



# THE VALUE OF MENTORING

## Mentoring and the Uncommon Individual Foundation

The Uncommon Individual Foundation (UIF) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that studies, develops and applies the art and science of mentoring. The mission of the Foundation is to help focused individuals and organizations achieve their goals through the creation of positive mentoring relationships.

In 1989, Dr. Richard Caruso, former CEO of Integra Life Sciences, organized and launched the Foundation. The son of immigrant, working-class parents, Dr. Caruso achieved success in business through the influence of mentors he encountered throughout this life. The correlation between his success and the mentoring he received led Dr. Caruso to create UIF as a way to help individuals and organizations access experts, receive personal guidance and utilize comprehensive mentoring tools. By providing these resources, UIF enables people to succeed in realizing their dreams.

## The Entrepreneur Education & Development Program

The mission of UIF's Entrepreneur Education & Development Program is to select, mentor, and accelerate the best high-impact entrepreneurs in Philadelphia and the surrounding region, in order to foster corporate expansion, facilitate job creation, and catalyze local economic growth.

Through partnerships with universities, government agencies, and corporate affiliates, the program provides organized mentoring engagement opportunities for entrepreneurs. The Foundation recently acquired a new, 26,000+ sq. ft. facility in Devon, Pa., for incubating and accelerating promising entrepreneurial endeavors. In addition to office, meeting, classroom space, the facility has a music recording studio (for the Foundation's music mentoring program), photography studio, a video recording suite, and a fabrication lab with 3-D printers, C&C machinery, and milling equipment for in-house rapid pro-tying.

**UIF is a philanthropic organization, so any entrepreneur that applies for, and gains acceptance to the program, will receive these benefits at no cost.**

## UIF & Rider University Center for Entrepreneurial Studies Collaboration

In addition to Rider, the Foundation is actively engaged with several regional universities. UIF provides mentoring and incubation to programs based at The College of New Jersey (School of Business and School of Engineering), and Villanova University's Center for Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship (ICE). The Foundation is collaborating with the Rider University Center for Entrepreneurial Studies to offer **STUDENTS & ALMUNI:**

- On-site mentoring (at the Center for Entrepreneurial Studies)
- Virtual mentoring with industry and subject-matter leaders (in business, engineering, and computing)
- Internship opportunities with Foundation sponsored entrepreneurs.
- Incubation and acceleration space through the Foundation's MentorLab in Devon, Pa.

**For more information, please contact or schedule an appointment with Joe Lopez, UIF Director of Entrepreneurial Education & Development.**

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