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Where Do the United States and Canada Stand Vis-A-Vis other Countries Regarding Entrepreneurship - Introduction

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WHERE DO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA STAND VIS-A-VIS OTHER COUNTRIES REGARDING ENTREPRENEURSHIP?

Session Chair – James McIlroy

Speaker – Dr. Robert Hisrich

INTRODUCTION

James McIlroy

MR. McILROY: I would like to call this meeting to order again. As you know, this is the ninth session, so we are about three quarters of the way through our program. And in case you haven't noticed, the program is "The Comparative Legal Aspects of Entrepreneurship in Canada and the United States."

What I would like to do just to briefly kick off this session is to focus for a couple of moments on a couple of titles, and the first title I want to focus on is the title of this session, which is "Where Do the United States and Canada Stand vis-à-vis Other Countries Regarding Entrepreneurship?"

So in effect, what we are doing here, and what we have done for the last day and-a-half, is compare Canada, on the one hand, to the United States, on the other. We are going to go a little beyond that in this session in that Dr. Hisrich is also going to compare where Canada and the United States fit in vis-à-vis other countries around the world. So it is more of a comparative approach than we have seen thus far.

That's the title of the session; let me move to the title of our speaker: Dr. Hisrich. He is the Garvin Professor of Global Entrepreneurship and Director of the Center for Global Entrepreneurship at the Thunderbird School of Global Management. So you hear the word "global" there no less than three times. And, I think, just looking at his title you can tell that he is very, very qualified to speak on how Canada and the United States fit into the global order of entrepreneurship.

Now, as you may note, the Thunderbird School of Global Management is located in Arizona, and its mandate is: "We educate global leaders who create sustainable prosperity worldwide." So it is very much an institute that is in keeping with the theme of this program. And if you look at Dr. Hisrich's

background, you will see that he is eminently qualified, both from a scholarly perspective and also from a hands-on perspective.

Let me deal first with his scholarly background. Although he resides in Arizona now, Dr. Hisrich is no stranger to Ohio. He attended the University of Cincinnati where he obtained two degrees, his MBA and a Ph.D. He taught here for ten years, as some of you heard yesterday, and he built a very successful business program here at Case.

Now, in addition to his strong academic foundation, Dr. Hisrich has very extensive hands-on international experience, including his work in a couple of countries where you don't really think of entrepreneurship – that is a couple of countries that came out of the demise of the Soviet empire – and that is Russia and the Ukraine.

He is also a very prolific writer but he does not reside in an ivory tower. He has authored or co-authored over a dozen books, many of which are very successful, and they are listed in your program.

Given his expertise and his experience, we are going to be in for a very stimulating session. So I would ask you to please join me in welcoming Dr. Robert Hisrich.

SPEAKER

*Dr. Robert Hisrich**

DR. HISRICH: Thank you, James. Thank you very much for a wonderful introduction. James forgot to tell you that one of my books is *How to Lie With Your Resume*.

It is really thrilling to be here for a couple of reasons; particularly, it is good to be back to Cleveland. I had ten great years here at Case Western

* Dr. Robert D. Hisrich is the Garvin Professor of Global Entrepreneurship and Director of the Center for Global Entrepreneurship at Thunderbird. In addition to his M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Cincinnati, Dr. Hisrich has honorary doctorates from Chuvash State University (Russia) and the University of Miskolc (Hungary), and held Fulbright Professorships at the International Management Center in Budapest and the Foundation for Small Enterprise Economic Development. He has authored or co-authored fourteen books, including *Entrepreneurship: Starting, Developing and Managing a New Enterprise* in its 7th edition and *Small Business Solutions: How to Fix and Prevent the 13 Biggest Problems That Derail Business*. Dr. Hisrich has served on the editorial boards of *The Journal of Business Venturing*, *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, *Journal of Small Business Management*, and *Journal of International Business and Entrepreneurship*. He has instituted academic and training programs such as an entrepreneurship training program for high school teachers in Russia and college level programs at the Institute of International Entrepreneurship and Management in Russia and the Entrepreneurship Center in the Ukraine.