

# Bates

## PURPOSEFUL WORK: VOICES IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

### *The Non-Technical Tech Entrepreneur: An Oxymoron Career of Possibility*

Daniel Vannoni '05



**Wednesday, January 29**

7:00pm | Keynote presentation at the Benjamin Mays Center

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- Want to launch a company, but don't know how?
- Have you wondered what it's like to be an entrepreneur?
- Are you considering how your Bates degree might lead to an interesting and meaningful career path with a focus on entrepreneurship?

Daniel Vannoni '05, a startup maven and recent Bates grad, will talk about his own experiences as an entrepreneur — and he might just help you find your way to the launch pad. Daniel is a successful tech entrepreneur with no tech background (yes, it happens). His startups have all been tiny, scrappy companies started with nothing more than an idea and ambition (seriously). His story focuses on the start of a failed venture looking to use smartphones as a way to help understand and treat Parkinson's (did it really fail?).

Daniel is Founder and Entrepreneur with Gecko Ventures, a consortium of entrepreneurs who start for and non profit ventures primarily in the health and life sciences, and "big data"/IT areas. He is also CEO and Co-Founder of Novopyxis, a rational drug discovery and development firm. Daniel has started or helped to start eight ventures in the last 10 years, including one based on his Bates Thesis. He was a Co-Founder of the Michael J. Fox Foundation Data Challenge, and is on the board of directors for the MIT \$100K Entrepreneurship Competition. He is also a past winner of the nationwide MIT Clean Energy Prize.

Daniel has a BA (Economics/ Sociology Minor) from Bates, and an MBA with Certificate in Entrepreneurship and Innovation from the MIT Sloan School of Management, where he was an Anderson Fellow in Entrepreneurship.

Please contact Kim Gustafson at the Bates Career Development Center for more information.

*This is the first event in a semester-long entrepreneurship speaker series sponsored by the Purposeful Work Initiative and the Entrepreneurship Project Steering Committee.*