

Elliott Welker



Elliott Welker is the assistant director at UF Innovate | Accelerate @ Sid Martin Biotech, located in Alachua, Florida. Elliott supports the growth of biotech businesses.

UF Innovate | Accelerate is a leader in the business incubation industry, recognized for its exceptional laboratories, specialized scientific equipment, entrepreneurial programming, and network of mentors, advisors, and collaborators. UF Innovate | Accelerate has received numerous accolades, including the International Business Innovation

Association's "Randall M. Whaley Global Incubator of the Year" in 2013, 2017, and 2020, as well as an International Soft Landings designation for international companies looking to establish a presence in the United States.

In his current role, Elliott manages entrepreneurial programs that educate, engage, and inspire entrepreneurs to develop their companies in Florida.

Founder of Beaker & Flask

Elliott's dedication to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship is not limited to his professional life. In addition to his work at Sid Martin Biotech, he founded Beaker & Flask, a unique wine destination and academy in Alachua, Florida. This establishment offers a diverse selection of wine varietals worldwide, expert knowledge to guide wine selections, a monthly curated wine club, private events, wine tastings, wine education courses, and wine cellar curation.

Beaker & Flask was recently honored with Wine Spectator's 2023 Award of Excellence for its well-chosen assortment of quality wine producers. Elliott's

approach to service at Beaker & Flask emphasizes kindness, optimism, intellectual curiosity, work ethic, empathy, self-awareness, and integrity.

Educational Background

Elliott has a Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Marketing and Entrepreneurship from the University of Florida's Warrington College of Business. He also earned a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in History with a minor in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language/ESL Language Instructor from the University of Florida.

He was a Bob Graham Center for Public Service Student Fellow and Poe Center for Business Ethics Education and Research MBA Fellow. His academic journey began at Santa Fe College, where he completed an Associate of Arts (AA) in History, and he graduated from P.K. Yonge Developmental Research School with a High School Diploma.

Leadership and advisory roles

In addition to his professional and entrepreneurial pursuits, Elliott is actively engaged in various leadership roles and advisory positions. He currently serves as the vice president of the Florida Business Incubation Association, where he supports business growth and development in the state. He is also chairman of the Alachua County Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC), offering valuable insights into economic development issues to the Board of County Commissioners.

He holds the position of secretary at the Alachua Chamber of Commerce and treasurer of starting, an organization dedicated to promoting startups. Additionally, he is an advisory board member for the Santa Fe College Perry Center for Emerging Technologies and the Santa Fe High School Institute of Biotechnology, contributing to education initiatives.