

Bruce Bachenheimer Speaks on “Social Entrepreneurship” at 2009 GCEC Conference, Houston, Oct 16

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“Social Entrepreneurship – In-house and Out in the Desert” To be discussed at Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers Conference, Houston, October 16, by Bruce Bachenheimer, Director of Entrepreneurship at Pace University

NEW YORK, NY, October 15, 2009 – Bruce Bachenheimer, director of entrepreneurship studies at Pace University’s Lubin School of Business and a faculty fellow at Pace’s Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship, will discuss current social entrepreneurship initiatives as a panelist at the 2009 Global Consortium of Entrepreneurs Centers Conference.

With 200 university-based entrepreneurship centers as members, the consortium is one of the best-respected forums in the growing field of teaching entrepreneurship. This year’s gathering, at Rice University, Houston, will discuss ways “entrepreneurship and innovation are “Driving the Global Economy.” Pace University is one of the first colleges to offer courses in entrepreneurship and is celebrating its 30th anniversary in this field of study this year.

Bachenheimer, a Clinical Professor of Management at the Lubin School of Business, will join faculty members from Purdue University, Drake University and Washington University, St. Louis, in a panel discussion Friday, October 16 titled: “Social Entrepreneurship – In-House and Out in the Desert.”

His talk will specifically address building effective social entrepreneurship programs to benefit society and underdeveloped countries.

Hands-on in Tanzania

Peter Drucker, in his 1985 book, “Innovation and Entrepreneurship,” cited Pace University as one of two “entrepreneurial universities” steeped in entrepreneurial instinct and focused on seizing opportunities for educational excellence in a manner reflecting societal and market needs.

Bachenheimer is the mastermind behind the annual Pace Pitch Contest, now in its sixth year and offering a \$25,000 cash prize for the winning social venture presentation on December 3. He also spearheads the Pace Business Plan Competition, which is also in its sixth year and features a “best social venture” category. He serves on the Advisory Board of Pace’s Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship; organizes speakers/panel discussions on social entrepreneurship initiatives like IBM’s Corporate Service Corps initiative, and speaks at external events on social entrepreneurship like the Annual Youth Assembly at the United Nations.

“For me, it is really about providing students with “hands-on” opportunities to deepen their understanding of the power of social entrepreneurship and encourage the creation of ventures to help solve world problems such as poverty, pollution and poor nutrition,” said Bachenheimer, who led a 10-day International Field Study course during Spring Break 2008 to Tanzania. He and his 15 MBA candidates came away inspired by their meetings with important figures including:

- David Robinson, the son of U.S. baseball legend and civil-rights hero Jackie Robinson, who is using the coffee grown on his 280-acre farmers’ cooperative Sweet Unity Farms to encourage social change;
- Reginald Mengi, an industrialist and media tycoon. The former Chairman and Managing Partner of Coopers & Lybrand (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) in Tanzania, Mengi is the founder and Executive Chairman of the IPP business conglomerate; and
- Alex Mkindi, Deputy Country Director of TechnoServe, one of the world’s most successful social entrepreneurial organizations. TechnoServe received a \$46.9 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help small-scale farmers in East Africa improve coffee quality, increase production and link to markets.

Rooted in entrepreneurship

Pace University was founded by two entrepreneurial brothers, Homer and Charles Pace, who in 1906 borrowed \$600 to rent a classroom in lower Manhattan to teach ten men and three women the principles of business. The undergraduate concentration in Entrepreneurship was established in 1979, formally offered as one of five concentrations in the Management major.

Centers and activities that support Pace’s entrepreneurship program include:

- The Small Business Development Center (established 1986) • The Entrepreneur in Residence Program (established 1998) • The “SCI2” Business Incubator (established 2003) • The Pace Business Plan Competition (established 2004) • The Pace Pitch Contest (established 2004) • The Wilson Center for Social Entrepreneurship (established 2005)

About Pace University For 103 years Pace University has produced thinking professionals by providing high quality education for the professions on a firm base of liberal learning amid the advantages of the New York metropolitan area. A private university, Pace has campuses in New York City and Westchester County, New York, enrolling nearly 13,000 students in bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral programs in its Lubin School of Business, Dyson College of Arts and Sciences, Lienhard School of Nursing, School of Education, School of Law, and Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems. Visit Pace on the web at www.pace.edu | Facebook | Twitter (@PaceUNews) | Flickr | YouTube