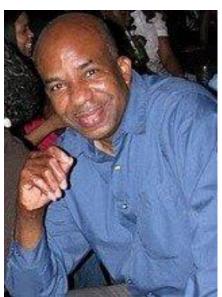


WHAT COMMUNITY LEADERS SAY ABOUT IE



Deone Wilhite, Office of Travis County Commissioner Ron Davis, Precinct 1 and Founding Member, National Black MBA Association - Austin Chapter:

"As a UT Alum, I am constantly amazed by the IE program and the students and mentors the program produces. The result of combining the creativity and flexibility of entrepreneurship with the intellectualism and scholarship of "the academy" is truly innovative and needs as much support as possible! The results of the program speak for itself and IE needs to be expanded. Not a day goes by that I don't wish that IE had been around when I was at the University of Texas. I came into UT at 17 years old and green as a blade of grass when it came to college and what I wanted to do with my life. I believe a program like IE would have further enriched my university experience and enhanced my career options. It would have exposed me to graduate mentors

and creative curriculum options. But that was then and this is now. IE is on campus now and produces great results.

Entrepreneurship is a philosophy, one of creative thinking, spotting opportunities that others don't, and dismantling the wall of the 'things aren't done that way' kind of thinking. In the business world, there would be no Apple, Facebook, Google, Dell, Microsoft, and other innovative companies if their founders didn't have an 'entrepreneurial mindset.' Given, the challenges higher education is facing in terms of funding, undergraduate education, African American and Hispanic student recruitment and retention, recruitment and retention of lower middle class and working class White students, accusations of increasing irrelevancy, shifting demographics, research vs. teaching, curriculum, and a host of other

issues, I believe the philosophy of 'Intellectual Entrepreneurship' is and will be the source of innovation for higher education."



Kathy Vale, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Air Quality Grants Coordinator:

"I am a UT alum, and have a son who will graduate Swarthmore College this May, and a daughter who just completed her first semester at UT in the PLAN II program. I can say, without any reservation, that the opportunities offered to UT students through the IE program are on par with what is found in the Ivy League and the "Little Ivies," such as Swarthmore. The beauty of IE is how it offers such an intimate intellectual connection, helping students create a personal academic roadmap for step-by-step success in their field and among their peers.

What's truly remarkable is that this level of personal guidance and mentorship can be found, and is being replicated many times over, inside the huge public research mega-institution of UT Austin! Another great example how UT continues to find ways to grow and adapt to meet the changing needs of a vibrant student demographic, many of whom are the first in their families to go to college or graduate school. In a world of iron, a program like IE offers these students the chance to mine gold!

I am very proud to see President Powers robust support of this program -- the wide and deep success of the students coming out of the IE program are a testament to the program and the unwavering support and commitment of its founder, Dr. Cherwitz. Hook 'Em!"



Curtis Meadows Jr., Emeritus Director of the Meadows Foundation and Chair of the advisory council for the LBJ School's RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service. He also was the Founding Executive Director of the LBJ School's RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service:

"IE is a concept that empowers the intellectual entrepreneurial student with significant control over the education they want and need. It overcomes the evolved bureaucracy and calcified procedures that resist change and innovation within higher education. It is not often popular with faculty members and administrators to propose change to the way things are being done, but it is out of change that new ways of looking at old methods and assumptions emerge. Norman Hackerman, former President of UT, once said: 'We have to stop educating people for one profession and start educating them for five or six changes in their professions

over their lifetimes.' Professor Cherwitz has recognized the truth in that observation and has tirelessly sought to provide new university education systems that enable that sort of lifetime coping preparation of students. In so doing, he has brought attention and credit to the University as a leader in innovative thinking and action on this subject."



Juliet K. Stipeche, District VIII, Second Vice President for the Board of Trustees of the Houston Independent School District and attorney (Nagorny & Stipeche, P.C):

"It is difficult for students to follow their passions and realize their dreams when their vision of what constitutes an education is limited to dry concept of majors, degrees, and traditional notions of success. Many students are often dissuaded by loving family members and friends from studying subjects that interest them because "that major will never pay" or "you'll be in school forever." This is especially true for minority and first-generation college students who are often pushed into conventional post-graduate studies such as law and medical school because these studies supposedly offer greater chances for a financial stable future. Unfortunately, this mind set has the potential of unraveling a student's academic career. Without interest or motivation, a student is at increased risk for failure.

Therefore, programs are desperately needed to broaden the perspectives of minority and first-generation college

students. Students must see and experience the possibility of a successful and prosperous future beyond conventional areas of study. They need to know that their interests and passions matter and that their unique perspective and contributions will make the world a better place. The Intellectual Entrepreneurship (IE) Program at the University of Texas is a fascinating and tremendously successful program that addresses these very issues. By removing the "tunnel vision" of traditional notions of success, students have a broader perspective of the opportunities available in the real world. By interacting with mentors, they become informed and empowered. Students recognize that if the mentor could do it, so can they. With a broader perspective and a realization of available options, students can make educated decisions about their own futures. Students desperately need a sense of ownership of their educational experiences. They need to know that their ideas, opinions and passions matter, and it is through programs such as this one that students can truly succeed."



scholars."

Dr. Leroy D. Nunery, II, Deputy Superintendent, School District of Philadelphia, and former President, Edison Charter Schools:

"The IE agenda epitomizes how higher education should provide the place and context for changing how we educate and who we educate. IE is using multiple avenues to elevate the discussion about access and opportunity through the immersion and engagement of students, faculty, and administrators in "real world" issues. The timing for IE's expansion could not be better; society is clamoring for citizen-



JJ Baskin, Founder and President at Education Capital:

"One of the nation's leaders in higher education change is Dr. Robert Zemsky. During the 2006 Spellings Commission on Higher Education, he noted: 'If you want to change higher education, you challenge it. If you want headlines, you insult it.' A lot of the talk recently has been headlines. As we have seen in public education, top down mandates and micromanagement rarely have the outcomes desired. Challenge strategies for buy-in and re-engineering of the culture are far more effective, and that is what is so compelling about the IE program at UT. It is a framework for thinking differently with an eye on outcomes."



Lloyd Doggett, U.S. House of Representatives (Texas 25):

"IE Synergy Groups are a valuable asset to our community as they bring UT students together with non-profits and government entities outside of the UT Campus to work on important local issues. Bringing a fresh perspective and a practiced understanding of academic research and problem-solving methods, UT students serve as an important resource and, through their service, gain insight on developing collaborative solutions to the challenges in our community."



Sarita E. Brown, Excelencia in Education President, Washington DC:

"Much of today's higher education reform discussion emphasizes student deficits and remedial education, but IE builds on students' strengths and focuses on demystifying the pursuit of higher education, stimulating student curiosity, and increasing engaged learning. IE provides the means for students and faculty to pursue critical questions, unlimited by the traditional boundaries of disciplines and degree programs, and search for real answers to improve our world. By recognizing scholarship can serve society while

enhancing the academy, IE appeals to students who are committed to serving their communities. Look at the large number of Latino students drawn to doctoral education through the IE Pre Graduate Internship and you see the power and promise IE offers higher education. It's a model that works and it is time for other colleges and universities to adapt it."



Paul W. Hobby, CEO, Alpheus Communications, Inc. and Managing Partner, Genesis Park LP:

"Rick Cherwitz and IE are on to something. He understands that students -- they and their careers -- are different today than they were forty years ago. They show up more able to leverage the vast resources of co-located silos of information that Universities represent. They know that static curriculum lags reality. IE creates problem solvers, the most precious form of human capital in the world today."



Beverly Spicer, features editor for the Santiago Times and editor for the Digital Journalist:

"There is nothing more important in the individual journey of a human being than discovering one's passion and connecting the outer to the inner. Philosophers think of it as destiny, business thinks of it as success, romantics think of it as love, others think of it as accomplishment or achievement, art or genius. Whatever it is, it is important, and it is what makes life worth living. Thank you IE for helping others to make that connection in their lives and for promoting and encouraging lives truly lived."



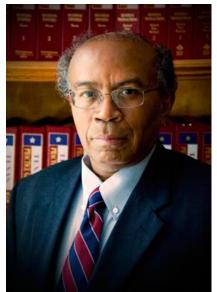
John Cimino, Director of Creative Leaps International and Founding President and CEO of Associated Solo Artists:

"Intellectual entrepreneurship is the strongest program I know for bringing bright minds through the eye of the needle and into the world with plenty of passion and smart personal perspective. The individual's sense of the value of knowledge and critical personal participation in the search for solutions to today's challenges, both local and global, are what makes that young person's knowledge actionable. When this happens, it's a gift to society as much as to the student--everybody wins. We need citizen scholars! I am hoping to take this model overseas to projects I'm working on with the Aspen Institute and our US State Department. With cheers for this dialogue and courageous work!"



Dawnna Dukes, Texas House of Representatives (District 46):

"I wish programs such as IE that care about stimulating minds were around when I was a student at UT. I may have remained there as opposed to transferring to that school down the highway 6. You are indeed changing the future for many one mind at a time. I applaud you!"



Rob Wiley, Stewart & Wiley PLLC:

"I want to offer my support for the I.E. program my friend Rick Cherwitz has developed at UT-Austin and especially for the claims he makes with respect to how I.E. can help make a research based university more relevant in the "real world." Having been both an "academic" at UT-Austin (Ph.D. 1985) and a law student (J.D. 1985), I am certainly sensitive to the need to blend the best of the academy with the practical. As UT Dean of the College of Communication Rod Hart was fond of telling me while I was in school, "Nothing is as practical as good theory." I.E., as Rick has developed that program at UT, seems the best embodiment of that idea I've come across.

I also take note of the success the I.E. program has had in attracting first generation college students to graduate school, especially ethnic minorities. I was fortunate in having parental role models

who had been to college and graduate school, but I am quite aware many other minority students with whom I studied, both in graduate school and law school, had not. Given the University's historic concern with this issue, the ability of the I.E. program to facilitate increased graduate school enrollment among first generation college students, and especially among minority group members, is especially encouraging.

Finally, I want to say how much I think the I.E. effort can add for students who choose to work in business and the professions, as I have. The broad based approach to learning that the I.E. program uses, seems especially well suited for preparing students to cope with the wide range of challenges faced by business people, lawyers, corporate managers, and researchers as we tackle the business issues of today."