



Home | Contact Us | Login
National Collegiate Inventors
& Innovators Alliance



SCHEDULE

AI2V 1: Waltham, MA 8/1-4
AI2V 2: Urbana, IL 9/9-12
Southfield, MI - 9/28
Kansas City, MO - 9/29
St. Paul, MN - 10/6
 Fargo-Moorehead, MN - 10/12
Olathe, KS - 11/2

[About Us](#)

[Events](#)

[Resources](#)

[Archives](#)

[Purchase the I2V
Participant Guide](#)

[Read our Weblog](#)

[Contact I2V](#)

MADE POSSIBLE BY:



Ewing Marion
KAUFFMAN
Foundation

ARCHIVES - 2006



UNIVERSITY of ST. THOMAS

School of Engineering

I2V Twin Cities: Speaker Profiles

Click on a name to learn more about the speaker.

- [Allen Aspengren](#)
- [Ronald Bennett](#)
- [Steve Case](#)
- [Susan Critzer](#)
- [H. Sanders Gwin](#)
- [Dennis Leisz](#)
- [C. McKenzie Lewis](#)
- [Michael Moore](#)
- [Kyle Peterson](#)
- [Joseph Phillips](#)
- [Jay Schrankler](#)
- [Micheal Schwegman](#)
- [Daniel Tenenbaum](#)
- [Dale Wahlstrom](#)

Allen H. Aspengren, Adjunct Faculty, University of St. Thomas

Allen H. Aspengren is an environmental and safety expert who recently completed a 30-year career at 3M. He is currently consulting. At 3M, Aspengren held a variety of positions including international environmental manager and safety manager. Aspengren lived in Brussels for several years while heading 3M Europe's environmental health and safety efforts. He is an expert in 3M's Pollution Prevention Pays program, as well as sustainable development and life cycle management programs. He has experience in safety and various audit protocols and is a respected teacher, speaker and writer. At St. Thomas, Aspengren teaches MMSE 755 "Sustainable Development."

[Back to top](#)

Ronald J. Bennett, Founding Dean of the School of Engineering at the University of St. Thomas

Ronald J. Bennett is currently Founding Dean of the School of Engineering at the University of St. Thomas . Dr. Bennett has been chair of the undergraduate engineering department since 1993 and director of the graduate program since 1995.

Bennett holds a Bachelor's degree in physics and mathematics from the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire; a Master of Science in Metallurgical Engineering and PhD in metallurgy from the University of Minnesota; and an MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

Prior to joining the University of St. Thomas , Bennett held executive positions in industry for more than 20 years, working at BMC Industries, CPI (now Guidant) and Teltech as well as several entrepreneurial organizations. His experience ranged from R&D, engineering and manufacturing to sales, marketing and general management. He teaches and publishes on topics such as materials engineering, innovation, strategy, technology transfer, leadership and engineering education. His primary interests are in the areas of engineering education reform to meet the demands of the 21 st Century. He is a member of numerous scientific and professional societies, is an ABET program evaluator and member of the Engineering Deans Council of the American Society for Engineering Education.

[Back to top](#)

Steve Case, Chairman, CyberOptics

Mr. Case is the Chairman of CyberOptics since September 1995 and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Avanti Optics Corporation from May 2000 until February 2003; President of CyberOptics from 1984 until February 1998; adjunct Professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Minnesota since 1978 and member of University Industry Advisory Board.

[Back to top](#)

Susan L. Critzer, Chairperson of the Board, MedicalCV

Susan L. Critzer, Chairperson of the Board since September 2005 and one of our directors since August 2002, has over 25 years of industry experience in general management, operations and product development. Ms. Critzer served as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer of Restore Medical, Inc., a company focused on developing and marketing products for the ear, nose and throat field, from June 2002 to April 2005. From January 2001 to June 2002, Ms. Critzer served as Chief Operating Officer of Venturi Development Group, the business incubator focused on seed level medical device opportunities which founded Restore Medical. Prior to joining Venturi, Ms. Critzer served as President and Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer of Integ Incorporated, a publicly held development stage glucose monitoring company from 1998 until it was acquired by Inverness Medical in early 2001. She joined Integ in 1995 as Vice President, Operations. Before joining Integ, Ms. Critzer served in various management roles at the Davis + Geck Division of American Cyanamid Corp., and the Deseret Medical Division of Becton-Dickinson Corp. Ms. Critzer began her career with General Motors Corporation where she spent thirteen years in a variety of engineering and management positions, including managing a \$200 million truck front suspension plant in Detroit. Ms. Critzer serves on the Board of Governors and is a 3M Fellow at the University of St. Thomas School of Engineering in St. Paul, Minnesota.

[Back to top](#)

H. Sanders Gwin, Jr., Principal, Shumaker & Sieffert, P.A.

H. Sanders Gwin, Jr. is a Principal in the firm Shumaker & Sieffert, P.A. in St. Paul, Minnesota. Mr. Gwin counsels clients on patent prosecution, opinion, due diligence and transactional matters in technologies such as chemicals and materials, optics, medical devices, and computer hardware and software. He was a Principal in the Twin Cities office of Fish & Richardson, P.C., P.A. from 2000-2005, Senior Intellectual Property Counsel at 3M, St. Paul, MN, from 1994-1999, and served as a law clerk in the chambers of Senior Circuit Judge Edward S. Smith, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, from 1989-1990. Mr. Gwin has served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, MN, since 1997.

[Back to top](#)

Dennis Leisz, President and Chief Executive Officer, Wavecrest Corporation

Dennis J. Leisz has served as Chairman of the board of directors since March 2003, and as a director since December 2002. Mr. Leisz is the founder of Wavecrest Corporation, a corporation that manufactures test and measurement instruments for the design and production test of semiconductors, optical components and systems, and has acted as its President and Chief Executive Officer since its inception in May 1985, and as its Treasurer since April 1992. From 1983 to 1985, Mr. Leisz served as Marketing Manager for the Test Systems Division of Micro Component Technology, Inc., a Shoreview, Minnesota manufacturer of semiconductor test equipment, where he was responsible for product marketing, new product development and applications engineering. Prior to 1983, Mr. Leisz was the Marketing Manager for FSI, a Chaska, Minnesota manufacturer of semiconductor processing equipment.

[Back to top](#)

C. McKenzie (Mac) Lewis III, Founder and Partner, Sherpa Partners

Mac Lewis is an active investor in early stage technology companies, as well as founder and a partner of Sherpa Partners, a technology venture capital firm.

His background includes 10 years as President and CEO of Computer Network Technology (which became a NASDAQ public company during Mac's tenure as CEO). Prior to that, he was founder and CEO of The Systems Center, a software product company. Before his involvement with these two start-up companies he was with IBM, involved with large enterprise systems, for 14 years in various management positions, as well as sales, systems engineering and product management.

He currently serves on boards of several early-stage private companies including Eridon, MagnaLynx and SearchAmerica. He is also on the Board of non-profit organizations, including Adventium Labs, MN High Technology Association (MHTA) and Social Venture Partners-MN as well as being active with the Guthrie Theater. He is a graduate of Princeton University.

[Back to top](#)

Michael P. Moore, Director, William C. Norris Institute, College of Business, University of St. Thomas

Michael P. Moore is director of the William C. Norris Institute at the College of Business, University of

St. Thomas. He manages the Institute's early-stage seed capital program, which invests in Minnesota companies that are commercializing innovative, socially beneficial technologies. Before joining the Norris Institute in 1997 he was director of marketing and communications at the University of Minnesota Office of Research and Technology Transfer from 1989-97, and science writer for the University of Minnesota Academic Health Center from 1986-89. During this time he also started and managed Moore Images, a service company producing computer-generated presentations. From 1983 to 1986 he directed communications and publications for the International Diabetes Center, and he began his career as a features writer and editor for the Physician & Sportsmedicine, a McGraw-Hill medical journal, from 1980-83. He received his B.A. from the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication in 1979.

[Back to top](#)

Kyle T. Peterson, [Patterson, Thuente, Skaar, & Christensen, P.A.](#)

Kyle T. Peterson represents clients with complex business issues involving patents and trademarks. He has a broad background in patentability and infringement analysis, intellectual property licensing, and client counseling relating to the retention and transfer of intellectual property rights. He has also represented clients involved in domestic and foreign trademark opposition and cancellation proceedings, and litigated trademark infringement, unfair competition and trademark dilution cases and appeals.

Mr. Peterson graduated in 1998 from the University of St. Thomas with a Bachelor of Science degree in Manufacturing Systems Engineering. He received his Juris Doctorate from William Mitchell College of Law in 2001 and a Master of Business Administration in 2004 from the University of St. Thomas, where he conducted research regarding valuation methods for intellectual property.

Before earning his law degree, Mr. Peterson worked as an engineer designing precision components for the automotive, medical device, and office products industries. He also has industry experience in a wide range of disciplines including materials science, filtration, enology, and food science.

Mr. Peterson is licensed to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office, Minnesota State and Federal Courts, and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth and Federal Circuits. He has also successfully arbitrated a variety of contract disputes and matters concerning the misappropriation of trademarks on the internet. Mr. Peterson is active in several bar and trade associations and has written and lectured on a wide range of matters relating to intellectual property. He is an Adjunct Professor at the University of St. Thomas where he teaches intellectual property law. Mr. Peterson was recently honored by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal in its annual Forty Under 40 awards.

[Back to top](#)

Joseph Phillips, Advisor, [Aethlon Capital, LLC](#)

Joe is an advisor to Aethlon Capital, LLC, a private investment bank serving late state venture and high growth companies. He has advised clients on business strategy, business market development, strategic relationships, mergers and acquisitions and fund raising.

Prior to working with Aethlon, Joe was the Director of Corporate Development at Imation Corp, where he was responsible for strategy planning, M & A, venture capital investments and corporate development projects.

Mr. Phillips has 38 years of business experience with 3M Corporation and Imation, a 1996 spin-off of 3M, in a variety of business management, strategy, M & A, product marketing and new product development positions. At Imation, Mr. Phillips played a key role in the portfolio strategy development that resulted in a focus on the data storage industry and the divestiture of the assets of six other businesses in 18 transactions totaling over \$800 million.

During his corporate business career, Mr. Phillips has been involved in the startup of over 25 new products and businesses and served as a guest lecturer in marketing and business management at the University of Texas Graduate School of Business.

[Back to top](#)

Jay Schrankler, Vice President of IP licensing and Marketing, Honeywell International

Jay Schrankler serves as the Vice President of IP licensing and marketing for Honeywell's Automation and Control Solutions Business. The \$10 Automation and Control Solutions Business encompasses six businesses including security, life safety, environmental, sensors, building controls and process controls. He is responsible for leading the marketing effort to integrate the offerings of ACS into vertical market segments. Mr. Schrankler also started the Automation and Control IP Licensing business which licenses the Honeywell Trademark and Honeywell technologies. This business has been nationally recognized by the Corporate DealMaker. In addition he is responsible for building and promoting the powerful Honeywell brand on ACS products and services.

Prior to his current position he was the Vice President and General Manager of Honeywell's \$1.3B Environmental Controls business and has over 26 years of experience in technology, engineering, marketing and management in businesses from Aerospace to consumer goods. Prior to joining Honeywell he held engineering and management positions at the 3M Company and Unisys.

He has published over 20 articles and papers along with interviews published in the Wall Street Journal and Business Week. He is a member of AHSRE, the IEEE, Medical Marketing Association, and a member of the board of Governors of the College of Engineering at the University of St Thomas in Minneapolis Minnesota. He serves as an invited speaker from time to time in the construction and

construction trades industry. He is also on the board of Envision Inc, a manufacturer's joint venture marketing to the residential construction industry. Information on Honeywell can be found at www.honeywell.com

[Back to top](#)

Micheal L. Schwegman, Founding Shareholder, SCHWEGMAN,LUNDBERG,WOESSNER, AND KLUTH

Micheal L. Schwegman is a registered patent attorney and a founding partner of Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner and Kluth. His practice includes patent opinions, technology development and licensing agreements, patent prosecution, copyrights, trade secrets and employment agreements. His primary technology areas include computer hardware and software, networks and communications, medical devices and mechanical systems. Mike received his B.S.E.E. from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, where he was a member of Tau Beta Pi and Eta Kappa Nu engineering honor societies, and his law degree from William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota (J.D., cum laude, 1972). Mike's prior experience in patent law included four years at Honeywell, Inc. and from 1972 to 1993 at Merchant & Gould in Minneapolis where he was a shareholder and a Board Member. Mike's professional association memberships include the American Intellectual Property Law Association, the American Bar Association (Member, Section of Intellectual Property Law), the Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association, the Minnesota State Bar Association, and the Hennepin County Bar Association. He is a frequent lecturer on intellectual property law topics.

[Back to top](#)

Daniel R. Tenenbaum, Gray Plant Mooty

Dan is a principal focusing his practice in the representation of emerging growth companies, other small businesses, and the entities that support these enterprises — with an emphasis on corporate, finance, securities and technology-related matters.

He has had experience in the representation of companies from the start up through public offering and beyond. Dan's practice involves particular emphasis on issues encountered by private and venture capital funded enterprises that are growing or poised for rapid future growth. He has advised clients on matters related to: organization, fundraising, mergers and acquisitions, licensing, technology transfer and other intellectual property issues, securities law issues and other general corporate concerns.

Dan has served clients in a range of industries including computer hardware and software, biotechnology, telecommunications, environmental technologies, manufacturing, professional service, structural components and a variety of other industries. He has written various articles and facilitated seminars relating to the issues confronting emerging businesses and has been involved in the founding of several entrepreneurial companies.

[Back to top](#)

Dale Wahlstrom, Vice President, CRM Ventures Medtronic Chairman and Interim CEO, The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota

In Dale's current position he is responsible for development of new businesses to help attain the growth commitments of the company. Prior to this recent appointment, he served as Vice President and General Manager of the Cardiac Rhythm Management Therapy Delivery business.

Since joining Medtronic in 1982, Dale has held management positions in various businesses involving medical products. He has been responsible for various research, technology and manufacturing activities ranging from molded implantable components and products to biological products. Before joining Medtronic, he was responsible for manufacturing and new product engineering for Litton Microwave. Prior to Litton he was a field engineer for Burroughs Corporation.

In various roles within Litton and Medtronic, Dale has had extensive experience in international operations. He has been responsible for leading investments in several countries and states. Through this activity, he has experienced how different governments, educational institutions and businesses support the investment and growth of industries in their communities.

Today, he serves as the Chairman of the Board and Interim CEO for The BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota. The Alliance is an organization dedicated to the advancement of bioscience based businesses in the state.

Dale received his M.S. in Manufacturing Systems from the University of St. Thomas in 1994, and his B.S. in Engineering and Technology with focus in Electronic Engineering from St. Cloud State University in 1978.

He is currently a member of several industrial advisory and governors boards for different universities and companies. In 1988 he was a recipient of the Medtronic Star of Excellence Award, and in 1997 received the Wallin Leadership Award. In 2002 Dale was recognized as the outstanding graduate of the year by the engineering department of St. Cloud State University. He currently has seven patents in medical device technology with several more pending.

[Back to top](#)

[<Back to workshop](#)

NCIIA • 100 Venture Way, Hadley MA 01035 • Tel: 1.413.587.2172 • Fax: 1.413.587.2175 • www.nciia.org •
info@invention2venture.org
© 2005 NCIIA All Rights Reserved.