GORDON COLLEGE

Position Description

TITLE: Director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership

Qualities we are looking for:

ENTREPRENEURIAL: Confident in their vision, drive and proven track record to grow our campus-wide initiative focused on entrepreneurship and innovation.

DEVELOPER: Passionate about developing young leaders and preparing them to address significant problems and causes much bigger than themselves.

EXPERIENCED: Significant experience as founder, chair, or director, preferably with a start-up organization.

LEADERSHIP: Built at least one successful enterprise and who knows what it takes to build an organization from the ground up.

How we need you to apply your gifts:

Essential Responsibilities:

The Director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership will be responsible for bringing the Center’s vision to life. To date, this vision has propelled CEL to create programs and classes that nurture students, rallies the entire Gordon College community to collaborate and celebrate innovation, and cultivate over 500 contacts and supporters that are part of the ecosystem of those who share in our enthusiasm for this pioneering work.

The Center’s Director will focus on achieving the following objectives:

- Craft the language and activities that embody the entrepreneurial virtues that reflect the values of a Christian liberal arts college, leading “faithful founders” by example
- Build and cultivate a network of advocates and supporters to assist in keeping students connected to the “real world” while offering exciting ways for organizational leaders and startup founders to connect in exciting ways with the work of CEL
- Identify and cultivate relationships with key corporations, high-growth startups, incubators, and accelerators that have a considerable capacity for enhancing the reputation of CEL and offering compelling internships, employment, mentorship and on-site visits.
- Nurture and utilize the partnerships CEL has established with Praxis Labs and other partners; establish new partnerships that would benefit CEL and Gordon students
• Lead and refine the Innovation and Social Enterprise (ISE) Minor, and teach ISE classes where appropriate; invite and support adjunct faculty where appropriate; lead the ISE Faculty Council; coordinate with the Provost and other College faculty
• Nurture and engage the CEL Advisory Board, a group of external advisors who assist with the strategic direction and oversight of the Center
• Lead the largest CEL initiative of the year, a pitch competition that awards $10,000 in seed capital
• Co-lead the Forrester Venture Fellows cohort, in monthly mentorship, innovation and startup immersion trips in Boston and a one-week trek in Silicon Valley over Spring Break
• Launch an Entrepreneur-in-Residence program
• Steward the financial and other resources of CEL, and support the Executive Director of the Career and Connection Institute (CCI) in securing gifts from individual donors, sponsors and foundations necessary each year to cover an annual budget of approximately $300,000 (organizationally, CEL is affiliated with CCI)
• Engage in writing, speaking, and activities that provide thought-leadership to encourage a distinctly Christian entrepreneurial mindset, both on and off campus
• Manage the Assistant Director and other CEL Staff

**Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

The Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership is seeking a highly entrepreneurial leader who has the vision, drive and proven track record to grow our campus-wide initiative focused on entrepreneurship and innovation. The ideal candidate is passionate about developing young leaders and preparing them to address significant problems and causes much bigger than themselves. The candidate should model and teach the applicability of entrepreneurial thinking to all sectors and settings. The Director will report to the Executive Director of the Career and Connection Institute.

The ideal candidate will have significant experience as founder, chair, or director, preferably with a start-up organization. The ideal candidate is an accomplished leader who has built at least one successful enterprise and who knows what it takes to build an organization from the ground up. He or she will ensure CEL remains the preeminent academic enterprise dedicated to entrepreneurship among Christian liberal arts colleges and is also recognized as a preeminent enterprise of its kind among U.S. liberal arts colleges.

The Director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership, like all Gordon faculty and staff, will be expected to live in a vital relationship with Jesus Christ. The selected candidate will have a record of active involvement in Christian ministry and local church life and can support the College’s Statement of Faith, Philosophy of Education, and the Statement of Life and Conduct. The candidate will reflect godly character, confident humility and impeccable integrity.

The ideal candidate will be:

• Must profess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord; must accept Gordon’s Statement of Faith; must practice Christian values in daily interactions with students, faculty, staff, and the public as outlined by Gordon’s Statement of Life and Conduct; and must work to advance Gordon’s mission through this position.
• Relationally well-connected with a strong interest and aptitude for forging important bonds within the business community, both in the Boston area and beyond
• Interpersonally gifted in order to build relationships with students, faculty, staff, alumni, companies, donors and foundations

• An outstanding communicator with interpersonal grace and personal humility

• Resourceful, forward-looking, self-motivated, entrepreneurial, energetic and creative

• Highly-motivated, with a strong work ethic and relentless focus on quality and successful outcomes

• Able to navigate and thrive in an academic environment

• Master’s degree required

• Entrepreneurial experience required

For instructions on how to apply, the position description, and a Gordon College Professional Application, go to www.gordon.edu/jobs. Please include a letter of interest addressing qualifications and a current resume.

Position Code: CEL-DR-1
Grade: 8
Exempt