

About The NCIIA:

The NCIIA supports technology innovation and entrepreneurship in universities and colleges to create experiential learning opportunities for students, and successful, socially beneficial businesses. With a membership of nearly 200 colleges and universities from all over the United States, the NCIIA engages more than 5,000 student entrepreneurs each year, leveraging their respective school campuses as working laboratories and incubators for businesses and ultimately helping them to bring their concepts to commercialization.

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- 5,000 student entrepreneurs engaged annually
- 300 experimental courses and programs funded since 1995
- 347 E-Team projects resulting in 75 new businesses and 100 patent applications

The Annual Conference:

Now in its 14th year, the NCIIA Annual Conference brings together students, teachers, entrepreneurs and venture capitalists. This year's event, held from March 25 through March 27, 2010 in San Francisco, California at the Hilton Hotel Financial District, explores the science, business and practice of technology innovation and entrepreneurship in higher education. The meeting will feature lectures and panels, including a keynote presented by Thomas Kalil, Deputy Director for Policy in the Office of Science & Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President of the United States, and presentations by various students and faculty of NCIIA colleges and universities.

March Madness for the Mind:

March Madness for the Mind is an annual showcase of innovations from the NCIIA's top student invention teams, or E-Teams. The exhibition takes place each year during NCIIA's Annual Conference and is an opportunity for student teams to demonstrate their products to the public, many for the first time. Ten to fifteen teams are selected to participate in March Madness for the Mind, which involves an evening exhibition for NCIIA conference attendees as well as an exhibition open to the general public. The 2010 March Madness for the Mind public exhibition will be held on March 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. PST, at the Exploratorium® in San Francisco. For coverage of the 2009 March Madness for the Mind event, please see the enclosed media clips.

E-Teams:

E-Teams (Excellence and Entrepreneurship Teams) are teams comprised of faculty, students and industry mentors from NCIIA member institutions that are awarded funding based on the likelihood that their innovative work will result in the licensing of new products or technologies, or the start-up of entrepreneurial ventures.