



## **Gates Family Foundation Professorship Annual Report- 2023**

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During the previous year, I used the fund toward research, professional development, student organization's support, students' scholarship, and support for entrepreneurial activities such as Idea Pitch Competition, Bob Mark Competition, Central Michigan University's New Venture Competition, and Detroit trip.

### **Research Support**

I hired a student to help me with conducting a systematic review of the literature on serial and portfolio entrepreneurship. They have also assisted me to collect data on entrepreneurial firms in the small satellite industry. This support has been greatly beneficial for my future publication activities.

### **Workshops and Conferences**

The endowed Professorship not only facilitated my participation in the prestigious Babson Conference, a premier conference in the field of entrepreneurship, but also enabled me to attend the Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management. These conference experiences provided me with invaluable exposure to the latest advancements in both entrepreneurship and innovation, significantly enhancing the progress of my research agenda, which focuses on star entrepreneurs, serial and portfolio entrepreneurs, and novel innovation pursuits. Moreover, my presentations contributed to enhancing the visibility of Michigan Tech and the College of Business, gaining recognition for our institution.

### **Student Support**

I have offered 3 student scholarships to encourage highly motivated students to pursue entrepreneurship. I will allocate more funds to the Student Success Committee, enabling them to provide scholarships for College of Business students interested in pursuing a major in entrepreneurship in the upcoming year. This scholarship is a great motivation to support students who are interested in majoring in entrepreneurship.



### **Idea Pitch Competition, Bob Mark Competition, and New Venture Competition**

A portion of the funds was used to grant awards to students as they pursued entrepreneurial endeavors. Specifically, I offered the "Social Impact Award" to promote social entrepreneurship within both the Idea Pitch Competition and the Bob Mark Competition. I also increased the amount of the award for the Idea Pitch Competition, and I will increase the award for the Bob Mark Competition to show the importance of pursuing social entrepreneurship. Similarly, I have allocated funding for an award in an idea pitch competition in Traverse City, aligning with Michigan Tech's strategic partnership with the Traverse City region.

### **CEO Global Conference**

I used part of the funds to support a students' organization focused on entrepreneurship – Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO). This fund helps students attend the related conferences and organize events and workshops.

### **Detroit Trip**

I allocated part of the fund to facilitate the travel of students to Detroit. This trip was a unique opportunity for our students who are either already working on their startups or interested in starting a new business. During this trip, students interacted with high-tech startups and incubators in Detroit. This opportunity greatly helped students to network and get familiar with the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Detroit area.