

# NEWS RELEASE



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## **Cozad Lecture to Feature Local Entrepreneur**

Champaign, Ill. — The founder of a chain of gourmet sandwich shops with more than 275 stores in more than 25 states and two countries will give a public lecture on his entrepreneurial success. Jimmy John Liautaud, founder and chairman of Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwich Shops, has an entrepreneurial leadership style and fiscal philosophy that has resulted in his company being debt free for five years. The title of Liautaud's presentation is "Lessons learned creating something from virtually nothing: A history of Jimmy John's."

Liautaud will give the V. Dale Cozad Lecture on October 18, 2004, in 314 Illini Union, 1401 West Green in Urbana. The lecture starts at 5:30 p.m. and the public is invited to attend. Free parking is available in the campus lot east of Grainger Library Information Center on Springfield Ave.

Jimmy John's was listed as the tenth fastest growing chain in the US by *Restaurant Business* magazine this year and was named a Franchise Gold 100 Company by *Success* magazine in 1998. Liautaud was inducted into the Chicago Area Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame in 2000 and was named to *Crain's Chicago Business* 40 Under 40 in 2003. This year, he was named a winner in the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Illinois.

The V. Dale Cozad Lecture Series in Entrepreneurship was established through the efforts of Peter and Kim Fox and endowed by gifts from the family and friends of Dale Cozad. The lecture series honors the memory of Dale Cozad and the hard work, dedication, and entrepreneurial spirit that lead to his success. The Center for Entrepreneurial Development, a unit of the College of Business that offers business assistance to entrepreneurs, is the co-host of the Cozad Lecture.

Nationally recognized as one of the leading business schools, the College of Business at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has outstanding programs in accountancy, business administration, and finance. The College enrolls approximately 3,000 undergraduates and 850 graduate students in MBA, master's, and doctoral programs.

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