

ACERE Educator's Forum Proposal

Name: Allan O'Connor

Institution: University of South Australia

Email: allan.oconnor@unisa.edu.au

Co-presenters: Milé Terziovski and Alex Maritz

Proposal Topic: A profile of an Entrepreneurial Pracademic: A tribute to Howard Frederick

The terms 'entrepreneur' and 'academic' have been placed together in various ways. For instance, Nyeko and Sing (2015, refer p.1051) describe three variations each with a different nuanced meaning:

- the Academic Entrepreneur 'is one who engages in the commercialisation of academic intellectual property'
- the Entrepreneurial Academic 'is a managerial change agent in university, who builds research and teaching enterprises outside the conventional walls of the university', and
- the Academic-Entrepreneur 'is one who engages in commercial activities outside academia with or without the involvement of the university'.

We can further observe that the terms Entrepreneurial Academic and Academic Entrepreneur have been placed at each end of a spectrum (Alexander, Miller and Fielding, 2015) suggesting that the types are not entirely discreet and there is subtlety in the variation between the different couplings of the terms. However, in this presentation we dare to suggest that on a sample of one, we can observe an outlier, a one of a kind, an 'out of the box' entrepreneur and academic. We present the case for an outlier who evidenced an entrepreneurial passion not for reasons of commercialisation, or management change, nor for the commercial gain associated with entrepreneurial activities external to the university but for a dedication to the teaching of entrepreneurship. This case exhibited a characteristic, supported by the findings of Obschenka, Moeller, and Goethner (2019), who found that a domain specific entrepreneurial trait profile predicts entrepreneurial passion and entrepreneurial behaviour.

Professor Howard Frederick sadly passed away on August 22, 2021. Howard's domain specific entrepreneurial trait was dedicated to inspiring entrepreneurial responses to causes, motivating students, and pioneering outreach teaching methods and communication to support a generation of academic teaching scholars. Howard was motivated to learn and explore how best to enable students to make a difference through developing their own entrepreneurial passion and equipping them with skills that would guide them through their journey. His *raison d'être* "Inspirando generaciones (I inspire generations). Howard's inspiration touched the heart and soul of many students, colleagues, family and friends spanning over more than 25 years from his entrepreneurship education beginnings at Unitec, New Zealand. Not only was he an esteemed entrepreneurship education scholar, but a thriving opportunist and entrepreneur in his own right. His legacy as an entrepreneur continues with his academic textbook associates, Allan O'Connor and Mile Terziovski and business partners and partners in crime, Alex Maritz, Anton de Waal and Dean Prebble, all members of the AGSE ERE/ACERE community.

This presentation pays tribute to Howard's life of inspiration. An academic and an entrepreneur through and through who didn't quite fit the boxes our research defines. His difference is to be celebrated, his passion admired, and his unnerving drive to inspire entrepreneurship is to be

respected. We pay our condolences and respect to Howard's widow, Hanna and his daughter Carrie, and all those that were near to him. Howard may be out of sight, but certainly not out of mind.

References

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