

Entrepreneurship Speaker Series



You are invited to speak at the Southern Utah University *Entrepreneurship Speaker Series*, one of the highest-rated and most-attended courses at SUU. Class meets once per week, and each week features a different speaker. Attendance is typically about 100 students with an average of 25 different majors represented. While most students are seniors and juniors, there are younger students in the class as well. The one thing they have in common is an interest in entrepreneurship.

One of the reasons for the class's popularity is the variety of perspectives represented by the speakers. Many speakers are entrepreneurs—some of whom have had big exits while others are in the early stages. Of course, entrepreneurs are not the only ones that have a valuable perspective, so we seek to highlight successful people from a variety of professional backgrounds.

Your Story

The big-picture goal is simply to leave aspiring student entrepreneurs better off. Several of our speakers have prepared talks that they give semi-regularly, and that is welcome. Beyond that, it has been said that *the best talk you can give is the one only you can give*. In other words, talking about what you've learned by virtue of your experiences is often the source of powerful and valuable insights. That might include career ups and downs and how they have contributed to your professional success.



There is a difference between repeating things that are true and articulating the truths you have won in your journey. Ideally, we'd like to hear the latter.

Schedule

11:00-11:15 Arrive on campus where we will have a parking spot reserved with your name on it, [here](#).
11:30-12:20 The speaker series class time. Ideally, the last 10 minutes, 12:10-12:20, will be Q and A.
12:45-1:45 Lunch with students, to allow the conversation with students to continue informally.
1:45 Guided tours of campus are available.

Southern Utah University

SUU's amazing story started in 1851 when a group of teachers, artisans and musicians were sent to settle Iron County to mine coal and iron ore. Some 46 years later, in 1897, they dedicated themselves to establishing an institution of higher learning. That institution is now Southern Utah University, which boasts a collection of impressive and continuing accomplishments:



- Princeton Review's "America's Best Value" four-time winner
- Rated as the #1 best college to work for in Utah
- The #1 public nursing program in the state
- The highest National Arts Accreditation
- The #1 helicopter aviation program in the US
- The #1 aviation maintenance program in the US
- Home of a first-of-its kind credit-sharing agreement with a technical college
- The world-renowned Shakespeare Festival is housed at SUU
- The most open free-speech policy in the State
- Home of the 3-year degree, a fast-track option for students
- The accounting program has the highest placement rate in the state
- Top 10 nationally in lowest student debt
- The #1 fastest growing university in the state

Larry H. and Gail Miller Center for Entrepreneurship



The entrepreneurship program started in 2017, with the formation of the Entrepreneur Leadership Council and the hiring of the first program director. The Entrepreneur Leadership Council (ELC), is a group of entrepreneurs who serve the critical role of mentoring. The ELC also serves as an advisory council to the program and funds some student activities.

Since the formation of the ELC and the creation of a program, the entrepreneurship program has grown remarkably quickly, substantially outpacing even the university's rapid growth. Our success comes from

the commitment and loyalty of a group of volunteers called the Entrepreneur Leadership Council (ELC). ELC members are seasoned entrepreneurs who are passionate about giving back to the students, the community and the University by serving as student mentors, advisors to the program and funding student pitch competitions.

The active and energetic entrepreneurial ecosystem at SUU includes the following:

- Mentorship from SUU’s seasoned entrepreneurs, the Entrepreneur Leadership Council
- A full-time Entrepreneur in Residence for walk-in student consultations
- Pitch competitions for business ideas and business plans
- Monthly trips throughout the Intermountain West that allow students to hone their pitch skills, network, and receive specialized training (currently on hold due to the pandemic)
- Values-based curriculum that focuses on entrepreneurs of good character, past and present, teaching students that giving back and leadership are key components of entrepreneurship

Giving Back

Perhaps you had someone lift you up in your early career, or perhaps you wish someone had. Your talents and experience, your resources and your time (even in small quantities), can make all the difference for the future of our students and their dreams. Additionally, if your network includes the kind of people that may offer valuable insights and model good character to our students, we hope you will consider asking them to speak to our students as well.

We hope that sharing your story will be a great experience for you and for all in attendance.

