December 22, 2015

The Wharton Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the position of Director of the Wharton SBDC.

For the past 14 years, the Wharton SBDC has been led by Therese Flaherty, and under her guidance, the Center has flourished. We hope to see candidates for this position who will honor—and expand upon—her legacy.

Fostering entrepreneurship and innovation are among the highest priorities for Wharton School Dean Geoffrey Garrett and President of the University of Pennsylvania Amy Gutmann. In this environment, the importance of the Wharton SBDC will continue to grow. With the SBDC’s strong foundation of contributions to small businesses in the region, commitment to student education, and cultivation of impactful community partnerships, the new Wharton SBDC Director will have a significant role in the rapidly evolving entrepreneurial ecosystem at Wharton, Penn, and throughout the region.

Currently the Wharton SBDC:

- Serves over 500 local small businesses and entrepreneurs annually through strategic consulting, workshops, networking and recognition programs;
- Maintains partnerships and demonstrates regional leadership, including the Philadelphia 100® (with the Entrepreneurs Forum of Greater Philadelphia and Philadelphia Business Journal), the Southeast Partnership for Economic Performance (PREP), and numerous public and private partnerships to deliver education and services to the region’s small businesses;
- Develops and offers experiential education programs at Wharton, engaging approximately 100 Wharton MBA and undergraduate students annually;
- Manages the Commercialization Acceleration Program, which has supported over 70 life-science based start-ups from Penn and other research institutes. The program is now being extended to projects in physical sciences and engineering.

The Wharton SBDC, a division of the Snider Entrepreneurial Research Center of Wharton Entrepreneurship, is one of 18 centers in the Pennsylvania SBDC network, providing assistance to small businesses in the Greater Philadelphia region. The US Small Business Administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development are core funders of the Wharton SBDC and the Pennsylvania SBDC network. Over 25,000 small businesses and entrepreneurs have benefited from Wharton’s staff, faculty and student engagement since its founding in 1980.

Interested persons should apply online via the University of Pennsylvania Jobs@Penn website (https://jobs.hr.upenn.edu/postings/14914).