

Center for Innovation seeks contestants for Innovation Challenge Contest

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The Innovation Challenge, sponsored by the Center for Innovation and Student Activities, will showcase the innovative ideas of Metro State students. The competition, open to all Metro State students enrolled for the 2007-08 academic year, focuses on individual or team inventions. Student participants will take an idea from concept to completion using creativity, collaboration, mentoring, training and a whole lot of ingenuity.

Associate Professor of Marketing Jeff Lewis, who is acting as an advisor for the program, says the contest is truly multidisciplinary in its vision and intent to attract students from a variety of different majors to pool their collective knowledge, in engineering or business for example, to conceive, build and market the next great invention.

“[The contest is a] great opportunity for students to work together to apply their knowledge in a contest environment that closely replicates the real-world industry marketplace,” says Lewis.

Lewis also points out that the contest will seek to get students talking with and fielding questions from professionals who do product development on a regular basis. He says that exchange should open their eyes to the great challenges associated with taking a great idea and working through the research and development stages to produce a commercially viable product that consumers will spend money to purchase.

Lewis hopes that the Innovation Challenge will eventually act as a springboard for students to represent Metro State in national and international innovation competitions.

“Our student body is rich with incredible ideas.”

Applications are due no later than Jan. 30, 2008 and finalists will be announced Feb. 4. All finalists will prepare a presentation for a March 11 ceremony where their efforts will be judged and cash awards of \$500 for first place, \$250 for second place and \$100 for third place will be awarded.

For more information and to download an application, please visit www.metrostateinnovate.org/challenge.