast Company Magazine's "Fast 50 Global Readers' Challenge" (for accomplishments as an "Innovator"). Cherwitz was recognized by the Texas House of Representatives for his innovative leadership in education and received the DiversityFIRST[tm] Leadership Award from the National Diversity Council.

Cherwitz' publications include two books and over one hundred journal articles, chapters, and reviews. In addition, he has written over 100 op-eds using his expertise in rhetoric to enlighten the public about important issues in politics and

education. Cherwitz directed over thirty master's theses and doctoral dissertations; his students have taken faculty positions at such institutions as The Ohio State University, Pittsburgh, Tulane, University of California-Berkeley, George Washington University, University of Texas at Austin, The Air Force Academy, LSU, San Francisco State, Temple, North Carolina State University, Macalester College, Kansas State University, the University of Denver, Northern Illinois and others.

During his tenure at UT Cherwitz served an associate dean in the Office of Graduate Studies and was a member of the Intercollegiate Athletics Council for men. He also was the founder and director of the Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium (IE). IE is an interdisciplinary initiative whose mission is to educate "citizen-scholars"--individuals who creatively utilize their intellectual capital as a lever for social good. Since its inception, IE programs have enrolled approximately 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students, having the added effect of increasing diversity in higher education.