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Christensen Nominated for Prestigious Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards

February 11, 2013 (Irvine, Calif.) – Stephen Christensen, Concordia University Irvine's Executive Vice President of External Relations and Entrepreneurship Business Instructor, was recently nominated for the Orange County Business Journal's "2013 Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards" taking place March 20, 2013.

Christensen is responsible for starting the 40-person <u>Teen Entrepreneurship Academy</u> (TEA) summer camp to offer teens hands on, real-world training in how to start a business. He was inspired to start the program after seeing a 2011 Gallup poll about kids' interest in starting a business and adapted his college material for a high school audience. Empowering 'TeenPreneurs', TEA is a job creation and employment strategy that leads to economic self-sufficiency for young participants.

"I'm really committed to exposing teens to new ways of thinking," Christensen stated. "Entrepreneurs see problems and opportunities and act on them. It's a paradigm shift. We teach teenagers business and entrepreneurship principles because it's never too early to prepare tomorrow's business leaders."

The annual Excellence in Entrepreneurship Awards are designed to recognize individuals who exemplify the American entrepreneurial spirit – individuals who, by their creativity and determination, have established and nurtured successful business ventures. Those who have distinguished themselves by their foresight, resolve and accomplishments.

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www.cui.edu/tea