

Church & Entrepreneurship

The primary focus: graduate students who think entrepreneurially.

Seminary students have lots of ideas to change the world...it is important to help them think through plans to put those ideas into practice and see them thrive.

Planning Process - Sioux Falls Seminary

- We are solving a problem - Framing a problem statement, identify a problem
- Innovation Process
- Industry Analysis
- Marketing Plan
- Financial Plan
- Implementation

Can we integrate this kind of thinking into the entire program? We think yes. Sioux Falls Seminary will conduct an outcome-based research project with eight students in the fall.

Moody: Ministry Leadership Course

- Social Entrepreneurship Ventures are part of the course.
- Moody has launched a vocational stewardship track within the ministry leadership program (four courses). One course is on the integration of faith and work

Christian Community Development Association - One of their tenets is that it should be church based. Can we partner with organizations that are already doing this work, connecting our students to these partners?

Trinity (Chicago): Churches are identifying people in their congregations who want to start something. Students will partner with them. Students gain experience and neighborhoods (and churches) are changed. The goal is to equip churches.

Should we be working more with undergraduate programs to start the process earlier? This is difficult to do. Seminary students come with varied backgrounds.

Lawndale Community Church in Chicago is an example of a church modeling this well. The church sees the loving of neighbors as its mission and community development flows out of that.

Do we need a distinction between program innovation and entrepreneurship?

End goal would be to connect people with the gospel and also provide them some skills to flourish. Physical and Spiritual needs.

Whether you are in Chicago or rural North Dakota, skills need to be transferable. How do we do community development in rural settings? What does it mean to transform small communities? Agribusiness...

Venture Capital

- Microfinance...church based crowd funding? How do we get ideas out to the community? How do we train students to communicate vision in a way that invites people to be involved? Money often follows vision.