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Nashville Entrepreneur Center names Michael Burcham its first president

Nashville Business Journal - by [Eric Snyder](#) Staff Writer

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Ending a six-month search, Michael R. Burcham has been named the first president of the Nashville Entrepreneur Center.

Burcham currently serves as a clinical faculty member at **Vanderbilt University's** Owen Graduate School of Management. According to a news release, he was one of 90 applicants from across the country that sought the job.

Burcham has helped lead Vanderbilt's Summer Business Institute which, according to a news release, is a

"month-long program that immerses college students and recent graduates in a competitive business environment and engages the business community by giving students real challenges from top local and national companies." He also writes a blog for entrepreneurs at www.michaelburcham.com.

The Nashville Entrepreneur Center was launched as a website in September by the **Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce** and the **Nashville Technology Council**, and was the result of the Chamber's Partnership 2010 Entrepreneurship Task Force. It is, however, a standalone organization. The center is designed to assist budding entrepreneurs until they're ready to pursue venture capital.

Clayton McWhorter, founder and chairman of venture capital firm **Clayton Associates**, LLC, was named chairman of the Entrepreneur Center in January.

"Our board of directors set out to identify a strong, strategic and passionate leader, and after carefully considering an impressive pool of candidates, we wholeheartedly believe



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Michael Burcham is the right person for the job,” McWhorter said in the news release. “Under his leadership, we are confident the EC will be a strong catalyst for entrepreneurial activity in our city.”

Prior to his work at the Owen Graduate School of Management, Burcham served as president of **ParadigmHealth**, an integrator of disease and care management solutions for medically complex and catastrophic events, from 2001 to 2007. He has also served as president of **Theraphysics Corp.** from 1993 through 2001 and as vice president of managed care at **HCA Medical Center** from 1987 to 1992.

“Nashville has provided me the opportunity to develop myself as an entrepreneur. The creative energy and business talent in this city is just amazing. I look forward to working with the people of this great community to help turn ideas into successful businesses,” Burcham said.

According to the news release, Burcham received a doctorate in health administration from the Medical University of South Carolina, a master’s degree in business administration from **Belmont University** and a bachelor’s in physical therapy from the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

You can reach Eric Snyder at esnyder@bizjournals.com or 615-846-4254.

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