Information sessions for the Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund (ZLCF) will be held during the first week of September for the 2014-2015 school year. Attendance is not required to apply. Applications will be due 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2014. Please note that there are three funds (Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund, Wolverine Venture Fund, and Social Venture Fund) within the Zell Lurie Institute and that students are allowed to apply to one only.

Expectations
The ZLCF will be seeking approximately 12 first-year MBA students to join their Technology, Health Care, Cleantech, and Consumer investment Teams. The Zell Lurie Commercialization Fund experience is designed to teach students about the commercialization and venture investing process and about developing an efficient process for assessing the promise of early stage commercialization opportunities. Students need to work quickly and effectively to perform due diligence on an opportunity and then recommend a strategy to a Board of Advisors about potential investments. Additionally, students will create long-lasting working relationships with inventors and other team members, without which commercialization success may not be possible.

Students who become ZLCF team members are expected to work with a diverse group of people inside and outside the University including professors, students, technologists, venture capital professionals, and entrepreneurs. Students will be expected to commit the time and energy required (roughly equivalent to a regular course) on a weekly basis for both years of their MBA work. This includes attendance at mandatory weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Because transactions tend to be most labor intensive during the Winter B semester, students should be aware that participation on the Fund may prevent them from participating in study abroad programs or longer-term, distant MAP placements.

Application Materials
To be considered for the fund, applications must be sent zlcfcontact@umich.edu by 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 10, 2014. The application consists of a personal statement no longer than 3 pages together with ONE attachment that contains a resume of not more than two pages using a typeface of not less than 11 point font. The application statement should address the questions below. Please also be sure the body of your personal statement contains your phone number and your student status, i.e. MBA1, MBA2, ERB or Evening MBA and the team to which you are applying.

• Why do you wish to pursue this demanding activity? Why is being a ZLCF student critically important to you and in alignment with your career interests?
• What skills, abilities, experience, achievements and perspective will you offer to the Fund and the Fund Team to which you are applying? How is your prior education and experience in industries relevant to the team to which you are applying?
• What do you expect to learn and achieve as a ZLCF Student?
• How has your interest and passion in entrepreneurship been evident in your life and career to-date? Describe any previous entrepreneurial or investment experience you may have had.
• Your ability to commit the level of effort required for successful performance on the fund (generally equal to or in excess of the time required for a regular class but with some weeks being much more demanding than others. Note that ZLCF Students generally acknowledge that the learning from this program can be extraordinary IF you are willing to make the commitment to take full advantage of the unusual opportunity available to you).
Selection Process
Applicants will be notified by email regarding their status within the selection process. This process involves a review of all applications and for finalists, a series of case interviews with the current team members and the Fund Director, Stewart Thornhill, Executive Director of the Zell Lurie Institute. Final decisions will be made and announced by September 21.

Should you apply to the Zell Lurie Fund and not be selected, you’ll find a tremendous array of other entrepreneurial opportunities available to you at the Zell Lurie Institute. The Institute and Ross offer one of the broadest entrepreneurship programs – courses and activities – of any business school in the world. We encourage you to participate in other activities offered through the Institute and courses in entrepreneurship, venture capital and private equity, to learn all that you can about entrepreneurship while you are at Ross.