Entrepreneurship: Developing a Start-Up Ecosystem at USF

Abstract

The entrepreneurship ecosystem at USF is growing rapidly. The extensive resources range from formal programs at USF Connects to new exciting programs being developed by the Center of Entrepreneurship. In particular, two of the newest programs are the Student Innovation Incubator and U-Start. The student innovation incubator offers students with business ideas the opportunity to get the mentorship and resources to move their idea to a market testable prototype. Meanwhile, U-Start gives students from various backgrounds a chance to train to become part of a management team in charge of developing and commercializing university intellectual property (IP). Both of these programs are designed to give students hands-on entrepreneurship experience.

Biography

Mr. Antwoine Flowers graduated from Tuskegee University in 2008 with a Bachelor in Biological Science. He has worked in the Biotechnology Industry as a Research Associate at CSL Behring as well academia at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is currently earning a PhD in Medical Science with a concentration in Neuroscience while concurrently a student in the Applied Technology Entrepreneurship Master’s Program in the College of Business. While at USF he has served as Program Coordinator for the Student Innovation Incubator and founder of the Venture Team initiative. His career focus is start up and commercialization strategies for emerging companies in Biotechnology and adjacent industries.