



*Yvonne J. English*

Yvonne English is the **Executive Director + Entrepreneur in Residence for the Center for Entrepreneurship + Innovation (E+I) at Grove City College**, her undergraduate alma mater. In this role, she completely redesigned the Center, and, as a result, the Entrepreneurship Program won the national USASBE Model Emerging Program Award

in 2018. She is also a **Professor of Practice** and teaches in the **Entrepreneurship Department**. She was honored to be chosen for the Grove City College Core Values Award in 2018.

**BACKGROUND.** Yvonne English started her first (real) company at the age of 24. That company, which was eventually sold, was a boutique consulting firm specializing in investments and corporate retirement plans in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Two years after founding the firm, she worked in Toronto, Ontario, Canada as an International Management Consultant for the U.S. Pension Division of Manulife Financial (primarily known as John Hancock Financial in the U.S.).

Upon her return to the country, Yvonne joined McGladrey, the 5th largest accounting firm in the country. After becoming the unit's number one salesperson in the country, she was named the Director of the Phoenix office where she turned around the unprofitable practice. She then became the unit's first National Operations Director, coordinating the operation of several offices across the nation servicing 5,000 clients with over \$7 billion in assets.

Her other past entrepreneurial projects include ReEnergy, an alternative energy project in Texas, and Salvagist, an online retailer of accessories made from up-cycled materials. Yvonne sold Salvagist to Earth Lover Shopping in August 2010 and then founded Social Animal Media, a digital marketing company. In 2011, Yvonne founded the eCenter@LindenPointe, a business incubator, in Hermitage, PA. She served for five years as the Executive Director of the incubator, which won the 2012 SV Chamber Phoenix Award for Innovation and the 2013 Pennsylvania Economic Development Association's Project of the Year for the state. Jay Williams, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, publicly stated that the EDA planned to use the incubator as a template for economic development in rural areas around the country. In 2013, Yvonne co-founded a mobile app company, BuzzBurrito, which was acquired in 2018.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** includes/has included: Shenango LaunchBox (Project Associate + Coach), Faith Driven Network of Pittsburgh (Exec Team), Valley Shenango Economic Development Corp. (Past Chair), Entrepreneurship Academy @LindenPointe (Founding Advisory Board Member), Mercer County Career Center (Advisory Committee Member), BC3@LindenPointe (Advisory Board Member), USASBE (Member), Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America Leadership Conference (Judge), Pittsburgh Tech Council (Member), ATHENA PowerLink (Mentor), Shenango Valley Chamber of Commerce (Board Member), Lawrence Mercer ATHENA International (Host Committee Member), ATHENA Leadership Awards (Judge), Beaver County Youth Entrepreneurship VC Fair (Judge), Allegheny College Gator Venture Challenge (Judge), GCC Business Advisory Group (Member), GCHS Shark Tank (Judge), USASBE Awards Judge/Conference Session Moderator, GCC Online Teaching Committee (Member), GCC Global Programs Committee (Member) and Kiva.org (French Translation Team Member/Spanish Team Leader).

**PRESS + SPEAKING.** Yvonne was named in the inaugural "Top 40 Under 40" in Merce/Lawrence Counties, and she, her ventures, and her programs have been featured on ABC (33 WYTV) and on CBS (WKBN 27) as well as in Arizona Woman Magazine, The GeDunk, Phoenix Business Journal, Butler Business Matters, Youngstown Business Journal, the Vindicator, Butler Eagle, Brighton-Pittsford Post, KeystoneEdge.com, Views and Voices, Sharon Herald, GCC Annual Report, Kiva B4B, Butler Business Matters, New Castle News, Cranberry Eagle, Oh-Penn Magazine, Allied News, OpportunityLives.com, WalletHub.com, City of Hermitage Community Update, *The Ride Home with John & Kathy* (WORD FM), WSAJ radio, and Pittsburgh TEQ Magazine. She has been a featured speaker for Economics Pennsylvania, the Shenango Valley "Hope Banquet", ATHENA International Women's Leadership Day, Pittsburgh Fellows Leadership Day, and GCC Chapel. Yvonne was a Keynote Speaker for the NW PA STEM Conference (2013) and for the 2021 Acton Institute Business Matters Conference, along with Whole Foods CEO/Founder John Mackey. Yvonne has been a Featured Contributor to SheOwnsIt.com, a publication centering on women entrepreneurs. She was selected by U.S. Congressman Mike Kelly to serve as the District Advisor for the 2014 Congressional STEM Academic Competition.

**EDUCATION.** Yvonne earned the Lean LaunchPad for Educators certificate, taught by Steve Blank at UC Berkeley, and earned a Master's in Technology Entrepreneurship from the A. James Clark School of Engineering at the University of Maryland. She has served as a Chief Mentor at the European Innovation Academy (EIA), the world's largest digital accelerator, started by Google, Microsoft, UC Berkeley, and Stanford University. She also had the honor of being selected to serve as an Ambassador for Lean Startup Week, the leading conference centered on lean startup methodology in San Francisco, CA, based on her work in the field. She completed Life Design Studio Training for University Educators conducted by the Design Program at Stanford University. She is a member of the International Business Innovation Association (InBIA) and has earned her Business Incubation Management Certificate. She is also certified as a GrowthWheel consultant.

**PERSONAL.** Yvonne has a passion for redemptive entrepreneurship. She has served as a Venture Partner with Praxis, a New York City-based organization that acts as a creative engine for redemptive entrepreneurship, and she is on the leadership team for the Faith-Driven Network of Pittsburgh. She loves teaching, tea, the Toronto Maple Leafs, traveling, theatre, the Pittsburgh Steelers, and spending time with her friends and family. She lives in Western PA with her fantastic husband, Kyle, a Canadian American who serves as the Executive Director of the Community Foundation of Western PA and Eastern OH and their dog, a joy-filled Pomsky named Milo. Please feel free to connect with Yvonne at [yvonneenglish.com](http://yvonneenglish.com) and on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/yvonneenglish).