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Engagement: Center for the Advancement of Entrepreneurship Helps Turn Ideas into Business

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By Tiffany Roney

The center, housed in the College of Business Administration, provides entrepreneurship education and opportunities to prospective entrepreneurs across campus and the state. Annually, it provides:

- Since 2008, the center has involved more than 2,200 students in K-State Launch, an annual program that has awarded \$180,000 to help start 48 new companies, many of which have stayed in Kansas.

“We’re continually looking for ways to engage rural communities by guiding students with business ideas to start new businesses and connect with growing ventures in rural areas,” Jackson said. “We are finding ways to bridge the gap because it’s important to support rural communities in our state.”

The Kansas Entrepreneurship Challenge is for future entrepreneurs from Kansas high schools and Kansas Board of Regents institutions. Their business ideas are evaluated by a panel of judges. In 2016, more than \$10,000 in cash prizes was awarded to six winning teams.

Jackson said the center hosts these events because it takes K-State's land-grant mission seriously.

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