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Center for Entrepreneurial Development in association with IllinoisVENTURES, LLC presents its 2nd Annual Discussion Forum on Entrepreneurship titled – Building a Management Team for Success.

Champaign, IL. – The importance of building a management team and how entrepreneurs should potentially go about building one will be discussed at a public forum on entrepreneurship on Thursday November 13th, 2003. Three successful business leaders, venture capital professionals and entrepreneurs will share their experiences and answer questions at the forum sponsored by the Center for Entrepreneurial Development (CED), a unit of the College of Business in association with IllinoisVENTURES, LLC.

The theme for the Second Annual Discussion Forum on Entrepreneurship is “Building a Management Team for Success.” Guest speakers include Gary Garrabrant, Co-Founder & CEO of Equity International Ltd.; Greg Bohlen, CFO of Aurora Funds; and Harlee Sorkin, Co-Founder & Principal of Mentor Management LLC.

The public is invited to attend the forum from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Levis Faculty Center at 919 W. Illinois Urbana, IL 61801. There is no admission charge. Free parking is available behind the Levis Faculty Center.

The Annual Discussion Forum on Entrepreneurship was initiated by CED to provide students and local community members with the opportunity to learn and benefit from the experiences of successful entrepreneurs and business leaders.

CED Director Dinesh Ahluwalia said, “We are extremely excited about the endorsement we have received from all our stakeholders to make this Discussion Forum an annual event. Our guest speakers are experienced professionals that have each benefited from building great management teams, we look forward to the valuable insights that our guest speakers will offer to all our attendees.”

Gary Garrabrant, a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, is also a director of Equity International Properties, Ltd. He was also involved in the consolidation of the Zell/Merrill Lynch Real Estate Opportunity Partners funds which led to the formation of Equity Office Properties Trust (NYSE:EOP). Mr. Garrabrant is a member of The Economic Club of Chicago.

Mr. Garrabrant said, “Entrepreneurship plays an important role in keeping our organization competitive and we endorse the College of Business at the University of Illinois in its entrepreneurial initiatives and look forward to developing a deeper relationship in Champaign.”

Greg Bohlen graduated from the University of Urbana-Champaign in Illinois with a BS and a MBA degree. Before joining Aurora Funds LLC, he was Director of the Private Equity Coverage Group at UBS Warburg Investment Banking. Mr. Bohlen also spent time as an entrepreneur, buying and selling several companies and learning from the success and/or failure of each.

Mr. Bohlen’s investment philosophy: “I believe an investor should take an active role in developing the strategy and executing on it, to ensure the growth and success of those companies.”

Harlee Sorkin, also a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Psychology, sits on the Board of Directors for VasSol, Inc.; a Chicago based medical technology company. He is also the Vice-President of the Board of Directors of the Montessori School of Champaign-Urbana.

“I’m really honored to be invited as a guest speaker for such an important event,” Mr. Sorkin said. “It feels good to be back to share with the students and community members about my experiences as an entrepreneur and now as a venture investor supporting entrepreneurship.”



Center for Entrepreneurial Development

College of Business, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

About the College of Business: Nationally recognized as one of the leading business schools, the University of Illinois College Of Business has outstanding programs in accountancy, business, economics, and finance. The College enrolls approximately 3,300 undergraduates, 900 MBA and master's students, and 165 doctoral candidates.

About the Center for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) at the College of Business: CED was established in 2002 to serve as a focal point and to coordinate the various entrepreneurial initiatives of the College of Business. The Annual Discussion Forum is an integral part of CED's mission - to educate and enhance the appreciation and understanding of entrepreneurship among the College of Business and the University of Illinois community stakeholders. For more information please visit ced.business.uiuc.edu and www.business.uiuc.edu

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