



# The Indiana Entrepreneur

## Entrepreneurship Professors Honored with Top National Awards

Two entrepreneurship professors were honored by the Academy of Management this past August at the national conference in Chicago.



Greg Fisher

**Dr. Greg Fisher** received the Emerging Scholar Award for innovative and impactful contributions to entrepreneurship research. His research focuses on three themes in entrepreneurship: social evaluations of entrepreneurs and new ventures, the actions and behaviors of entrepreneurs, and the impact of community and connections on entrepreneurial activities. His research centers on two

types of outcomes: attracting and marshaling resources and support for new ventures and the competitiveness of new ventures.

In accepting the award in Chicago, Dr. Fisher concluded his statements by saying, "Entrepreneurship is a diverse domain of study, and it is not an easy topic to research. Yet it is critically important, and we should not shy away from seeking to properly understand what allows entrepreneurship to flourish, just because it is tough. I come to work every day keen to take on this challenge, and I feel extremely privileged to be able to do what I do in seeking to understand entrepreneurship at a deeper level."

Dr. Fisher is an associate professor of entrepreneurship and holds the Larry and Barbara Sharpf Professorship. His research has been published in numerous journals including the *Academy of Management Review*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Strategic Management Journal*, *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Journal of Management Studies*, and *Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice*.



Jeffery S. McMullen

**Dr. Jeffery S. McMullen** received the prestigious Foundational Paper Award. This award is not an annual award and is only bestowed when a research article has powerfully and positively changed the conversation in the field of entrepreneurship for at least a decade. Key criteria are that the paper must have been published for 10 years, and the author must be living. Dr. McMullen's 2006 article

"Entrepreneurial Action and the Role of

Uncertainty in the Theory of the Entrepreneur" was published in the *Academy of Management Review*. By considering the amount of uncertainty perceived and the willingness to bear uncertainty concomitantly, this article provided a more complete conceptual model of entrepreneurial action that allowed for examination of entrepreneurial action at the individual level while remaining consistent with a rich legacy of system-level theories of the entrepreneur. The model not only exposed limitations of existing theories of entrepreneurial action but also contributed to a deeper understanding of important issues such as the nature of opportunity and the potential for philosophical reconciliation among entrepreneurship scholars. Dr. McMullen is the third IU professor to receive this honor recently along with Dr. Jeff Covin (2016) and Dr. Tricia McDougall (2015), demonstrating the powerful impact that Indiana University researchers have had on the entrepreneurship discipline.

Dr. McMullen is a professor of entrepreneurship and holds the Dale M. Coleman Chair in Management. He is the editor-in-chief of the world's leading academic journal in entrepreneurship, the *Journal of Business Venturing*. He studies entrepreneurship as both a process of self-discovery and socioeconomic change, investigating entrepreneurial cognition, motivation, action, and opportunity in the contexts of commercial, social, sustainable, and development entrepreneurship. Dr. McMullen's research has been published in numerous journals including *Academy of Management Annals*, *Academy of Management Journal*, *Academy of Management Review*, *Entrepreneurship Theory & Practice*, *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Journal of International Business Studies*, *Journal of Management Studies*, *Organization Studies*, *Strategic Entrepreneurship Journal*, and *Strategic Management Journal*, among others.

## Featured Scholar

**Dr. Trenton (Trent) Williams** joined the Kelley School of Business as an assistant professor of entrepreneurship and strategy in summer 2017. A graduate of the Kelley School, he earned his PhD in strategic management and entrepreneurship in 2014. Prior to joining Kelley as a full-time faculty member, Trent was a visiting assistant professor at Kelley and an assistant professor of entrepreneurship at Syracuse University's Whitman School of Business.



Trenton Williams

Before his academic career, Trent obtained a master's degree from the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University. He worked for Deloitte Consulting and then PwC Advisory in the Dallas area, where he specialized in strategy implementation, corporate diversification, and technology-human capital solutions.

Trent's research focuses on entrepreneurial behaviors under extreme resource constraint, including how people make decisions and form new ventures, as well as resiliency in the wake of exogenous shocks. His work has been published in the *Journal of Business Venturing*, *Academy of Management Journal*, *Academy of Management Review*, and the *Academy of Management Annals*, among others.

## Distinguished Innovator Award Winner

**Dr. Jeffrey Stamp** created Lays Baked Potato Crisps for PepsiCo's snack division, which reported sales of \$230 million in the product's first year. The product was named by EY as the top brand introduction in the 1990s for the food sector.

He has led seven successful entrepreneurial start-ups and served as a "Chief Trained Brain" and vice president of technology for Eureka Ranch, a leading product and service creativity think tank. His team at Eureka Ranch was awarded the George Land World-Class Innovator Award from the Innovation Network and from *Fast Company* magazine. For more than 25 years, he has helped business professionals at more than 300 companies and countless university students awaken their untapped creative abilities and accelerate their "discovery thinking" that adds value to organizations and improves the performance of individuals and teams.

From 2005 to 2009, he chaired the entrepreneurship and innovation program at the University of North Dakota, and

he was on the board of the Dakota Venture Group, which guided students in developing investment portfolio strategies. In 2008, Dr. Stamp received the Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education Award from the Acton Foundation.

His research focuses on the creative and cognitive processes that entrepreneurs use in idea creation, technology innovation, and opportunity recognition. At Bold Thinking, he leads a team of highly skilled thinkers in a creativity laboratory that provides ideation, concept development, venture strategy, and training for organizations that want to find new opportunities or foster entrepreneurial thinking skills.



Jeffrey Stamp

## Rankings



**Entrepreneurship Research  
Worldwide**

*Journal of Small Business  
Management, 2018*



**Entrepreneurship  
Among Public Universities**

*U.S. News & World Report, 2018*



**Entrepreneurship  
Overall**

*U.S. News & World Report, 2018*

# Entrepreneurial Innovation Academy Highlight



**Elevate Ventures:** During the fall intensive week, the Entrepreneurial Innovation Academy (EIA) had an opportunity to work with Elevate Ventures on assessing early stage business opportunities. Elevate Ventures is located in Indianapolis and defines itself as part venture capital fund and part entrepreneurial development partner. The company aims to create sustainable cultures and infrastructure across Indiana that support the ongoing development and success of entrepreneurs. The students of the EIA were grouped in teams and assigned a start-up company that Elevate was considering for investment. Teams had one week to assess their companies' strengths and weaknesses and make a recommendation to Elevate leadership. The recommendations could be to invest in the current business model, pivot the business into a different business model, or cease all investment.

**The Heritage Group:** The Heritage Group focuses on the core industries of Environmental and Remediation, Specialty Chemicals and Fuel Products, and Construction and Materials. The students of the EIA toured Heritage Group's new facility, receiving glimpses into their R&D department, a history of the company, and a walk-through of their new venture arm, which will be focused on investing in start-ups.

At the end of the trip, the students were broken into teams charged with finding/creating a central platform that could be used to manage corporate innovation knowledge generated through the portfolio companies.

## Entrepreneurial Speaker Series

The Entrepreneurial Innovation Academy students had the privilege of hearing from three outstanding and successful entrepreneurs in this unique and intensive entrepreneurial experience. The series was comprised of three one-day workshops with the following speakers:

- **Jodi Bondi Norgaard**, *Speaker, Consultant, Founder of Go! Go! Sports Girls and JB Norgaard Enterprises, Inc.*  
Topic: Creating Change and Breaking Gender Stereotypes
- **Jim Pearson**, *Founder, President, & CEO of NICO Corporation*  
Topic: Entrepreneurial Leadership
- **Tom Hustad**, *Professor Emeritus, IU Kelley School of Business*  
Topic: New Product Management

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