

Alex F. DeNoble, Ph.D**Candidate Statement for the Position of 2019 ICSB President-Elect**

It is an honor to be nominated for the position of President-Elect of the International Council for Small Business. I have been involved with ICSB and USASBE since my introduction to academics during my doctoral program at Virginia Tech (1979 – 1983). I was fortunate to have studied under Dr. Max S. Wortman, one of the founding members of USASBE. I joined the USASBE Board in 2012, initially working with the 12 Special Interest Groups (SIGs). From 2014 – 2016, I served as President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President of USASBE. During my President Elect and Presidential years, I worked alongside of my predecessor, President Tony Mendez and ICSB President Jeff Alves to strengthen the relationship between USASBE and ICSB. These efforts resulted in the largest delegation of Korean members of ICSB attending the 2016 USASBE conference in San Diego. Subsequently, under President Ted Zoller, USASBE sent a large delegation to attend the Korea ICSB conference the following April. In 2016 under USASBE President Ted Zoller, I functioned as USASBE's liaison to ICSB.

I have been a member of the faculty of San Diego State University since 1983. My current rank is Professor of Management & Entrepreneurship (since 1992). In addition, I serve as Executive Director of SDSU's Lavin Entrepreneurship Center (since 2012) and as the PIMSA Distinguished Chair of Competitiveness at CETYS University in Baja California (since 2012). When I joined the faculty, SDSU was only offering one course in Entrepreneurship. Now, more than 35 years later, we offer a MBA Concentration in Entrepreneurship, an undergraduate specialization, a cross campus minor and two specialty programs: the Music Entrepreneurship and Business Specialization in the College of Professional Studies and Fine Arts and the 2-year cohort-based, cross campus Lavin Entrepreneur Program. In 2012, we formed a relationship with Leonard H. Lavin, an accomplished entrepreneur and founder of the Alberto Culver Company. This relationship resulted in an endowment gift that enabled us to rename our entrepreneurship center in his honor. Over the past few years, our programs have received numerous recognitions including the GCEC Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Across Disciplines (2016), the USASBE Model Undergraduate Entrepreneurship Program (2017), and the GCEC NASDAQ Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence (2018).

In 2014, I founded the first California Entrepreneurship Educators Conference with the help and support of USASBE and ICSB. In 2015, ICSB President Ki-Chan Kim provided financial support to help launch and grow this conference. He and Executive Director Ayman Eltarabishy attended the conference and had a chance to promote the forthcoming ICSB World Conference. These efforts resulted in an increase of U.S. submissions to the World Conference that year.

Recently, I have become more active in ICSB sponsored initiatives. I serve on the faculties of the ICSB Academy and the Creativity and Innovation Certificate Programs. In May of 2018, I was invited by ICSB Leadership to speak at the U.N. on the role of Entrepreneurship Education in addressing their 17 Sustainability and Development Goals. Additionally, I have been working very closely with the ICSB Mexico affiliate and their current President, Ricardo Alvarez. In this capacity, I have represented ICSB Leadership at the second and third annual meetings of ICSB Mexico. Also,