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From the December 17, 2015 Editorial Page:

The Academic Success of African American Intellectual Entrepreneurship Students

“Those of us who work with the Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium (IE), an initiative in UT’s Division of Diversity and Community Engagement (DDCE), were incensed by Supreme Court Justice Anton Scalia’s comment/question about the performance of African American college students at elite schools. We have empirical evidence that thoroughly debunks this “Mismatch Theory.” In examining the performance of IE Pre Grad Mentorship students, we discovered that over 75 of our recent African American students not only performed at the highest academic level during their tenure as UT undergraduates but since then have enrolled in and graduated from some of the nation’s most prestigious and rigorous graduate and professional programs—including UT, Columbia, Stanford, Harvard, Emory, Southern California, UCLA, Tufts, George Washington, Rutgers, Michigan, Yale, Howard, Syracuse, and Washington University. Many of these students were admitted under the current admissions standards being reviewed by the Court. The academic success of these students documents an important principle emerging from IE over the past twenty years: that, while affirmative action is a necessary tool to increase diversity, it is not sufficient. Programs like IE demonstrate that diversity often is an unanticipated but significant consequence of larger efforts to improve education for all students.”

Rick Chewitz

Ernest S. Sharpe Centennial Professor, Moody College of Communication
Founder and Director, Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium (IE)
Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement