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Best in Class

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DAYTON, Ohio — The University of Dayton School of Engineering and its Innovation Center are "best in class" in graduating engineers equipped with an entrepreneurial mindset who will transform the U.S. workforce, according to a national network and foundation.

The Kern Entrepreneurship Education Network (KEEN), part of the Kern Family Foundation, will present the University of Dayton School of Engineering and its Innovation Center the 2013 KEEN Best in Class Award at KEEN's winter conference in January.

"We hope others will be inspired by the entrepreneurial culture created at UD that prepares engineering graduates for fulfilling lives and productive careers," said Steve Hasbrook, KEEN program leader. "The University of Dayton continues to lead KEEN in many ways, contributing to the shared mission of transforming the U.S. workforce. It will be a privilege to highlight the University of Dayton at the upcoming conference."

This will be the second straight year KEEN has highlighted the University of Dayton School of Engineering and the Innovation Center at its winter conference. Last year, KEEN featured alumnus Brad Eley and his project — a handicapped-accessible video game controller that is helping his brother regain movement in his arm. The video is at the top of the page.

"Respondents to our survey at the conference frequently mentioned they were impressed with the work at Dayton because of the project and video," said Douglas E. Melton, program director for KEEN.

Since 1996, student teams have worked on more than 900 industry challenges for more than 185 clients, meeting or exceeding client expectations more than 85 percent of the time.

"This is a result of Dr. Ken Bloemer's outstanding leadership, the contributions of the Innovation Center staff and many engineering faculty in the various departments. Their hard work has been instrumental in bringing us this special recognition," School of Engineering Dean Tony Saliba said. "And we cannot thank KEEN and the Kern Family Foundation enough. Their support also has been instrumental in helping us deliver world-class engineering education."

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