



## Sponsor Series

Our members also have access to a sponsor video series called What You Need to Know Now — Insightful Tips on Current Business Trends. In this series, our sponsors produce 5- to 10-minute, timely videos explaining a relevant topic or trend in the business world. The series is interactive and we encourage members to ask specific questions.

All the knowledge we produce is then archived and available for members to view anytime online.



For more information on how the Center can help your family business, contact us at [utfamilybusiness@utoledo.edu](mailto:utfamilybusiness@utoledo.edu) or 419.530.4425.

Get the latest news and start a conversation with us:  
[utfamilybusiness.org](http://utfamilybusiness.org)

[facebook.com/utfamilybusiness](https://facebook.com/utfamilybusiness)

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The University of Toledo  
**Center for Family & Privately-Held Business**



COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
AND INNOVATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

# The University of Toledo Center for Family & Privately-Held Business

Family businesses face unique and challenging issues, often involving complex ownerships based on family relationships. The UT Center for Family & Privately-Held Business was established in 1992 by a generous endowment from the Stranahan Foundation to serve the needs of family businesses. The Center provides a forum for idea exchange and networking, while developing a body of knowledge to help families in all stages of business ownership and growth.

## Why Join?

We are a member-driven center. We believe more members mean more networking, more unique perspectives with more opportunities to learn from each other. We tailor our communication and educational programs to meet our members' needs.

We have a broad member-base — from multi-million dollar companies to mom-and-pop shops, and from thousands of employees to companies run solely by siblings.

### As a member, you can:

- Learn from others' experiences — mostly likely someone else has been there, done that
- Gain insights from different areas of business — networking with other industries can inspire new processes and products, which can help your bottom line
- Take part in our small, confidential peer groups to share issues and get feedback from someone outside your company
- Access to relevant, timely and dynamic information on current business trends
- Get the most for your membership dues — a paid membership allows anyone from your company or family to participate in our groups and events

## Affinity Groups

Affinity Groups are the Center's confidential small groups that meet regularly to discuss business and personal matters. Issues are determined by the groups and cover a wide spectrum of topics, including:

- Strategy development
- Leadership development
- Governing boards
- Growth strategies
- Family rivalry
- Exit alternatives
- Benchmarking
- Non-family members in management

Some members have said that their affinity group is the only safe place they have to discuss ideas that they find difficult to discuss with others. These groups are a place to give and seek advice from people who understand your situation and can offer you an unbiased perspective.

## Creating a Body of Knowledge

### Center Events

Throughout the year, we bring in experts — our sponsors, University professors and world-renowned authorities on family business — to provide topical seminars for our members to attend (with added networking value) or to view live via the Web, or review with colleagues at a later time. Some of the things we've discussed include:

- How to get out of the business
- Conflict resolution
- Succession planning
- What happens when there's a divorce in the family
- What happens after retirement

Three times a year, we host lunch/dinner events that are open to the public and focus on broader issues such as global economic planning, innovation and longevity in the family business.