

## **Engineering Education and the Entrepreneurial Mindset at Lawrence Tech**

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### **Abstract**

The Entrepreneurial Mindset goes beyond creating a business venture. The foundational elements of entrepreneurship include creating an awareness of the importance of opportunity recognition, managing risk, experiencing failure and ambiguity. Entrepreneurial thinking is important for individuals who may create a business as well as for those who will work in larger organization as “Corporate Entrepreneurs” or “Entrepreneurs.” The entrepreneurial mind solves problems using creativity and inventive approaches.

Lawrence Technological University has embarked on journey that addresses value of entrepreneurial thinking in the engineering discipline. Through the support of the Kern Family Foundation, 30 courses in engineering curriculum are in process of being modified using problem based and active collaborative learning. As result of these modifications, these courses include module entrepreneurial content. In addition, several extra-curricular activities and programs have also been developed to foster the entrepreneurial mindset in the engineering discipline. Among those are: Entrepreneurial Lecture Series, Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization, Entrepreneurial Internship Program, Innovation Encounter Competition and a Certificate of Engineering Entrepreneurial Studies. The creation of an entrepreneurial alumnae organization, The Legends of Lawrence Tech, has provided a funding source for student senior projects that may have a commercialization opportunity.