GRANTS AND RESOURCES FOR TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Phil Weilerstein
National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (NCIIA)
100 Venture Way, Hadley, MA 01035
413 587 2172; pweilerstein@nciia.org

ACADEMIC ABSTRACT

The National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance or NCIIA is an educational non-profit with a mission of advancing technological innovation and entrepreneurship in higher education. Resources available include $1.5MM in grants and other resources for the creation of curriculum, funding for student start up teams, technology & product competitions, workshops and conferences for faculty & emerging entrepreneurs.

This workshop will combine presentation and discussion of resources and how to access them with opportunities to work in small groups to identify emerging needs of the USASBE community and articulate new ideas for resource development by the NCIIA.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The role of entrepreneurship in business, engineering, science and technology education has undergone a transformation over the past ten years. Experiential exposure to commercially directed innovation and entrepreneurship is now a growing part of many engineering programs and is increasingly viewed as a way to prepare students for the realities of a working world in which they will need to take control of their careers and be prepared to contribute to the commercial success of any enterprise they join or create.

Established 12 years ago, the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance or NCIIA is an educational non-profit with a mission of advancing technological innovation and entrepreneurship in higher education. Resources available include $1.5 MM in grants and other resources for the creation of courses & programs, funding for student start up teams & workshops and conferences for faculty & emerging entrepreneurs.

This workshop will combine presentation and discussion of existing resources and how to access them with opportunities to work in small groups to identify emerging needs of the USASBE community and articulate new ideas for resource development by the NCIIA.

The objectives of the workshop are to provide participants with an actionable understanding of the grants and resources available to support tech entrepreneurship in higher education and engage in active brainstorming around the needs of the entrepreneurship education.

After a background presentation on NCIIA grants and resources, participants will break into small groups around areas of interest to identify needs and prioritize resources that
could address them. Ideas and information gathered will be used in defining strategic priorities and program goals.