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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mike Bradshaw Named Entrepreneur-in- Residence of UTC’s Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Chattanooga, Tenn. (July 6, 2021) – UTC’s Gary W. Rollins College of Business has named Mike Bradshaw as the first Entrepreneur-in-Residence in the UTC Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship was established in 2018 to engage, equip and encourage UTC's innovators and entrepreneurs. The Center supports the entire UTC community through cross-campus programming and initiatives, and addresses UTC's strategic goal to, "Inspire, nurture and empower scholarship, creativity, discovery, innovation and entrepreneurial initiatives."

As Entrepreneur-in-Residence, Bradshaw will re-energize the Idea Central Living-Learning Community, a program in which students with an interest in entrepreneurship live together while learning more about the field and opportunities to pursue it on campus and in the community. He will also oversee a mentor program for student and faculty entrepreneurs, develop a Startup Internship Program, act as a coach in CIE’s pilot program for measuring and developing entrepreneurship skills, and lead other initiatives that spread entrepreneurship across the UTC campus and better connect the CIE to the Chattanooga Entrepreneurial Ecosystem.

Bradshaw, a life-long entrepreneur, has helped build businesses in diverse industries, including startups in hospitality, software, digital publishing and high speed Internet. As the former Executive Director of The Company Lab, a UTC alum and a currently serving adjunct professor at UTC, Mike is devoted to UTC and Chattanooga’s entrepreneurial ecosystem.

“UTC was instrumental to the emergence of Chattanooga’s startup community over the last decade,” Bradshaw said. “In fact, UTC students and graduates accounted for the largest number of participants in the Company Lab’s programs of any institution in the region.”

“I am honored to serve as the Center’s inaugural EIR,” Bradshaw added. “I am excited that I’ll be a part of re-energizing UTC’s ties to the community’s entrepreneurial ecosystem as we emerge from COVID. But, I am most excited about working with our students. Entrepreneurial thinking is an important part of a well-rounded education.”

In addition to his work at the Company Lab, Bradshaw led a rebranding and expansion of Jensen Hughes, an international safety engineering and consulting firm, served as president of Trinity Communications, and served as executive producer and director of software development for The Learning Company. Prior to 1990, he owned and operated several successful restaurants in Washington, D.C.

(More)

“We are delighted to have Mike Bradshaw join our team at the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship as Entrepreneur-in-Residence,” said Thomas Lyons, Clarence E. Harris Chair of Excellence in Entrepreneurship in the Rollins College of Business. “His background as a practicing entrepreneur and his leadership at CO.LAB make him an ideal fit for this position. In addition, his strong connections with the Chattanooga Entrepreneurial Ecosystem will greatly benefit our students in the Rollins College of Business and across the UTC campus.”

Bradshaw earned a Bachelor’s degree from Georgetown University and a Masters of Business Administration from UTC. He has also co-written and published several articles on entrepreneurial ecosystems.

The Gary W. Rollins College of Business at The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga is committed to providing quality educational programs that produce academically prepared and business-world ready men and women for a competitive global environment. The college has been accredited by AACSB International since 1982. The Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Science in Data Analytics (MSDA), and Master of Accountancy (MAcc) offer high-quality graduate degree programs to those in search of professional advancement. Learn more at www.utc.edu/rollins.

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