The NCIIA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to support invention, innovation, and entrepreneurship in higher education.

An initiative of The Lemelson Foundation, the NCIIA awards over $1 million in grants each year to its members—colleges and universities throughout the U.S. Other NCIIA resources help support student and faculty efforts to develop and commercialize innovative products that improve the environment and the human condition.

The primary vehicle for the work of the NCIIA is E-Teams. E-Teams are multidisciplinary teams of students, faculty, and industry representatives, working together to move an innovative product or technology from idea to prototype to market.
NCIIA Grants Program
The NCIIA offers grants to its members (U.S. colleges and universities) in a twice-yearly cycle. NCIIA grants fall into two primary categories: Course and Program and Advanced E-Team grants.

Course and Program grants—up to $50K over 1-3 years—support curricular initiatives that launch new courses and programs or improve existing ones, leading to the formation of early stage E-Teams. Examples of previously funded projects include:

Biomedical Technology Innovation
Stanford University, $22,000

Physics Entrepreneurship Program
Case Western Reserve University, $22,500

Creating Appropriate Technologies for the Developing World
University of Colorado at Boulder, $6,000
**Advanced E-Team grants**—up to $20K over 12-18 months—provide multidisciplinary E-Teams with support to move an innovative product idea to prototype and eventual commercialization. A few examples of previously funded projects include:

- **UV-Tube Project**  
  University of California, Berkeley  
  $13,100

- **Conformance Solutions**  
  Brown University  
  $11,500

- **Integrated Flashing Brake Light System**  
  University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
  $15,275
In addition to grants, the NCIIA provides its members with a continually growing selection of resources, ranging from rapid prototyping services and technology commercialization workshops to online curricular resources. Currently available resources include:

- R.A.P.I.D. Network
- N2TEC
- Equipment and software grants from EDS and NI
- CEO and DSEF Awards
- Biomedical Design Competition
- Student Entrepreneurship Guides
- Web-based curricular models and IP policy database

Visit www.nciia.org to learn more.
An exciting new initiative
This fall, the NCIIA is launching *Invention to Venture*, a workshop in technology-driven entrepreneurship.

The workshops, targeted to students, faculty, and the local entrepreneurial community, addresses key issues for turning a technology into a commercial venture, and helps build entrepreneurial networks.

Pilot campuses:
University of Maryland
University of Southern California
Illinois Institute of Technology
University of Central Florida
University of Florida.

Initial sponsorship is provided by The Lemelson Foundation and the Kauffman Foundation. Additional local and national sponsorship opportunities are available. [www.invention2venture.org](http://www.invention2venture.org)
Mark your calendar for the NCIIA 8th Annual Meeting: *Education that Works: Invention, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship in Practice*
March 18-20, 2004
San Jose, CA

Panel, workshop, and paper sessions on creative curricular approaches and more.

*March Madness for the Mind E-Team Exhibition* at The Tech Museum of Innovation, Friday, March 19.

Register online at www.nciia.org!