

Cultivating University-backed international entrepreneurship programming as a catalyst for economic development & job creation in underserved communities

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Key words

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Abstract

This paper will present a summary of the early success stories associated with and resulting from the international entrepreneurship initiatives spearheaded as a result of the leadership of Dr. Jo-Ann Rolle, Ph.D., Dean of the Medgar Evers College School of Business, City University of New York, and the associated and resulting impacts on student-operated ventures. Specifically, the paper will address and reflect on the International Innovators Initiative (IN2NYC), operated as a partnership between the City University of New York and the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), which is housed at the Medgar Evers College Entrepreneurship and Experiential Learning (EEL) Lab.

Finally, although the U.S. still ranks #1 in the Global Entrepreneurship and Development Index (GEDI), the paper will also review the challenges associated with attracting and cultivating international entrepreneurs and the impact, and sometimes negative consequences of, U.S. immigration policy.
