



Sensor Consortium: Consortium for Security and Medical Systems
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, SUNY Stony Brook

Sensor Consortium Seminar Series upcoming event!

Talk: How to Create a Successful Start-up as a University Student

By John Pyrovolakis

Time: Friday, Oct 29, 2004, 1pm

Place: Rm 250 Light Engineering

John Pyrovolakis raised seed capital for Collegescape - an application service provider of online admissions tools for colleges and universities - shortly after the MIT \$50K Competition. After forging partnerships with MIT Sloan and Harvard Business School, Collegescape partnered with the GMAC, won an RFP from the Educational Testing Service (ETS), beating out substantially larger competitors such as the Thomson Corporation (NYSE: TOC, TSX: TOC). The Thomson Corporation then made a bid to purchase Collegescape, which Collegescape accepted in 1998. Collegescape was covered on the front page of the NY Times "Circuits" section, the front page of the Boston Globe's "Education" section, was one of CNET's "sites of the year" in 1998, and an interview of Mr. Pyrovolakis aired on FOX, ABC, CBS, NBC, and the Sci-Fi Channel. After selling Collegescape, Mr. Pyrovolakis has worked on various projects - including consulting for the US Department of Treasury, the U.S. Department of Education, MasterCard International, and Suntrust Bank - and in 2002 founded a company that is currently in stealth mode.

Mr. Pyrovolakis was a triple major in math, computer science, and philosophy at NYU, and proceeded to MIT for his doctorate in linguistics and philosophy. At NYU, Mr. Pyrovolakis was the first undergraduate teaching assistant in logic, and won the school writing contest and the Solomonowitz prize (twice) for scholarship in philosophy. At MIT, Mr. Pyrovolakis worked in the Ontic group (Ontic is an automated theorem proving language), and was a teaching fellow. Mr. Pyrovolakis was also a teaching fellow at Harvard College, where he was the Derek Bok prize for teaching excellence in "Space, Time, and Motion" taught out of the Harvard-Smithsonian Astrophysics lab.

Lunch will be served at 12:30 PM

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