

17 small businesses earn entrepreneurship certificates from WSU

The Center for Entrepreneurship at Wichita State University's W. Frank Barton School of Business took its "Growing Rural Businesses Entrepreneurial Program" to Dodge City recently, helping 17 small businesses develop the skills to strengthen and sustain operations.

The program was developed in 2011 by professors and staff at the Center for Entrepreneurship, and offers a comprehensive approach to conducting business and the resources necessary to succeed. Participants who attended at least six of the 10 sessions were awarded an entrepreneurial certificate.

The recent program was hosted by the Dodge City/Ford County Development Corp., with financial proceeds from WSU's E-Community Entrepreneurship funds and a grant from Network Kansas. The Growing Rural Businesses model involves eight faculty members from the Center for Entrepreneurship being present on-site to conduct sessions. The program has served 56 rural Kansas businesses to date, including sessions in Greensburg and Augusta.

The Center for Entrepreneurship is located on the Wichita State campus and is recognized globally for excellence. Its mission is to encourage entrepreneurial thinking and activities through quality education, research and community involvement, and

provides curriculum in entrepreneurial studies at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

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