University of Toledo Innovation Enterprises Challenge Business Plan Competition

The winners of the second annual University of Toledo Innovation Enterprises Challenge Business Plan Competition were announced Thursday, November 10, 2011, at the Entrepreneurial and Business Excellence Hall of Fame Awards at the Pinnacle in Maumee.

Congratulations to the second-place winner, Expandable Intervertebral Cage, by Dr. Mohammad Elahinia, UT associate professor of mechanical, industrial and manufacturing engineering. The expandable intervertebral cage will be made from a shape memory alloy (nitinol) to correct spinal injuries and provide a smaller surgical footprint, leading to a faster recovery period.

According to Richard Stansley, Jr., chair of UT Innovation Enterprises, “These technologically innovative ideas clearly demonstrate creative thinking within the UT campus, which is exactly what this competition strives to foster.”