




MEMORANDUM

University of South Alabama
Office of the Vice President for Research

AD 200 • Mobile, AL 36688-0002
Telephone (251) 460-6333 Fax (251) 460-7955

March 2, 2009

TO: USA Faculty and Students

FROM: 
Russ Lea, Ph.D.
Vice President for Research

SUBJECT: Entrepreneurial Faculty: perspectives from faculty and tech transfer

On April 1, 2009, my office will be sponsoring a campus-wide seminar discussing the pros and cons of being a faculty inventor/entrepreneur. I have invited one of the most engaging faculty members, Dr. Kenneth Swartzel, and one of the most experienced tech transfer/research officers, Dr. David Winwood, to provide presentations spanning their combined experiences as inventor, industry collaborator, tech transfer official, research administrator, and tech park director, and what they have learned over the years in dealing with faculty entrepreneurs.

Dr. Swartzel hails from NC State University where he is an engineer specializing in the processing and packaging of biomaterials. At that time his patent was one to the largest royalty earning licenses from a North Carolina University. Additionally, Dr. Swartzel has served as a department head, an NSF IUCRC Center Director, and currently serves as the national Director of the NASULGC/Kellogg Food systems Leadership Institute. He has been recognized as the William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor and has received NC State's highest recognition for a faculty member, the Alexander Quarles Holladay Medal for Excellence. Nationally, he is a fellow of both the Institute of Food Technologists and the ASAE-The Society for Engineering in Agricultural Food and Biological Systems.

Dr. David Winwood is Chief Executive Officer of the UAB Research Foundation. He has previously managed technology transfer activities at North Carolina State University and The Ohio State University. At NC State University he also managed the Centennial Campus Partnership Office, with responsibility for corporate and government partner recruitment. In addition to university technology licensing experience, he has experience in business development and early stage drug development activities at companies in the Research Triangle Park area of North Carolina. He has served on several business and economic development boards in North Carolina and Ohio and as Second Vice President for the Association of University Research Parks. He is a member of the U.S. Council on Competitiveness' Regional Innovation Initiative Expert Committee and a member of the boards of directors for the Birmingham Venture Club, Innovation Depot, the Biotechnology Association of Alabama and TechBirmingham.

Please join us at 2 p.m. on April 1, 2009, in the College of Education Seminar Room, UCOM 3212. To ensure that enough room is available to accommodate those wanting to attend, please R.S.V.P. to scorry@usouthal.edu by Friday, March 20, 2009.