



Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center

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UNH Alum Donates \$150,000 to Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center (ECenter) for Creation of the Endowed J. Dolores and Alfred P. Maurice Prize for Innovation Fund

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

DURHAM, NH - The University of New Hampshire's Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center (ECenter) announced today the creation of the J. Dolores and Alfred P. Maurice Prize for Innovation Fund. Alfred P. Maurice donated \$150,000 to create an endowed gift to benefit undergraduate student innovation.

ECenter Director Ian Grant remarked, "We are so honored that Alfred Maurice sees the value in encouraging, supporting, and rewarding undergraduate students to be creative and innovative with ideas and solutions. This prize will help the ECenter continue to build the growing innovation culture on campus whether the student idea is a product, social venture, or service."

The ECenter is the hub of all things ideas, innovation, and entrepreneurship and open to all UNH Durham students from all colleges. This is the third such fund created at a university by Alfred Maurice.

Mr. Maurice stated, "The purpose of this Fund is to encourage and foster innovation, creativity, originality, ingenuity, and resourcefulness in undergraduate students enrolled at the University. The Fund establishes the Maurice Challenge and provides for the J. Dolores and Alfred P. Maurice Prize for Innovation. I am excited to see the outcomes from UNH students and excited to have the ECenter be the home of this prize also named for my wife, Dolores."

The Fund is expected to award its first prize of approximately \$5,000 in 2018. All UNH undergraduate students are eligible to participate in the Challenge and receive the Prize.

"We are appreciative of the support by the UNH Advancement office in coordinating this funding, especially Susan McDonough," commented Ian Grant, "With innovation being one of UNH's critical brand pillars, we know it takes a full team working together to have amazing impact on the students."

The ECenter's goal is to continue building the positive and supportive idea, innovation, and entrepreneurial culture at UNH, for all students, faculty, staff,

researchers, and alumni. The ECenter has already established itself as the hub in its area on campus. Programs established include a Start-up Speaker Series, three bootcamps centered around networking, marketing, and sales, a hackathon, one-on-one coaching, the \$10,500 Summer Seed Grant, the \$15,000 i2 Passport Program, and the Paid Internship at Start-Ups Program. Physical resources include co-working zones at Alpha Loft at the ECenter, Makerspace at the ECenter, and the Caffeinator Coffee Bar at the ECenter.

For more information about all the ECenter has to offer, including our full program schedule, please visit our website at www.unh.edu/ecenter. You can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, YouTube, and SnapChat at @UNHECenter.

About the Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center

The Peter T. Paul Entrepreneurship Center (ECenter) in the UNHInnovation wing of Madbury Commons is intentionally independent of any one college on campus. We are here for all students, faculty, staff, researchers, and alumni. The ECenter's goal is to continue building the positive and supportive ideas/innovation/entrepreneurial culture. We create various opportunities for engagement through new co-curricular programming, as well as supporting existing academic, student, university, and independent initiatives.

We support any stage of idea and start-up development – from any discipline or industry, from technology, to social entrepreneurship, to consumer products/lifestyle, and everything in between! Like most university entrepreneurial centers, the ECenter's focus is not solely on helping to support the creation of start-up companies. We also focus on helping individuals and teams to understand the process to see problems and find a range of possible ideas and solutions. That learning experience is invaluable to everyone in any career.

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