



Ronald K. Mitchell of the Rawls College of Business receives the Academy of Management's 2025 Dedication to Entrepreneurship Award

The Entrepreneurship Division of the Academy of Management honored Professor Ronald K. Mitchell of Texas Tech University with the 2025 Dedication to Entrepreneurship Award at the Academy of Management's annual Meeting in Copenhagen in July of 2025. The award is presented those who, over the duration careers, have advanced the field of entrepreneurship in a variety of ways and raised its public profile and impact in the world. It recognizes their success in fostering communication and collaboration amongst researchers, entrepreneurs and policy-makers.

The nomination of Professor Mitchell particularly highlighted the scholarship that has shaped excellence in entrepreneurship research and developed entrepreneurial cognition research in ways that can impact the next generation of entrepreneurship researchers.

The Dedication to Entrepreneurship Award has been awarded since 1989. Internationally renowned entrepreneurship researchers such as Professor William B. Gartner (Babson College, Wellesley, USA), Professor Candida Brush (Babson College, Wellesley, USA) and Professor Dean A. Shepherd (Notre Dame University, USA) have previously received the award.

Upon the announcement of the award, Professor Mitchell how important it is to democratize entrepreneurship. He expressed great appreciation for the award. In his video acceptance speech he said:

To have the honor to represent you with an award that symbolizes this kind of dedication and commitment to our field, (pause) is indeed tremendous.

I have approached my research in entrepreneurship from a perspective which suggests that:

(slowly) ... through the study of entrepreneurship and stakeholder theory:

- 1. value that is inherent but untapped in human relationships can be identified;*
- 2. problems and possibilities in opportunity emergence can be better understood; and;*
- 3. captive value can be liberated to create economic and social well-being.*

In my service work in the Division, I have tried to create initiatives that foster engagement, and recognize research excellence.

So, once again, Many Thanks!!

Short Bio:

Ron Mitchell is Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University. He graduated from the University of Utah with his Ph.D. in 1994. Ron has made substantial contributions to the fields of management and entrepreneurship, particularly through his groundbreaking work in stakeholder theory and entrepreneurial cognition research. This research has significantly shaped these disciplines, influencing scholars and practitioners alike. He has approached his academic career from the perspective that through the study of entrepreneurship and stakeholder relationships, inherent but untapped value in human relationships can be identified, problems and possibilities in opportunity

emergence can be better understood, and captive value can be liberated to create economic and social well-being. Ron has received best paper awards for his journal publications, and often appears in lists of highly-cited scientists. His publications appear in many of the top management and entrepreneurship journals.

Beyond his research, Ron has contributed to the Academy as Entrepreneurship Division Chair, as a member of the AOM Strategic Planning Committee (2008-2010), and also as an architect of key initiatives that foster engagement and recognize research excellence. Notably, with Rich Dino (U. Conn.), he played a vital role in initiatives such as the Entrepreneurship Research Excellence Initiative Exemplars Conferences, and the IDEA Awards, which have highlighted outstanding research and innovation in the field.