Freedom to Jump at McPherson College: Timeline of Entrepreneurship

Spring 2009: President Michael Schneider meets with an executive with the Kauffman Foundation. Presented with the Ideal McPherson College Graduate statement, the executive says, "Sounds like an entrepreneur to me," and the process of creating entrepreneurship programming at McPherson College begins.

September 3, 2010: The **Horizon Fund** is introduced, offering up to $500 to any McPherson College student with a creative idea

Nov. 8 – 19, 2010: McPherson College's **Global Enterprise Challenge** is a featured event of the international Global Entrepreneurship Week. Six teams of five students each take on the challenge to create a sustainable venture in Haiti in 10 days. The winning team receives scholarships and the opportunity to travel to Haiti.

February 2011: Faculty establish their **definition of entrepreneur ship** for curriculum development

March 1, 2011: Dr. Betsy Gatewood of Wake Forest University begins as McPherson College's first **Entrepreneurship Fellow.**

May 29-June 6, 2011: The winning **Global Enterprise Challenge** team travels to Aux Plaines, Haiti to work with local Haitians.

July 2011: McPherson College hires Dr. Kori Gregg as its first Executive Director of Entrepreneurship.

February 2012: McPherson College holds its first **Jump Start Kansas** competition, awarding two $5,000 grants to high school entrepreneurs in Kansas.

2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012

Fall 2009: The concept is presented to McPherson College faculty, who put their support behind the idea.

July & August 2010: The entrepreneurship concept is presented to McPherson College staff, who support it as well.

Oct. 8, 2010: The **first round of Horizon Fund** grants are announced, funding 19 ideas to 22 students. A community garden, a T-Shirt business that supports charity and a non-profit Christian music label are among the first ideas.

January 2011: The **second round of Horizon Fund** grants awards 15 grant to 18 students.

A McPherson College public relations class proposes **"Freedom to Jump"** as the marketing campaign for entrepreneurship.

April 2011: McPherson College receives an anonymous gift of **$1.2 million** in support of Entrepreneurship, allowing the creation of a Director of Entrepreneurship position and funding for the programs.

The **third round of Horizon Fund** is announced. One in every 10 MC students has now received a grant.

Fall 2011: McPherson College introduces the **Transformative Entrepreneurship Minor** to students for the first time.

November 2011: The **Global Enterprise Challenge** returns, with a destination of Panama.