



## E+I Engagement + Support Opportunities

Please consider partnering with the Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I) as we empower and equip **students of all majors** to serve the Common Good through entrepreneurship and innovation.



*Make no mistake – the concepts of entrepreneurship and innovation don't just apply to starting a business. Entrepreneurship and innovation are mindsets that transcend any particular major or area of study.*

*Learning entrepreneurial skills and approaches to innovation will equip and empower our students to thrive wherever God calls them to serve in the world.*

### Yvonne J. English '97

Executive Director + Entrepreneur in Residence,  
The Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I)  
Professor of Practice, Entrepreneurship Department



[gccentrepreneurship.com](http://gccentrepreneurship.com)



@gccentrepreneur



## Wolverine Venture Battle

### VENTURE COMPETITION WITH HIGH STAKES

This competition provides an opportunity for all Grove City College students to apply their knowledge by developing a business idea, interviewing customers, prototyping, market testing, and presenting to potential “investors” to win real money and in-kind services. This is not your father’s business plan competition!



### Opportunities



Serve on the WVB Review Panel for the Proof of Concept Round (done virtually)



Make a gift + serve as an “investor” for the final round of the battle



Serve as a team mentor (virtual)



Make a gift in the form of in-kind services to assist teams as they develop their business concepts



Make a gift to become a named sponsor or to simply support the Wolverine Venture Battle

## Common Good Project

### SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS WITH SOCIAL INNOVATION

The Common Good Project represents the unique opportunity for students to come alongside the Center for E+I with the goal of addressing the social issues facing Grove City and its residents. Students work primarily under the direction of Professor Kyle English, the Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Western PA & Eastern OH. This project represents the start of more robust social entrepreneurship + innovation projects at Grove City College.



### Opportunity



Make a gift to support social innovation + entrepreneurship projects at Grove City College with the goal to serve the Common Good

## European Innovation Academy

### INNOVATION IN A GLOBAL TEAM SETTING

Located in Porto, Portugal, EIA is the world's largest summer study abroad startup program. Our students experience an innovation journey starting from team formation to pitching to investors. EIA has 650+ participants from all over the world and over 100 mentors and speakers from companies like Alchemist Accelerator, Airbnb, Facebook, Google, Adobe, and Microsoft. This challenging and exciting program provides valuable inter-cultural experience in an international setting.



### Opportunities



Make a gift to support EIA students



Make a gift to support the development of additional international experiences



Share ideas to help E+I create additional international opportunities for students

## Richard G. Staley '62 Visionary Entrepreneur Speaker Series

### LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCED ENTREPRENEURS

The Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation's Richard G. Staley '62 Visionary Entrepreneur Speaker Series brings experienced entrepreneurs to campus to share their insights and wisdom. Richard G. Staley '62 founded Flavor House, Inc., a leading developer and manufacturer of unique flavors used by many well-recognized brands. He received the Jack Kennedy Memorial Alumni Achievement Award in 2019, an award presented annually since 1964 to alumni who have had distinctive success in their fields.



### Opportunities



Suggest candidates for a future speaking engagement in the series



Attend a Richard G. Staley '62 Visionary Entrepreneur Speaker Series Event

## VentureLab + VentureLaunch Programs

*TESTING + BUILDING IDEAS AND RUNNING + SCALING REAL BUSINESSES*

The **VentureLab** is an early-stage business and social enterprise idea lab that provides coaching, mentors, education, and funds to carefully screened teams. Noted graduate teams include Gecko Robotics, a Pittsburgh company that raised a Series C Round of \$73M with Mark Cuban as an investor and is now saving lives in power plants around the country!



The **VentureLaunch** program was created to support student businesses who are in the growth stage of their venture journey.



The **Wolverine Innovation Fund** was created to support the VentureLab and VentureLaunch programs through charitable gifts from alumni + friends of the College. This is an ongoing fund where donors can begin their participation at any time. Donors to the fund are also able to actively participate in the application process and as advisors to teams, if desired.



### VentureLab + VentureLaunch Support Opportunity



Make a gift + participate in the Wolverine Innovation Fund Program



## Elevator Pitch Competition

### LEARNING TO PITCH + DEFEND AN IDEA

The Grove City College Elevator Pitch Competition affords all students the opportunity to pitch their new venture ideas in two minutes to a panel of judges and offers cash prizes in two categories – Commercial and Social Enterprise.

Almost **200 students** from approximately **30 majors** participate in this exciting event!



### Opportunities



Serve as a judge for the Elevator Pitch Competition final round in the fall



Attend the Elevator Pitch Competition final round in the fall



Make a gift to become a named sponsor or to simply support the Elevator Pitch Competition



Serve as a Round 2 reviewer (virtually)

## E+I Fellows + Founders

### REAL EXPERIENCE + IMPACT FOR ORGANIZATIONS

The Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation places student fellows in positions relevant to their desired career path at real companies through the **E+I Fellows** program. Fellows are paid for their work by E+I and gain valuable real-world experience.

The **E+I Founders** program affords student founders the opportunity to focus on their business by paying them for the time they spend working on it. Removing the barriers of having to find another job unlocks students' fullest entrepreneurial potential.



### Opportunities



Work with E+I to create fellowship opportunities at your organization



Make a gift to support the E+I Fellows and E+I Founders programs



Suggest organizations that might apply to host an E+I Fellow

## Venture U Seminar Series

*TRAINING + ADVICE FROM BUSINESS PROS*

Venture U is a seminar series that focuses on the nuts and bolts of starting a business.

The 1-1½ hour sessions are delivered by experienced professionals and include focus areas of interest such as legal for startups, accounting for startups, Quickbooks, marketing and branding, selling your product/service, networking, intellectual property, pitching, prototyping, etc.



### Opportunities



Propose and teach an approved Venture U session

## General Events + Programs

*EXPERIENCES IN INNOVATION + ENTREPRENEURSHIP*

- E+I holds various events to help students learn more about entrepreneurship + innovation outside of the classroom. Past events have included Silicon Valley Mock Interviews with an alum entrepreneur, a fashion workshop with ModCloth, and trips to Pittsburgh for events.
- E+I financially supports student teams who compete in venture competitions locally, regionally, and around the globe.
- E+I supports students as they travel to various conferences and events to learn about entrepreneurship and innovation as well as to represent Grove City College.
- Funds donated will also be used to support regional redemptive entrepreneurship work with Praxis and the Faith Driven Network of Pittsburgh.



### Opportunities



Inform E+I of existing related off-campus events that students might be interested in attending



Make a gift to support general E+I programming, international experiences, and local field trips

## Mentoring + Coaching

### SHARE WISDOM WITH NEXT-GEN ENTREPRENEURS

If you have a special skillset or expertise that can assist our student ventures, please let us know! We'd love to discuss potential mentoring + coaching opportunities with you. If you are an experienced entrepreneur, we sometimes have the need for an additional entrepreneur in residence (EIR) or two.



## Opportunities



Email E+I Executive Director Yvonne English (englishyj@gcc.edu) to indicate interest (or just to say "hi")!

## Classroom Engagement

### BRINGING THE REAL WORLD INTO THE CLASSROOM

The Entrepreneurship Program provides students with the opportunity to apply the knowledge that they're gaining in certain classes by partnering with outside businesses and nonprofits to create a unique service-learning experience where students work on projects for those real-world organizations.

In unique cases, we also design entire unique classes sponsored by outside organizations when synergy exists, and student benefit is realized. Past examples have included the health care and automotive aftermarket industries.

## Opportunities



Have a student group work with your organization on a service-learning project



Share your experience + expertise with students by serving as a guest speaker in a class



Work with us to design a unique sponsored class



*Thank you so much for your  
interest and support.*

If you are interested in any of the **engagement opportunities** presented in this booklet or want additional information, please let us know by contacting us through our website at [gccentrepreneurship.com](http://gccentrepreneurship.com) or via email at [englishyj@gcc.edu](mailto:englishyj@gcc.edu).

If you are interested in any of the **financial support opportunities** presented, please contact your **Grove City College Development Officer** or the **Grove City College Office of Development** at **724.458.2992**.



To make a general donation to the Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation, please scan this code or visit [bit.ly/cei-donate](http://bit.ly/cei-donate)

