

By: Dukes

H.R. No. 196

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium at The
2 University of Texas at Austin is reenvisioning the nature of higher
3 education in the 21st century; and

4 WHEREAS, Established by Dr. Richard Cherwitz of UT-Austin
5 some 15 years ago, Intellectual Entrepreneurship aims to provide a
6 structure for students to take charge of their educational
7 experience, promote diversity in higher education, foster learning
8 across disciplinary boundaries, and generate collaborations
9 between the academy and the greater community; and

10 WHEREAS, Originally based in the UT Office of Graduate
11 Studies, Intellectual Entrepreneurship has evolved into a
12 consortium composed of the Colleges of Communication, Liberal Arts,
13 Fine Arts, Natural Sciences, Education, and Pharmacy and the
14 Schools of Information, Law, Engineering, Public Affairs,
15 Business, and Social Work; to date, more than 5,000 students have
16 participated in IE initiatives; and

17 WHEREAS, These groundbreaking programs include the
18 Pre-Graduate School Internship, in which juniors and seniors who
19 are considering graduate school work with graduate student mentors
20 and community liaisons with graduate degrees to explore the
21 academic and nonacademic value of graduate study; this
22 award-winning program has served to increase diversity in graduate
23 education by facilitating the entrance of minority and
24 first-generation college students into graduate school; and

1 WHEREAS, The program Interpreting the Texas Past allows
2 graduate students to undertake projects, such as the collection of
3 oral histories and the creation of documentary films and exhibits,
4 that benefit Texas communities while helping the students to
5 develop a range of professional skills; for every dollar of
6 institutional funding devoted to ITP, the program generates nearly
7 five dollars of investment from external foundations and agencies;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Action Seminars enable community groups to make
10 contracts with the university to study specific social issues;
11 these seminars could produce public policy proposals, corporate
12 partnerships, and funded and published research; and

13 WHEREAS, Instructional Incubators develop and deliver
14 courses--for both students and community members--designed to
15 address issues in the community; undergraduates, graduate
16 students, and faculty spend one semester of the academic year
17 designing a community-oriented course that they then teach during
18 the second semester; these courses create greater access to the
19 intellectual assets of the university and help bring together
20 academic and nonacademic forms of expertise; and

21 WHEREAS, These and myriad other IE initiatives are all aimed
22 at educating citizen-scholars, individuals who use their
23 intellectual capital as a lever for social good; the IE philosophy
24 replaces the older educational model of
25 "apprenticeship-certification-entitlement" with one of
26 "discovery-ownership-accountability" and encourages a dynamic
27 approach to engaging the world; at the same time, it seeks to build

1 interdisciplinary, collaborative ways for universities to work
2 with their communities to solve complex problems; and

3 WHEREAS, Through its commitment to maximizing the potential
4 of both the university and its students to advance knowledge while
5 also strengthening and enriching Texas communities, the
6 Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium is making a contribution
7 of immeasurable value to the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
9 Legislature, 1st Called Session, hereby honor the Intellectual
10 Entrepreneurship Consortium for its innovative leadership in the
11 realm of higher education and extend to all those associated with
12 its programs sincere best wishes for continued success; and, be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
15 prepared for the Intellectual Entrepreneurship Consortium as an
16 expression of high regard by the Texas House of Representatives.