

NEWS RELEASE

College of Commerce and Business Administration

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For immediate release

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Discussion Forum on the “Essence of Entrepreneurship”

Champaign, Ill. — The essence of entrepreneurship will be discussed by three men who have each been at the helm of several highly successful businesses. Peter Fox, Joe Boeddeker, and Fran Jabara will be the panelists for a public forum on entrepreneurship on November 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Levis Faculty Center. WICD-TV station manager Paul Donohoe will moderate the session.

Local business executive Peter B. Fox is founder of Fox Development Corporation, a real estate development firm which develops, manages, and leases approximately 650,000 square feet of office and retail space in Champaign. Active on many local civic and professional boards, he is also managing partner of Fox/Atkins Development, L.L.C., developer and manager of the University of Illinois Research Park. Fox formerly served as Senior Managing Director of Bear, Stearns & Company from 1985 to 1997.

Joe Boeddeker is president of The Enterprise Network and co-founder of Venture Growth Alliance. Named 1999 Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young, he was director of the NASA/Ames Technology Commercialization Center, which is considered a leading example of a successful incubator.

Fran Jabara was on the faculty of Wichita State University for more than four decades and was dean of the College of Business Administration for seven years. A CPA, he is founder of Jabara Ventures, a merchant banking and investment company. Jabara co-founded the Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs (ACE), the largest national organization for collegiate students interested in entrepreneurship with members in all fifty states and twenty foreign countries. Ernst & Young, Merrill Lynch named him Entrepreneur of the Year in 1991.

Levis Faculty Center is located at 919 West Illinois in Urbana. The forum is on the third floor. Free parking is available in the near-by lots off Lincoln Avenue to the east of Levis and the Spurlock Museum.

The November 14th forum is the first discussion forum planned by the Center for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) in association with IllinoisVENTURES, LLC. Established in February 2002, CED offers professional consulting and business research assistance to current and potential occupants of the University of Illinois Research Park and Incubator and to local start-up ventures. CED is a unit of the College of Business Office for Strategic Business Initiatives, a program that provides current Illinois MBA students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills to real-world consulting experiences

Nationally recognized as one of the leading business schools, the College of Commerce and Business Administration has outstanding programs in accounting, business, economics, and finance. The college enrolls more than 3,000 undergraduates, 700 MBA and master's students, and 175 doctoral candidates from all 50 states and more than 30 countries worldwide.