

BUSINESS SEEN

Incubator honors veteran entrepreneur/philanthropist Cairns

STAFF REPORT

DAYTONA BEACH — James L. Cairns, the inventor and founder of Ocean Design Inc., the company now known as Teledyne Oil & Gas, was recently honored by the Volusia County-funded UCF Business Incubator at Daytona Beach International Airport for his efforts to encourage others to become innovators and entrepreneurs.

The incubator staff recently surprised Cairns with the unveiling of a special wall of recognition in the Incubator at 601 Innovation Way.

After sale of his Daytona Beach company to Teledyne Technologies a decade ago and with a desire to give back to the community, Cairns established the charitable Cairns Foundation.

In 2012, he partnered with the incubator to launch a yearly Innovation Challenge program.

In Honor of Dr. James Cairns for his outstanding support, contributions & dedication to Volusia County Universities Students & Entrepreneurs.



James L. Cairns and the wall of recognition and appreciation of his contributions to entrepreneurs located at the Volusia County-funded UCF Business Incubator at 601 Innovation Way at Daytona Beach International Airport. (PHOTO COURTESY UCF BUSINESS INCUBATOR AT DAYTONA BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)

The popular event is held annually to encourage students from local colleges and universities to become entrepreneurs.

Connie Bernal, site manager for the Daytona Beach incubator, and University of Central Florida Incubator Program Director Gordon Hogan hosted a gathering of 50 people to thank Cairns for being a mentor, motivator and

inspiration to the staff and client companies.

The recognition event was held on Cairns' final day on the incubation program's advisory board.

"What I have done was an extreme pleasure, and at the same time the Volusia-UCF Business Incubator has been a big help to the mission of the Cairns Foundation," Cairns said, according to a news release.



Pictured from the left at the UCF Business Incubator at Daytona Beach International Airport: Gordon Hogan, director of the University of Central Florida Business Incubation Program; James Cairns, founder of the Cairns Foundation, Rick Fraser, foundation board member; Rob Ehrhardt, Volusia County economic development director; and Morrison Obeng, professor at the College of Science and Engineering at Bethune-Cookman University. (PHOTO COURTESY UCF BUSINESS INCUBATOR AT DAYTONA BEACH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)

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