

**UCONN**

CONNECTICUT CENTER  
FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
AND INNOVATION

**IMPACT**

**REPORT**

**FY 2022-2023**

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# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In 2022, CCEI celebrated 15 years of entrepreneurship at UConn — which was an incredible accomplishment that brought to the forefront all that was achieved in that period. In reflection of this last academic year, it feels like we have moved at a record pace, supporting more entrepreneurs, launching new programs, and growing our team.

For the fifth consecutive year, UConn was ranked in the 2023 *Princeton Review* **Top 50 Entrepreneurship Programs**. As an institution, we have worked hard to build a culture of entrepreneurship by making it accessible to all students. Last year, we launched the first university-wide 1-credit pop-up course in entrepreneurship, open to anyone in our community that wanted to enroll. This course combined faculty from various academic disciplines to discuss the entrepreneurial mindset and understand what it takes to launch a venture. The course has run twice since launching, and we are currently enrolling a third cohort this summer. To date, we have had 1,834 students successfully complete this course.

We also have continuously expanded our involvement in "thought leadership" in entrepreneurship programming and education. We recently **published a paper** in USASBE's *Entrepreneurship Education and Pedagogy* titled "Examining the Importance of Developing Entrepreneurial Communication Skills in Accelerator Programs: A Focus Group Based Approach." Additionally, we have been identified as contributing members of the Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers (GCEC): our team led three conference presentations at the 2022 GCEC annual conference, we hosted a "Virtual Connections" panel, we served as conference proposal reviewers, and I personally had the privilege to be invited to serve on the GCEC Executive Advisory Board.

We recently launched our inaugural **CCEI Book Club** to engage our team with the entrepreneurs in our community. We hope anyone interested will consider joining us by reading *Unreasonable Hospitality* by Will Guidara this summer, with additional books to follow.

As we turned the corner into 2023, a trend became evident: this year was going to be a year of momentum. We hit a record number of attendees at our events — almost 600 attendees logged in to watch our 3rd annual **Get Seeded Demo Day** — and a record number of applications for our summer programs. While we are only halfway through 2023, we are looking forward to the many great things to come. There are new initiatives in the works, and we eagerly await the opportunity to share our next steps with our community.

Jennifer E. Mathieu  
Executive Director, CCEI

# HISTORY AND TIMELINE

CCEI, established in 2007, was the first organized center to support entrepreneurship activity at UConn. CCEI is identified as an area of strength by the university and is vital to the state and national economy. CCEI carries the legacy of the inaugural entrepreneurship education initiative at UConn, funded by the Wolff Family in the mid-1980's. Since then, the center has transformed entrepreneurship programming to support new venture development.

At CCEI, we value the strength of our community, empowering effective communication, and the cultivation of knowledge. Ultimately, we inspire a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation across the university, the state of Connecticut, and beyond.

2007

*CCEI is established at UConn*

2014

*Received NSF I-Corps Grant to launch Accelerate UConn*

2016

*Launch of CCEI Summer Fellowship, UConn's startup accelerator*

2017

*Werth Institute is founded, CCEI becomes a member & collaborator*

2018

*Launch of CCEI's Get Seeded, UConn's first university-wide seed pitch competition*

2021

*Entrepreneurship Bootcamp For Veterans (EBV) & Family Business Program join CCEI*

2022

*CCEI celebrates its 15th anniversary*



# CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT UCONN

On Friday, December 2, 2022, the Connecticut Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation (CCEI) proudly celebrated a remarkable milestone — the commemoration of our 15th Anniversary.

This auspicious occasion marked a decade and a half of all the ideas turned into businesses, the entrepreneurs and mentors turned into family, and the support system that made it all possible.

CCEI has consistently served as a hub for aspiring entrepreneurs, providing a nurturing and collaborative environment where creative minds can flourish. With its unwavering commitment in supporting startups, the center has become a symbol of success and an invaluable resource for UConn's entrepreneurial community. The 15th Anniversary Celebration was a testament to CCEI's impact, recognizing its journey of empowering individuals and catalyzing the growth of groundbreaking ventures.

Members from all realms of our programs joined together for an all-day conference as they participated in a startup exposition, listened to keynote speakers, engaged in panels and breakout sessions led by experienced entrepreneurs, and enjoyed notable networking opportunities.





As a start to the event, UConn President Dr. Radenka Maric spoke for the keynote address. Dr. Maric's work has included overseeing UConn's technology commercialization initiatives, including licensing, patenting, and entrepreneurial ventures.

Her address was preceded by brief speeches from CCEI's **Executive Director Jennifer Mathieu**, the Dean of the School of Business John Elliott, and Managing Director of **The Werth Institute** David Noble.

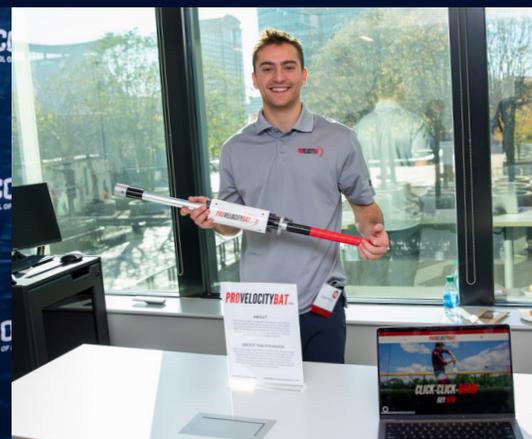
In recognition of 15 years of building businesses, CCEI invited all guests to a startup expo, where past and present program participants had the opportunity to showcase their businesses and provide updates on their success. Featured businesses had products available to interact with and purchase.

Startups included: **VeraDermics**, **Pisces Atlantic**, **The Feel Good Lab**, **onewith**, **LambdaVision**, **Curated CT**, **SedMed**, **Kona Brand**, **Bastion Health**, **Underground Cookies**, **Lactation Innovations**, and **ProVelocity Bat**.

**Connecticut Senator Richard Blumenthal** spoke as he awarded CCEI with a certificate of special recognition in honor of the 15th year of fostering entrepreneurship and catalyzing Connecticut's economic growth.

Following a speed-round entrepreneurial panel featuring **Ryan Gresh**, **Nick Wagner**, and Jennifer Mathieu, we held five breakout sessions where guests could listen to motivational workshops led by expert entrepreneurs in our community. Session speakers included: **Rory McGloin**, **Matt Chavlovich**, **Pete Sena**, **Charlene Walters**, and **Amanda Slavin**.

We extend our gratitude for all who joined us in celebrating this milestone. The presence and support of our community made this event truly memorable; here's to many more years!



# MISSION AND VALUES

CCEI supports students, faculty, and alumni as they innovate and create solutions to some of the world's greatest problems. We connect students with opportunities to learn and engage in entrepreneurship, and know that these transformative experiences will be a catalyst in building the future they dream of. For alumni, we are here to support their passions and goals no matter where their journey will take them.

While **Entrepreneurship. Starts. Here.** We certainly know it is just one step!

At CCEI, we strive to ...



## BUILD

We build ventures through various programs that help support ideation, concept development, market and customer validation, business model creation, proof of concept, and initial launch into the market.



## DEVELOP

We develop entrepreneurs to become successful leaders within their organizations and beyond. Through mentorship and guidance, we empower individuals to navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and leave a legacy of excellence.



## CONNECT

We connect entrepreneurs to an extensive network of resources and industry experts to help them launch and grow successful companies. Creating a supportive ecosystem allows for collaboration and strategic partnerships.

# MEET OUR TEAM

*Our people drive our passion for success.*



**Jennifer Mathieu**  
*Executive Director*



**Rory McGloin, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Director of  
Communication & Research*



**Nicholas Martinelli**  
*Program Manager*



**Alycia Chrosniak**  
*Brand & Venture  
Development Manager*



**Rachel Borden**  
*Business Operations  
Manager*



**Mehgan Williams**  
*Program Coordinator*



**Michaela Hartl**  
*Engagement & Outreach  
Coordinator*



**Kate Savinelli**  
*Marketing & Database  
Assistant*



**Michelle Cote**  
*Lead Instructor*



**Rachel Ayers**  
*Program Assistant*

## 2022-2023 Student Ambassadors

Julie Artiaga, *School of Business*  
Christine Attle, *School of Business*  
Rachel Ayers, *School of Business*  
Kristina DeMichiel, *School of Business/College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*

Alexander Grant, *College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*  
Raymond Ollivierre, *School of Fine Arts*  
Saige Ouellet, *College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*  
Michael Stein, *School of Engineering*

# CCEI FACULTY

Entrepreneurs-in-residence and instructors play a vital role in the success of CCEI. They bring a wealth of real-world experience and industry knowledge, serving as valuable mentors and guides for aspiring entrepreneurs. These experts also provide insights on business strategies, market trends, and navigating the challenges of starting and scaling a venture. Their presence helps create a dynamic learning environment to foster innovation and inspire participants to think creatively and take risks.



**Robin Bienemann**  
*EIR, Family Business Program*



**Matt Connell**  
*Instructor, BUILD Hartford*



**Caroline Dealy, Ph.D.**  
*Faculty Liaison,  
Accelerate UConn*



**Timothy Folta, Ph.D.**  
*Professor of Management &  
Wolff Chair in Entrepreneurship*



**Ken Goldstein**  
*Instructor, InsurTech*



**John Hoffert**  
*NSF I-Corps Instructor,  
Accelerate UConn*



**Leland Holcomb**  
*Instructor, Traction &  
InsurTech*



**Mike Kalen**  
*Instructor, InsurTech*



**Alice Nichols**  
*NSF I-Corps Instructor,  
Accelerate UConn*

# CCEI ADVISORY BOARD

CCEI's Advisory Board is of utmost importance as it brings together a diverse group of seasoned professionals and industry experts. Their collective expertise and networks provide direction and strategic understanding to CCEI. They help shape the center's vision, identify emerging trends, and foster connections within the entrepreneurial ecosystem, ensuring that the center remains relevant and responsive to evolving needs.



**Shay Cantner**  
*Founder & CEO, Elea*



**Ryan Gresh**  
*Founder & CEO,  
The Feel Good Lab*



**Nova Lorraine**  
*Founder, Raine Magazine*



**Pete Sena**  
*Founder, Digital Surgeons*



**Sam Simons**  
*President & COO, OEM Controls*



**Charlene Walters**  
*Business Mentor,  
Consultant, Author*



**Gary Wolff**  
*President, Wolff Wealth  
Advisors*



**Greg Wolff**  
*Financial Planner,  
Wolff Financial Group*



**Asim Zaheer**  
*Serial Entrepreneur  
& CMO, Glassbox*

# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

**\$296K**

PROVIDED IN  
VENTURE FUNDING

**\$216K**

PROVIDED IN  
SCHOLARSHIP &  
INTERNSHIP FUNDS

**\$255M+**

RAISED IN FOLLOW-  
ON FUNDING BY CCEI  
PROGRAM ALUMNI\*

*The 2023 Princeton Review ranked  
The University of Connecticut as:*

**#34**

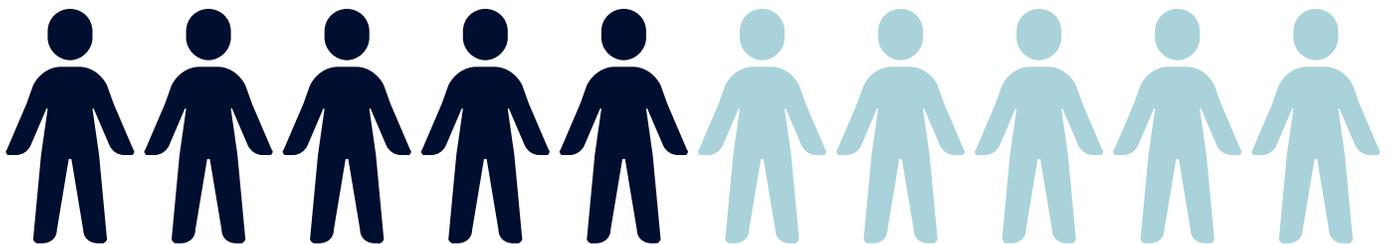
FOR TOP  
UNDERGRADUATE  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
PROGRAMS

**#30**

FOR TOP GRADUATE  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
PROGRAMS

**#5**

IN THE NORTHEAST  
REGION FOR  
UNDERGRADUATE  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
STUDIES



**PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS: 54.3% MALE, 45.7% FEMALE**

\*SINCE 2015

**12**  
SCHOOLS/  
COLLEGES  
REPRESENTED

**57**  
MAJORS/  
DEPARTMENTS  
REPRESENTED



**123** VENTURES  
SUPPORTED



**264** ENTREPRENEURS  
SUPPORTED



**262** WORKSHOPS &  
EVENTS HELD



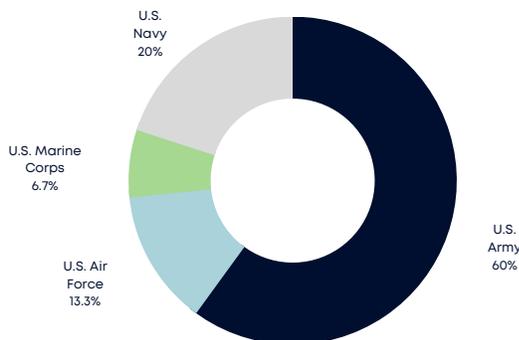
**148** MENTORS  
ENGAGED

## POPULATIONS SERVED

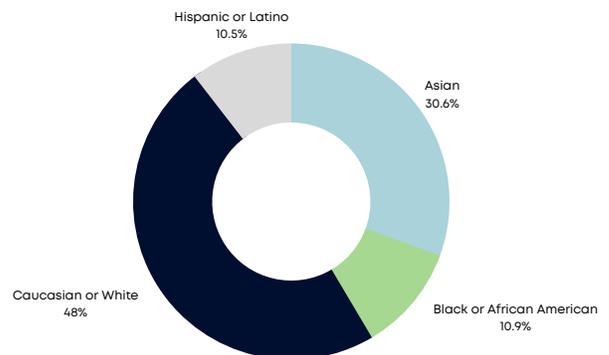


■ Undergraduate Students   
 ■ Graduate Students  
■ PhD Candidates   
 ■ Postdocs   
 ■ Faculty/Staff  
■ Alumni   
 ■ Veterans

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOTCAMP FOR VETERANS SERVICE BREAKOUT



## ETHNICITY BREAKDOWN



NOTE: DATA IS DRAWN FROM ENGAGEMENTS FOR WHICH DATA WAS AVAILABLE; THIS DATA IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE

# IN THE NEWS

CCEI has gained recognition and coverage in recent news features, highlighting program participants as well as program alumni and their progress in their own venture journeys. These articles showcase success stories, venture updates, and the positive influence we have on the UConn community and the broader ecosystem.



## Examining The Importance of Developing Entrepreneurial Communication Skills in Accelerator Programs: A Focus Group Based Approach

This research represents CCEI's commitment to not only supporting entrepreneurs, but to contributing knowledge and best practices in the field of entrepreneurial education and pedagogy. Through their findings, [Dr. McGloin](#) and his team have made a significant contribution to advancing our understanding of effective communication strategies, further solidifying UConn's dedication to research.

[Read More](#)



## As the Connecticut Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation Celebrates its 15th Anniversary, Dozens of Startups Excel

"Bronen credits CCEI, a part of the School of Business, for guiding the inventors on their journey from problem-solvers to true entrepreneurs. 'I think CCEI really launched our company. We didn't really know what we were doing in the early stages,' Bronen said. 'I wasn't even sure if I was going to go to CCEI Summer Fellowship, but Executive Director Jen Mathieu pushed us.'"

[Read More](#)



## School of Business Honors 'Entrepreneurs Who are Going to Change the World'

"On Monday, the startup that Jayme Coates co-founded, Lactation Innovations, won the School of Business' Wolff New Venture Competition and a \$25,000 prize. Lactation Innovations' manoula sensor is a device to help breastfeeding mothers know exactly how much milk their baby is receiving."

[Read More](#)



## New UConn EBV Program Manager: 'We're Like a Family...Helping Accomplish Each Other's Missions'

"Martinelli says he'd like to see the program get more publicity from the military as it helps people transition to civilian life. 'I've met so many people with great ideas for businesses, but they didn't know where to start,' he says. 'I hope we can grow the program and serve even more veterans.'"

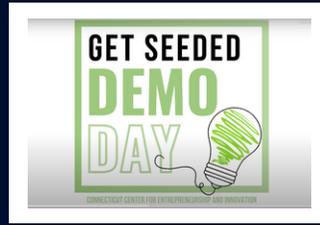
[Read More](#)



## Connecticut Magazine Honors CCEI's Jennifer Mathieu as Influential, Inspirational

"Under her leadership, CCEI has cultivated an ecosystem ... that strengthens UConn and draws on the expertise of experienced entrepreneurs in the region," David Souder, Senior Associate Dean, said. "We are proud of the way Jen helps innovators at UConn learn how to commercialize their ideas and evolve into engines for economic growth."

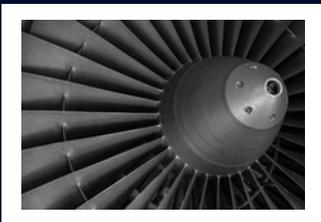
[Read More](#)



## Get Seeded: Demo Day Supports, Uplifts UConn's Aspiring Entrepreneurs

"I participated in a pitch night for the Freshmen Female Founders, the Get Seeded pitch night, and Demo Day," [Allie Davenport] says. "It's cool to see how far I've come in a year, refining my pitch, sharpening my communication skills, and gaining a level of confidence. My ideas are valuable, and I have a seat at the table."

[Read More](#)



## PHOENIX TAILINGS: Engineering Innovation to Meet Demand with Domestic Supply

Led by Nicholas Myers, Phoenix Tailings was selected for CCEI's Summer Fellowship in 2019, which eventually led to them winning first place and the \$20,000 prize fund in the 2019 Wolff New Venture Competition. Phoenix credits the Wolff earnings as a way to begin investing in proprietary technology.

[Read More](#)



## Pioneering Puppet Project 'Feel Your Best Self' Coming to More Screens Near You

The celebrated program, which uses puppets to help kids and their caregivers explore emotion-coping strategies with a free toolkit, has extended a license to New York's THIRTEEN public broadcasting channel. The team is currently undergoing CCEI's 2023 Summer Fellowship.

[Read More](#)



## EBV Honors Lawrence Dapo '15 With Inaugural Zacchea Veterans Impact Award

"The UConn EBV program has awarded the inaugural 'Michael J. Zacchea Veterans Impact Award' to a program alumnus who played an integral role in protecting former Vice President Dick Cheney on Sept. 11, created a successful Connecticut construction company, and continually supports his fellow veterans."

[Read More](#)



## Veradermics Doses First Patient in Phase 2 Clinical Trial for VDMN for the Treatment of Common Warts

Veradermics Inc., a clinical-stage medical dermatology company with a pipeline of product candidates targeting prevalent skin conditions, announced that it has commenced enrollment in a Phase 2, 150-person, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial assessing the safety and efficacy of VDMN in Verruca Vulgaris (common warts).

[Read More](#)

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## "BUILD" PROGRAMS



### Get Seeded

FALL & SPRING PITCH NIGHTS: **24 STARTUP TEAMS PITCHED** | **\$19,750** IN SEED FUNDING | **971** ATTENDEES

Holding monthly pitch competitions for students, winners receive up to \$1,000 for early stage ideas. Selected teams pitch to an audience of their peers, receive feedback, and participate in virtual networking. Audience members vote on which teams receive funding. At the end of the year, five teams are selected for "Demo Day," an opportunity for additional seed funding.



### Traction

FALL & SPRING COHORTS: **24 ENTREPRENEURS** | **16 STARTUP TEAMS**

This program focuses on product-solution fit and supports UConn-affiliated startup ideas as they work to validate their ventures. Participants learn the key elements of the Business Model Canvas (BMC), while engaging in customer discovery efforts that will allow them to better understand the market they're entering and the value they plan to provide to key stakeholders in the process.



### Accelerate UConn

PHASE 0, PHASE 1 (2 COHORTS) & PHASE 2: **63 ENTREPRENEURS** | **29 STARTUP TEAMS** | **\$61,000** IN SEED FUNDING

As UConn's NSF I-Corps program, its mission is to catalyze technology concepts that are candidates for commercialization. With the support of key instructors, teams explore the translation of their ideas, processes, services, products, or other intellectual activities into the marketplace.



### CCEI Summer Fellowship

SUMMER 2022 COHORT: **27 ENTREPRENEURS** | **10 STARTUP TEAMS** | **\$150,000** IN SEED FUNDING

In this startup accelerator program, the top ten startups from across UConn are selected to participate in an immersive, eight-week long experience. Participants develop the skills needed to bring new products, services, and technologies to market, while receiving one-on-one coaching and mentorship from industry experts, as well as pro bono legal, accounting, and branding/marketing services.



### Wolff New Venture Competition

OCTOBER 2022: **5 SELECTED FINALIST TEAMS** | **\$45,000** IN SEED FUNDING | **568** ATTENDEES

A pitch competition featuring the hand-selected top five startup teams coming out of CCEI's Summer Fellowship program each year, with the first place winner receiving \$25,000 in seed funding. The four runner-ups also receive awards totaling \$20,000. 2022's Wolff New Venture Competition winner was Lactation Innovations, led by Jayme Coates and Brittany Molkenhain.



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## "DEVELOP" PROGRAMS



### **Family Business Program**

*YEAR-ROUND PANELS & WORKSHOPS: 7 EVENTS*

This program helps family businesses adapt and thrive in today's changing economic and business climate. Through business and family-systems programming, it prepares and propels businesses through innovative business strategy, organizational structure, management practices, human resources, leadership development, and succession planning.



### **Entrepreneurship Bootcamp For Veterans (EBV)**

*SUMMER 2022 COHORT: 16 GRADUATES | \$9,500 IN SEED FUNDING & AWARDS*

Offering cutting edge, experiential training in entrepreneurship & small business management to post-9/11 veterans, this program utilizes the power of entrepreneurship in communities by fostering routes for job creation and economic vitality. It's designed to give focused, practical training in the tools of new venture creation and support for program graduates.



### **BUILD Hartford**

*FALL & SPRING COHORTS: 15 STUDENTS | 3 INTERNSHIPS*

This program offers entrepreneurial education and real-world applications for students to create innovative projects that aid in the development of Hartford. The program provides tools for students to gain knowledge about the city's entrepreneurial ecosystem, analyze data, and communicate ideas to stakeholders.



### **InsurTech Initiative**

*COURSE & FELLOWSHIP: 11 FELLOWS | \$33,000 IN INTERNSHIP FUNDING*

A joint venture between UConn and the University of Hartford, this program is designed to grow the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators in the insurance industry and the InsurTech space. Students have the opportunity to assist both startups and established companies test new technologies to fuel growth through innovation.



### **Verge Consulting Program**

*SUMMER 2022 & 2023 COHORTS: 13 CONSULTANTS | 40+ BUSINESSES | \$97,500 IN INTERNSHIP FUNDING*

Through a partnership with the CT Small Business Development Center, participants work directly with SBDC's Business Advisors to learn about consulting/supporting businesses. As a team, they consult between 8-15 companies in a variety of different industries, life cycles, challenges they face, and types of projects.



### **Business Consulting Accelerator**

*SUMMER 2022 COHORT: PILOTED WITH 2 BUSINESS CONSULTANTS | \$10,000 IN SEED FUNDING*

This program was piloted and launched to provide entrepreneurial-minded students with the support and knowledge needed to successfully launch their own business consulting firms. It aimed to foster an environment that focuses on experiential learning, peer-to-peer mentorship, and individual skillset development.



### **Entrepreneurship & Innovation Research Policy Seminars**

*YEAR-ROUND VIRTUAL MEETINGS: 14 SEMINARS*

Aiming to advance the understanding of the policies designed to spur entrepreneurship and innovation at a local, regional, national, and international level, this program features monthly seminars. In the past fiscal year, over 15 scholars at top academic institutions around the world presented their research and received comments from policy-makers and like-minded scholars.

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## "CONNECT" PROGRAMS



### Timely Topics

YEAR-ROUND VIRTUAL TALKS: 27 GUEST SPEAKERS

This podcast-style program features panels of speakers, workshops to engage entrepreneurs, and fireside chats with successful business leaders. The sessions aim to provide ongoing opportunities and connections for students, faculty, and alumni to learn, grow, and network.



### Student Ambassadors Program

FALL & SPRING STUDENT LEADERS: 8 AMBASSADORS

Student Ambassadors aid in the process of recruiting UConn students to participate in CCEI's programs. They work collaboratively to reach students across campuses through events, social media, and in-class presentations. They are innovative, driven, and encouraging leaders who assist in the growth of CCEI's programs.

# COLLABORATIONS



### Exploring The Entrepreneurial Perspective

POP-UP COURSE: 1,834 STUDENTS

This 1-credit pop-up course is a collaboration between all entrepreneurship faculty at UConn to bring a broad perspective of entrepreneurship to students who enroll. The course introduces students to entrepreneurship as a way to create value and exposes them to qualities of effective entrepreneurs. The course also introduces students to resources at UConn to continue their study and development in understanding whether and how they might pursue entrepreneurship in their careers.



### Launc[H]

HARTFORD'S INNOVATION & TECH HUB

Launc[H] is the driving force behind the development of Hartford's innovation ecosystem. Since 2017, CCEI's Michelle Cote has been leading the effort to identify challenges for companies and work to broker public-private investments that address them. During this time, Launc[H] has helped to coalesce over \$10M in investment in Hartford's innovation community to help place Hartford in the **Top 100 Entrepreneurship Ecosystems** worldwide.

In April, Launc[H] organized Hartford's 2nd Annual AI Day, bringing together members of the academic and professional community to discuss advances in artificial intelligence, applications in the business environment, opportunities for emerging talent, and ethical questions surrounding implementation. CCEI and the UConn School of Business played a critical role as both a sponsor, and co-organizer as a total of 180 members of the local community took part.

# CONTRIBUTIONS TO GCEC

The Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers (GCEC) was established in 1997 for the purpose of becoming the key junction for university-based entrepreneurship centers across the U.S. to collaborate, communicate, and jointly advance excellence in entrepreneurship through the unique role and position of the centers in the academic and business communities. GCEC stands as the premier leadership organization addressing the emerging topics of importance to the nation's university-based centers for entrepreneurship.

Our team attended the annual GCEC conference at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in October. We were honored to host three sessions, including:

- 1 YOU As An Entrepreneur: Integrating Personal Development Into Entrepreneurship Curriculum & Programming — Led by Jennifer Mathieu & Rory McGloin**
- 2 Communication At The Center? A Qualitative Investigation Into the Value of Business Communication Training & Development Within Entrepreneurial Acceleration Centers — Led by Rory McGloin**
- 3 BUILDing Community Based Entrepreneurship: Examining A Community-Centered Approach To Entrepreneurship Education & Providing A Blueprint For Future Programs — Led by Michaela Hartl, Jennifer Mathieu, Rory McGloin & Alycia Chrosniak**



## Leadership Circle

While UConn has been a member of GCEC since 2018, CCEI has recently joined the Leadership Circle. As we are working to build our reputation as a top entrepreneurship university, our commitment to "thought leadership" and organizations within our space becomes imperative.



## Virtual Connections

CCEI hosted our first "Virtual Connections" event as a follow-up to a highly engaged session we led at the 2022 conference. This panel, titled "Integrating Personal Development Into Entrepreneurship Curriculum & Programming," featured Jennifer Mathieu & Rory McGloin, alongside two colleagues; Kassie Tucker (Tsai Center For Innovative Thinking at Yale University), and Lesley Robinson (University of Texas at Austin).



## Executive Advisory Board

Jennifer Mathieu was selected to join the GCEC Executive Advisory Board beginning this year. This role is to provide strategic input and direction for GCEC in order to carry out the organization's mission to promote the best practices on university entrepreneurship programs and member networking.



At CCEI, we value the importance of our connections, both in our community and across Connecticut's companies, to support an entrepreneurial ecosystem. To fuel our growth and vision, we rely on our committed program sponsors and donors. With their dedication, CCEI's sponsors and donors bridge the gap between startups and fully fledged companies. Thank you to all our donors for your continued support!

# SPONSORS & DONORS

## Program Sponsors



## Program Donors \*

Aldrich, Alecia  
 Anderson, Ann  
 Bascom, Margaret  
 Beaudoin, Mark  
 Binder, Carol  
 Blume, Jonathan  
 Boer, Eileen  
 Borden, Rachel  
 Brett, John  
 Brewer, Robert  
 Bronen, Jeremy  
 Burrington, Nancy  
 Burrington, Ray  
 Cantner, Shay  
 Casavant, Frederick  
 Casey, William  
 Chrosniak, Alycia  
 Coles, John  
 Creal, Yolanda  
 Cronin, Christina  
 Crossen, James  
 Crossen, Kerry  
 CT Wealth Management, LLC  
 David & Lisa Murphy Foundation  
 DeBlasis, Joann  
 DeLuca Jr., Michael  
 DeMichiel, Kristina  
 DesRoches, Gerald  
 DesRoches, Katrina  
 D.A.V. Charitable Service Trust  
 Douglas, Craig  
 Edelen, David  
 Ferrari, Christopher

Fleischer, Elaine  
 Fleischer, William  
 Francione, David  
 Glass, Elisa  
 Gramling, Lawrence  
 Greenblatt, Jonathan  
 Guerrero, William  
 Halprin, Matthew  
 Harriet S. Winograd Fund  
 Hazel, Joseph  
 Heath, Fenno  
 Heath, Paris  
 Henderson, Dr. Wendy  
 Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP  
 Hinkle, Arditia  
 Hinkle, Carl  
 Hoffmann, James  
 Holcomb, Leland  
 Hudson, Lisa  
 Hurwitz, Fawn  
 Jett, Medina  
 Jon Val Hair Salon  
 Juknavorian Jr., Richard  
 Juknavorian, Susan  
 Junda, Mary  
 Knebel, Wendy  
 KPMG Foundation  
 LaCroix, Celestine  
 LaCroix, Norman  
 Lander, Erina  
 Lander, Joe  
 Lander, Pamela  
 Lander, Stewart

Levy, Toby  
 Lin, Sharon  
 Lockheed Martin Corporation  
 Lombardo, Marcia  
 MacArthur, John  
 Mansfield Lions Club  
 Markleski, Craig  
 Mathieu, Jennifer  
 McDonald, Sean  
 McKenna, Karen  
 Merchan, Diana  
 Merchan, Nelson  
 Mummert, Gary  
 Nazarov, Amy  
 Nazarov, Ari  
 Nee, Maura  
 Nemeth, Marc  
 O'Connell, Melanie  
 O'Connell, Sean  
 Penagos, Diana  
 Peterson Trolle, Diann  
 Qiao, Mingyu  
 Rivard, Gail  
 Ruchwa, Peter  
 Russo, Jon  
 Russo, Michele  
 Salek, John  
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 SBM Charitable Foundation, Inc.  
 Schumann, Kristina  
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Sidewater, Debra  
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 Sinclair Insurance Group, Inc.  
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 The Cantor Family  
 The Milbank Foundation  
 The Persbacker Foundation  
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 Toland Jr., Paul  
 Toland, Linda  
 Toomey Family Charitable Fund  
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\* DATA IS DRAWN FROM ENGAGEMENTS FOR WHICH DATA WAS AVAILABLE; THIS DATA IS NOT EXHAUSTIVE

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And lastly, thank you to our program participants for your commitment and dedication to your ventures. It has been a pleasure to support all of you, and we look forward to the future of CCEI!



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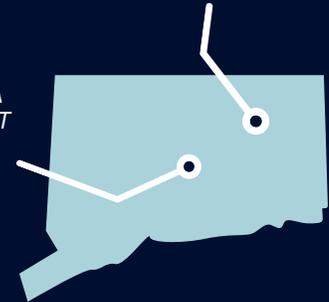
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