#### Western New England College Law and Business Center for Advancing Entrepreneurship

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Western New England College Law and Business Center for Advancing Entrepreneurship

**Speakers** September 2006

# Entrepreneurship Speaker Series



Nadine Thompson Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2006

# Success Stories Speaker Series



John Reed L'42/H'01 Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006

The Western New England College Law and Business Center for Advancing Entrepreneurship was established to provide graduate business and law students with an opportunity to provide practical consultation to entrepreneurs starting new and building existing small businesses in the community. This initiative strengthens current alliances within the community to use the combined resources of our School of Law and School of Business to foster new business development.

The Center is home to the Small Business Clinic, one of five legal clinics associated with the School of Law.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Entrepreneurship Speaker Series**

S. Prestley Blake Law Center

**Oct. 25:** Humera Fasihuddin, *Principal*, *Edical May* 

**Jan. 25:** D. Gordon Smith, *Professor of Law, University of Wisconsin Law School* 

**Mar. 7:** Steven Hobbs, Tom Bevill Chairholder of Law, University of Alabama School of Law

#### **Success Stories Speaker Series**

S. Prestley Blake Law Center

**Nov. 8:** Dennis Donovan Ľ79, Executive Vice *President, Human Resources, The Home Depot, Inc.* 

**Feb. 27:** Fletcher Wiley, *President/COO/General Counsel of PRWT Holdings* 

**Apr. 11:** John and Steve Davis, *former Chairman of the Board and CEO; former President and COO, American Saw/LENOX* 



Springfield, MA 01105

**Dne Federal Street** 

Open to students, alumni, the College community, and the general public

For more information, call 413-736-8462 or email amunnings@law.wnec.edu



### Entrepreneurship Speaker Series

Nadine Thompson Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2006 5:30 p.m.



Nadine Thompson is a distinguished advocate in the areas of racial equality, entrepreneurship, and empowerment and currently serves as chief executive

officer and president of Warm Spirit.

In 1999, Ms. Thompson, along with her friend Daniel Wolf, founded Warm Spirit, a direct sales beauty and wellness company. Warm Spirit, which has been recognized by *Black Enterprise* as the Emerging Company of the Year, sells everything from soaps and shampoo to vitamins and herbal teas, employs 18,000 consultants, and produces \$1.3 million in sales per month.

Ms. Thompson holds a Master of Social Work from Smith College and previously served as dean of multicultural affairs at Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire. She has appeared on NBC's *The Today Show* and served as a guest speaker at Columbia Business School, Dartmouth Medical School, and the National Association of Investment Companies.

## Success Stories Speaker Series

John Reed L'42/H'01 Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006 5:30 p.m.



John Reed L'42/H'01 has over a 60 years of experience in the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning industry and is the current

chairman of the board, president, and chief executive officer for Mestek, Inc., in Westfield, MA. As head of one of the largest employers in western Massachusetts, Mr. Reed is a leader in the local business community.

Following his graduation from Yale University in 1937, Mr. Reed continued the tradition of his father and grandfather and chose to work in the HVAC industry. He joined the H.B. Smith Company and advanced to the position of national sales manager while he attended law school at Springfield-Northeastern College, which later became Western New England College. He earned an L.L.B. degree and was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1942. Four years later he founded the Sterling Radiator Company. He went on to acquire more than 30 operating companies and in 1975 he consolidated business operations under the name Reed National. In 1986 Reed National merged with Mestek, Inc.

Mr. Reed has always been willing to share his expertise with others in order to benefit the industry. He has served two terms as chairman of the Hydronics Institute and one term as head of the Better Heating/Cooling Council. Mr. Reed volunteers on a diverse number of boards that include the Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research, Associated Industries of Massachusetts, and the Economic Development Council of Western Massachusetts.

In 2002 Mr. Reed was inducted into the Western Massachusetts Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame in recognition of his success, innovation, and support of young entrepreneurs.