

College students 'Run the Show'

by Daniel Prater
Voice Staff Writer

Your energy adds up! That's the slogan behind ReRev's retrofitted gym equipment that harnesses wasted energy into a renewable source of electricity. This process takes the kinetic motion from those burning calories on an exercise bike, elliptical, or any other aerobic exercise machine and sends the energy back into the electrical system.

While the numbers aren't staggeringly impressive, they bring us one step closer to "something from nothing." It used to be the only numbers anybody cared about at the gym were how many calories they burned. Now we can measure 50 watt hours of clean, carbon-free electricity from a typical 30-minute workout.

To put that into language college students can understand, that's six charges for your average cell phone or one hour of laptop usage. Perhaps the most notable use that electricity can power a CFL light bulb for two hours and 30 minutes. That's

a considerable amount of study time.

As innovative and new as this system sounds, ReRev technology has actually been used in colleges as early as 2008. One quick look at the Facilities tab on their website showcases the countless college and universities throughout the United States that use ReRev equipment. The equipment has caught the eye of fitness centers as well, but the bigger market for the time being is the college recreation centers.

Some campuses offer chargers directly linked with the machine of choice. This allows students to plug in, work out, and recharge their batteries all dependent upon how much time and effort they can commit to individually. Despite skepticism, student reception has been overwhelmingly in favor of the green technology. Many agree staying healthy and caring for the environment should be a two way street.

Colleges aren't the only venues excited by this carbon free energy. Public demonstrations have received limited power supplies from stationary bikes using the same technology. In 2009, it was used to power the City Hall Christmas tree lights

before a UN Summit in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Temple University students attempted an Earth Day concert powered with stationary bikes, but with little success. After a few months and a little more R&D, they were able to produce enough power to supply a DJ for the "Power Down Philly" green-awareness event.

The consumer market also provides some expensive models available today, but with a little ingenuity and some online research, just about anybody can harness this technology. In youth science magazines anyone can receive instructions with a bicycle, a training wheel, and a 12-volt generator, to power a 12 volt battery.

If 8-13 year-old children can develop their own "power plant" using the method mentioned above, why wouldn't every college and university in the United States invest in this green, energy efficient technology? Any college could find all the necessary information on ReRev's website, even an HBCU in a moderately sized town with a strong military presence in central North Carolina.

Students participate in Entrepreneur Conference

by Shirley Townsend
Voice Staff Writer

FSU students get a lesson on entrepreneurship and business.

The Third Annual Youth Entrepreneur Conference took place in the Shaw Auditorium on Nov. 9.

The event is one of many campus events that introduces students between the ages of 12-25 about how to become a successful entrepreneur, and also gives students tips on how to conduct and maintain their own product. The event allowed students networking opportunities and practice on how to pitch business ideas to potential clients, otherwise known as "Elevator Pitch Competition."

The "Elevator Pitch Competition" is for students with business ideas who register for a chance to win some prize money to support their business. The students had sixty seconds to pitch their business idea to a panel of judges. The students were broken up into two separate age groups: 12-19 years old and 20-25 years old. The com-

petitors presented an "elevator Pitch," which is a concise, carefully planned, and well-practiced description about their business ideas.

The contestant winners for ages 12-19 were Alexis Flemming with first place, Jeremy Bierman with second place and Imiah Crew with third place. The winners for ages 20-25 years old were Ervin T. Brinkley with first place, Alexandra Denman with second place and Niki Lacey-Gillespie with third place. All of the winning contestants won money prizes.

Shortly after the Elevator Pitch Competition refreshments were served and networking of different business women and men took place with the students. After intermission, speaker Dr. Petur Jonsson gave his speech entitled "Beyond the Big Idea." Dr. Jonsson's speech stressed the importance of working hard and thinking outside the box to reach their full potential.

The conference was a success and inspired many students from FSU, as well as Cross Creek students. It not only educated the stu-

dents about business, but it also reassured them that they can execute any business idea, with hard work. It is important that conferences and workshops similar to this one are available on campus so students of all departments, classifications and ages are familiar about the opportunities they could have if they apply themselves.

Victoria Brown, a sophomore mass communication major, has discovered her talent and created a business called "Orange Ribbon Production." Orange Ribbon Productions is a photography company that Ms. Brown founded in memory of her late sister Jasmine.

"My purpose is to capture the precious moments of life because tomorrow is never promised," said Ms. Brown.

The over-achiever admits that creating her own business is very challenging. Ms. Brown is younger than most business owners but does not allow her age to enable her. Ms. Brown is also a Fayetteville State University cheerleader, full time student, Bronco-iRadio manager

and member of the Honda campus All-Star team.

"A benefit I have received from owning my own business is putting my name, face and the things I stand for out for the community to see. I've made my talent and passion known to all of my peers and it has also taught me to network," stated Ms. Brown.

Tony Nelson, a junior mass communication and theatre major, is a well-known business man at FSU. Mr. Nelson created a filmmaking business called "YNOTcinema" of "GOODTv Productions." Mr. Nelson uses this trademark under a larger branch of video productions and original written works from "GOODTv Productions," which is headed by Mr. Nelson, alongside Titus Ferrell. Mr. Nelson has been exposed to many new people and opportunities since the creation of his company. He has been invited to several film festivals, locally and out-of-state, and has also been hired to do a few campus events. Mr. Nelson is currently working on an advertising contract with a quickly

growing business. He says he enjoys being his own boss, working on his own terms and hours, and also how he is reassured that he is getting in return the amount of worth he puts in.

"Don't get discouraged, everyone has to start somewhere. You must crawl before you walk. Persevere and it will pay off. Keep moving forward...never take steps backwards. Be professional even if people who want to do business with you are not, stick to your standard, excellence," stated Mr. Nelson.

Mr. Nelson is a great example of a productive college student. Although he has his own business he is also active on campus. He is an FSU Honors Scholar, Phi Eta Sigma Historian, Bronco-iRadio Director of Videography and a Student Government Association volunteer.

Being young business women and men has many trials and tribulations, but anyone is capable of becoming a successful entrepreneur. Especially for those who have a strong passion for any idea of product they have created.

The Voice would like to let our reading audience know that our last issue of 2011 will be published on December 2. If you're interested in submitting campus photos and calendar events, the deadline for publication consideration is November 22.

Contact the Voice office at 672-2210.