

**THE INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT UT DALLAS  
NAMED AS FINALIST FOR TECH TITAN AWARDS**

Richardson, Texas – August 8, 2008

The Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at UT Dallas (IIE) has been named as a Finalist in two separate categories in the 2008 Tech Titans Awards program. Winners will be announced at the Annual Tech Titans/Fast 50 Awards Gala to be held on Friday, September 26, 2008 at the Marriott at Legacy Town Center in Plano. Tech Titans is presented by the Metroplex Technology Business Council.

Each year Tech Titans honors DFW's outstanding visionaries, leaders and innovators for their contributions in the field of technology. In addition, the Titans Fast 50 Awards Gala recognizes the 50 fastest growing technology companies in the Dallas/Fort Worth Area.

The *Technology Advocate* category "recognizes a technology service provider for outstanding leadership in the community by assisting, enabling or accelerating the performance of its technology clients." IIE was named as a finalist, along with the North Texas Enterprise Center (NTEC), the Alliance of Technology and Women, and BravoTECH, Inc.

IIE was also named as a finalist in the *Tech Titans of the Future* category, which "recognizes educational programs designed to address the student pipeline in technology disciplines and/or educational programs between technology businesses and educational institutions whose purpose is to provide qualified graduates to the technology industry." Other finalists include the George A. Jeffrey NanoExplorers program of the NanoTech Institute of UTD, The Guildhall at SMU, and the Richland Collegiate High School of Mathematics, Science and Engineering.

Dr. Joseph Picken, IIE's Executive Director said "We are pleased and honored to have been recognized by the Tech Titans program. The institute's accomplishments have been a team effort over the past two years, involving representatives of every school of the university and supported by an outstanding advisory board. We look forward to encouraging and supporting innovation and entrepreneurship at UT Dallas and in the community for many years to come."

The Institute for Innovation & Entrepreneurship at UTD is a collaborative initiative of the schools of Arts and Humanities, Behavioral and Brain Sciences, Engineering and Computer Sciences, Management, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. The institute supports and complements the traditional roles of the university, with a specific focus on facilitating creativity, innovation and entrepreneurial activity through programs and activities provided both internally and to the external community. The Institute's role is that of a facilitator, catalyst and program sponsor – *leveraging the power of ideas and technology to create new ventures and add economic, social and cultural value to our community.*

For further information, contact Nancy Hong, IIE Assistant Director (972-883-5990), or visit the IIE website at <http://innovation.utdallas.edu>.