

Presented by:  
Case Western Reserve University Energy Alliance



**William Trainor**  
*Managing Director*  
*Mutual Capital Partners Funds*



## “Making Ideas a Reality: How To Create & Finance an Early-Stage Company”

Universities (students and faculty) are harbingers of ideas, technologies, and potential companies. However, finding ways to create and capitalize an idea into a company is a complex process. University technology transfer programs offer some assistance. Entrepreneurial assistance programs (like JumpStart or BioEnterprise) offer other avenues of advice and mentoring. Even start-up incubators (like LaunchHouse and GLIDE) or networking events (like 3 Guys Presents or the Gorilla Group) can help fledgling founders navigate these tricky waters. Bill Trainor will moderate a discussion exploring the challenges that entrepreneurs face and opportunities available to take the leap toward creating a commercially viable company. He will provide thoughts as to how energy may escalate some of the challenges. Please attend with an open mind and plenty of questions and we can all leave the non-disclosure agreements at home.

**BILL TRAINOR** is a co-founder and Managing Director of Mutual Capital Partners Funds ([www.MutualCapitalPartners.com](http://www.MutualCapitalPartners.com)), growth-stage venture funds investing in Midwest-based, post-revenue technology businesses since 2004. He is also co-founder and Managing Director of Access Ventures Fund LLC ([www.AccessVentures.com](http://www.AccessVentures.com)), a venture capital fund that co-invested in early-stage companies that had business relationships with CT Partners, a Cleveland-based retained executive search firm. Until starting Access Ventures in 2000, Bill was Senior Vice President-Head of E-Commerce Investment Banking at McDonald Investments, an investment bank acquired by Key Corp. At McDonald Investments, he focused on consumer, retail, healthcare, and service companies working closely with companies that were using technology to expand and complement their existing business structure. Bill joined McDonald Investments in 1994 after graduating from Columbia University with an A.B. in Political Science. He serves on the non-profit boards of Enterprise Group's Growth Fund, an economic development fund that provides start-up and expansion capital for entrepreneurs who are in the early stages of business development, and NorTech's Early Stage & Venture Capital Advisory Task Force, a group that analyzes and recommends capital needs and investment opportunities in Northeast Ohio. Bill resides in Lakewood, Ohio.

**Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 4pm**

Case Western Reserve University  
Weatherhead School of Management  
George S. Dively Building, Room 202  
11240 Bellflower Road

Diagonally across the Ford-Bellflower intersection from the Peter B. Lewis Building

**Space is limited, please RSVP [tiffany.cashon@case.edu](mailto:tiffany.cashon@case.edu) by Friday, September 23rd.**

