



Neeley Entrepreneurship Center Recent Recognitions and Rankings

- No. 6 Entrepreneurship Program for 2013, *Bloomberg Businessweek*
- Top 25 Undergraduate Schools for Entrepreneurship Programs for 2013, *Entrepreneur*
- No. 9 Entrepreneurship Program for 2012, *Bloomberg Businessweek*
- Named 2011 National Model Undergraduate Entrepreneurship Program by the United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (Eligible every 10 years)

Neeley Entrepreneurship Center Student Programs

Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization (CEO) – The student-led TCU chapter of the national Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization is one of the largest in the U.S. CEO is affiliated with over 240 colleges and universities nationwide. Outstanding programs offered by the TCU CEO chapter include:

- **Distinguished Speakers Series** – The Distinguished Speakers Series brings prominent entrepreneurs and business leaders to campus for afternoon and evening presentations.
- **Fall Recruitment Event** – Early each fall TCU CEO leadership hosts a popular recruitment dinner to attract incoming first year students from across the TCU campus. The belief that every student can benefit from entrepreneurial thinking and action drives the TCU CEO chapter to a high level of inclusiveness.
- **Dinner with an Entrepreneur**– The Dinner with an Entrepreneur program allows students to visit in an intimate setting with accomplished entrepreneurs and fellow students while enjoying a dinner hosted by the Neeley Entrepreneurship Center. Students who participate in the dinners establish contacts in various industries and learn about the successes and challenges that accomplished business people have undergone in order to get to where they are today. These programs are generally held six times annually.
- **CEO National Conference** – The Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization holds a national conference each fall in Chicago, where CEO chapters from universities throughout the U.S. gather for a weekend of networking, competitions, and education. In 2003 and 2009, TCU's CEO chapter was named the Best CEO Chapter in the Nation at the annual conference. In 2011, as a direct result of TCU CEO's leadership and success, the CEO National Conference was held in Ft. Worth. This conference is hailed as a life-changing experience by students who attend.
- **Entrepreneur's Road Trip** – Each year, the Center takes entrepreneurship on the road to tour innovative companies. In recent years students have traveled to Austin and Albuquerque to learn from leaders behind many progressive companies. The trips include unparalleled access to leading entrepreneurs and their successful teams.
- **Mentor Program** – The nationally recognized Mentor Program matches students from TCU CEO with top entrepreneurs in the Dallas Fort Worth region. Once selected, students partner with the entrepreneur to learn what it takes to be successful in business and in life. Students in this program are provided with numerous opportunities to partner with various mentors during their TCU career.

Bill Shaddock Venture Capital Fund – Provided by a gift from TCU alum Bill Shaddock, [this program](#) allows TCU student run businesses the opportunity to launch or grow their business in the TECH Fort Worth incubator. TECH Fort Worth staff provides a wide range of specialized business services that are critical for student run companies. Students whose businesses incubate inside TECH Fort Worth tout the experience as nothing short of exceptional.

Entrepreneurial Intern Scholars Program – The TECH Fort Worth Intern Scholars Program is an exciting opportunity for selected students to become involved with start-up businesses. Through the generosity of donors, undergraduate students are matched with TECH Fort Worth acceleration clients to complete a summer internship inside a startup technology company. Selected students are awarded stipends to work directly with acceleration firms and receive valuable experience.

Cowtown Angels Scholars Program - The Cowtown Angels Scholars Program provides an opportunity for TCU students, both MBA and undergraduate, to work directly with Cowtown Angel investors affiliated with TECH Fort Worth. Students participate at every level of the real-world investment program, from observing initial investor pitches through funding for selected startups. The first-hand process teaches students the qualities investors seek in funding early stage startups, plus the “deep dive” questioning and due diligence that go into successful funding of a startup. This is an amazing opportunity for TCU students to experience entrepreneurial finance and angel investing in a professional setting.

Start-up TCU – Held fall and spring annually, this new program has quickly grown to a student favorite. Offered to the entire TCU student family, this brown bag lunch series features experts on a variety of topics important to early stage entrepreneurs. Delivered at a common-sense level, each free lecture provides must-know information for successful future business leaders.

Competitions

- **TCU Elevator Pitch Competition** – The Elevator Pitch Competition presents students a great opportunity to pitch a business idea to a panel of three (3) judges and a chance to win a cash prize and the opportunity to compete at a national competition.
- **Business Plan Competitions** – Each year TCU students participate in national business plan competitions. Students consistently place high in the competition and represent TCU in stellar fashion.

Neeley Entrepreneurship Center Outreach Programs

Richards Barrentine Values and Ventures Business Plan Competition® – The annual Richards Barrentine Values and Ventures® Business Plan Competition encourages international undergraduate student teams to develop for-profit ventures with a clear values component. Student teams from top entrepreneurship programs across the globe are invited, with the goal of encouraging these young entrepreneurs to pursue a worthy purpose and to “make meaning as well as make money” when they launch their enterprises. The program began in 2011 with just six universities represented. The 2013 competition attracted 28 universities: 24 domestic and 4 international. All for-profit business concepts had clear and compelling values components. George Washington University won first place and \$15,000 with their online fundraising concept.

Biegert Family Entrepreneur’s Boot Camp – Led by Neeley faculty and staff, this bi-annual event provides a venue for students and interested community members to learn the basics of entrepreneurship. Open to the community, distinguished guest speakers and panelists share experiences and offer solid, real-world advice to potential entrepreneurs.

Coleman/TCU Faculty Fellows in Entrepreneurship – One of only 19 universities nation-wide, TCU boasts a unique partnership with Chicago-based Coleman Foundation to promote the development and teaching of entrepreneurship across campus by non-business faculty. Now in its 4th year at TCU, more than 20 TCU Coleman Faculty Fellows in Entrepreneurship have participated in the program since inception. Disciplines have included engineering, dance, nursing, music, political science, English, merchandising & textiles and others. The program furthers entrepreneurship across campus in ways that are exceptionally meaningful to non-business students.

Neeley Entrepreneurship Center Points of Pride

- Sneeze4, 3rd Place Richards Barrentine Values and Ventures® Business Plan Competition, 2013
- TCU CEO (Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization) - 2 National Awards, 2012:
 - Best CEO Chapter Student Leader - 1st Place
 - Best CEO Chapter Marketing Plan – 1st Place
- Molly Johnson, Top 6 CEO National Elevator Pitch Competition, 2012
- Steve Hofmann, Top 12 CEO National Elevator Pitch Competition, 2012
 - TCU CEO - 2 National Awards 2011: Best Electronic Based Networking – 1st Place
 - Best Entrepreneur Intern for a Day – 1st Place
- HomEPS, 2nd Place Values and Ventures Business Plan Competition, 2011
- TCU CEO - National Award 2010: Best Electronic Based Networking – 1st Place
- Prairie Designs, 2nd Place Business Plan Competition, Wake Forest University, 2009
- Texas Business Hall of Fame Scholarship – Ben Voigt, 2010; Justin Anderson, 2008