



Thomas Byers

Entrepreneurship Professor in the School of Engineering
Management Science and Engineering

 Curriculum Vitae available Online  Resume available Online

CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Administrator**

Sarina Gaeta - Administrative Associate

Email sarinag@stanford.edu

Tel (650)725-1624

Bio

BIO

At Stanford University since 1995, Professor Tom Byers focuses on education regarding principled entrepreneurship and responsible technology innovation. He is the first holder of the Entrepreneurship Professorship endowed chair in the School of Engineering and a Bass University Fellow in Undergraduate Education. He has been a faculty director since the inception of the Stanford Technology Ventures Program (STVP), which serves as the entrepreneurship center for the School of Engineering including its Mayfield Fellows Program, Accel Leadership Program, Stanford eCorner, and its applied ethics project. He has also been a key advisor to the Hacking for Defense and Hacking for Climate projects to better connect entrepreneurship education with national security and sustainability challenges. In the past, he hosted 50 Roundtables on Entrepreneurship Education (REE) on five continents over 15 years. Tom is a lead author of the Technology Ventures: From Idea to Enterprise textbook from McGraw-Hill, now in its 5th edition.

Tom is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Board of Trustees at Menlo College. His service on advisory boards includes Harvard Business School and Conservation International. In the past, Tom was a visiting professor at London Business School, University College London, Duke University, and UNC-Chapel Hill. He was a recipient of the prestigious Gordon Prize by the National Academy of Engineering in the USA and Stanford University's Gores Award, which is their highest honor for excellence in teaching. Tom was executive vice president and general manager of Symantec Corporation during its formation and started his career at Accenture. Tom holds a BS in Industrial Engineering and Operations Research and an MBA from UC Berkeley. He also earned a PhD in Business Administration (Management Science) at UC Berkeley.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor (Teaching), Management Science and Engineering
- Director, Hacking for Defense, Precourt Institute for Energy

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

- Faculty Director, Stanford Technology Ventures Program (STVP), (1995-2024)
- PI, Office of Naval Research's Hacking for Defense Project, (2017-2024)
- Director and lead PI, NSF's National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (Epicenter), (2011-2017)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Keohane Distinguished Visiting Professor, Duke University and University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2018-2021)
- Department Undergraduate Teaching Award, Management Science and Engineering, Stanford University (2015)
- Engineering Entrepreneurship Pioneer Award, American Society of Engineering Educators (ASEE) (2015)
- Entrepreneurship Professorship in the School of Engineering (endowed chair), Stanford University (2013-present)
- Gordon Prize, National Academy of Engineering (NAE) (2009)
- Olympus Innovation Award, VentureWell (2007)
- Entrepreneurship Educator of the Year Award, United States Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE) (2005)
- Gores Award, Stanford University (2005)
- Kauffman Award, American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) (2005)
- Bass University Fellow in Undergraduate Education, Stanford University (2002-present)
- Tau Beta Pi Award, School of Engineering, Stanford University (2002)
- Innovation in Pedagogy Award, Entrepreneurship Division, Academy of Management (1998)

BOARDS, ADVISORY COMMITTEES, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Member, Council on Foreign Relations (2021 - present)
- Advisory Board, Stanford President's Ethics, Society and Technology Hub (2019 - 2023)
- Faculty Advisors, Stanford's Distinguished Careers Institute (DCI) (2018 - 2023)
- Program Advisory Committee, Stanford Committee on Bing Overseas Studies Program (BOSP) (2018 - 2023)
- Board of Trustees, Menlo College (2017 - present)
- Leadership Council, Conservation International (2009 - present)
- Advisory Board, Harvard Business School's California Research Center (2000 - present)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Science, Technology and Society

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- BS, UC Berkeley , Industrial Engineering and Operations Research (1975)
- MBA, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley , Business Administration (1980)
- PhD, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley , Business Administration (Management Science) (1982)

LINKS

- Stanford Technology Ventures Program (STVP): <http://stvp.stanford.edu>
- Essay for NAE on Ethics and Entrepreneurship: <https://www.nae.edu/244969/Empowering-Future-Engineers-with-Ethical-Thinking>
- Entrepreneurs and the Truth in HBR 2021: <https://hbr.org/2021/07/entrepreneurs-and-the-truth>
- Entrepreneurship and Ethics podcasts: <https://ecorner.stanford.edu/articles/entrepreneurship-and-ethics/>
- Applied Ethics and Entrepreneurship Education project: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/ethics/>
- Mayfield Fellows Program (work/study): <http://mfp.stanford.edu>
- Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders Seminars: <http://etl.stanford.edu>
- eCorner collection of videos, podcasts, and articles: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu>
- Technology Ventures textbook (5th Ed.): <http://techventures.stanford.edu>

- MS&E 297: "Hacking for Defense" course: <http://h4d.stanford.edu/>
- EARTHSYS 213: "Hacking for Climate" course: <http://h4cs.stanford.edu>
- Accel Leadership Program: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/alp>
- National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (NSF sponsored): <http://epicenter.stanford.edu>

Research & Scholarship

CURRENT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INTERESTS

Applied ethics, responsible innovation, and global entrepreneurship education (see <http://peak.stanford.edu>).

PROJECTS

- Principled Entrepreneurial Action and Knowledge (PEAK) project: applied ethics and technology innovation - Stanford University
- Hacking for Defense sponsored project for the Office of Naval Research: entrepreneurship and national security - Stanford University (9/1/2017)
- National Center for Engineering Pathways to Innovation (Epicenter) for National Science Foundation - Stanford University

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Emerson Consequential Scholars: CEE 246F (Aut)
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277A (Win)
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277B (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140A (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140B (Aut)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140C (Aut)
- Values and Principles in the Workplace: Xfund Ethics Fellows: MS&E 79SI (Aut)

2024-25

- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277A (Win)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140B (Aut)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140C (Aut)
- Values and Principles in the Workplace: Xfund Ethics Fellows: MS&E 79SI (Aut)

2023-24

- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277A (Win)
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277B (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140A (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140B (Aut)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140C (Aut)
- Values and Principles in the Workplace: PEAK Fellows: MS&E 79SI (Aut)

2022-23

- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277A (Win)
- Entrepreneurial Leadership: MS&E 277B (Spr)

- Entrepreneurial Management and Finance: MS&E 276 (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140A (Spr)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140B (Aut)
- Leadership of Technology Ventures: ENGR 140C (Aut)
- Values and Principles in the Workplace: PEAK Fellows: MS&E 79SI (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Master's Program Advisor

Baani Leen Kaur Jolly, Amber Kwok, Jin Woo Yu

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Entrepreneurs and the Truth** *Harvard Business Review*
Jensen, K., Byers, T., Dunham, L., Fjeld, J.
2021; 99 (4): 124-131
- **Empowering Future Engineers with Ethical Thinking** *The Bridge: 50th Anniversary Issue*
Byers, T. H., et al
2020; 50 (S)
- **Technology Ventures: From Idea to Enterprise**
Byers, T. H., Dorf, R. C., Nelson, A. J.
McGraw-Hill Education.2019
- **Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Engineering Education** *Advances in Engineering Education*
Byers, T., et al
2016; 5 (1)
- **Challenges in University Technology Transfer and the Promising Role of Entrepreneurship Education** *The Chicago Handbook of University Technology Transfer and Academic Entrepreneurship*
Nelson, A., Byers, T.
University of Chicago Press.2015; 1: 138–167
- **Entrepreneurship: Its Role in Undergraduate Education** *The Bridge*
Byers, T., et al
2013; 43 (2)
- **Entrepreneurship Education in Asia Foreword** *ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN ASIA*
Byers, T.
edited by Thomas, H., Kelley, D.
2011: XI-XII