Start-Up Innovation Ecosystem Working Group

Focus on building a connected ecosystem that fosters start-up and entrepreneurial culture.

Meeting #3 Summary Notes: Contribute to Action Plan

April 28, 2021

THE KEY REGIONAL OUTCOMES TO ACHIEVE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS

- Increase knowledge in who is doing innovation in the Middle Georgia Region

- Purposely build innovation in each community and focus on diversity

- Focus on software growth and hardware/software development in clean energy and agriculture via unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)

- Build the ecosystem via networking

- Create an organization that fosters the membrane via resource sharing

- Identify spin off industries

- Identify and activate venture capitalists and community capital

- Marketing and promote methods to share information across the innovation community

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WHAT DO WE NEED TO ACHIEVE EACH YEAR

2021

- Create the identity
- Build the contacts via developing a web resource
- Plant the seeds for investment and find ways to increase investors
- Put on an event to engage the entrepreneurs
- Create an organization and add survey to evaluate the current "Quality of Life" in the region

2022

- Create a more refined venture capital plan
- List the resources and publicize the inventory of resources
- Create more events where the group works together (Hackathons, etc)
- Increase finding and sustainable funding for the organization created in 2022
- Marketing to educate on available community funding

2023

- Market the successes to date and 'tell the story'
- Plan "Build Brick and Mortar"
- Evaluate current innovation projects and plans

2024

- Launch "Build Brick and Mortar"

2025

- Bring in new businesses to the region

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WHO SHOULD LEAD THIS PROCESS AND WHO SHOULD BE AT THE TABLE

LEADER

- New Organization with CEO and support

TEAM

- MGEA
- MGRC
- All innovation centers across the 11 counties
- Supporting companies
- Defense contracting companies
- SCORE Middle Georgia
- SBDC (University of Georgia Small Business Development Center)
- Universities
- Technical Schools
- GA Center for Innovation

Industry 4.0 Technologies Ecosystem Working Group

Focus on building regional capability and readiness for Industry 4.0 Technologies

Meeting #3 Summary Notes: Contribute to Action Plan

April 28, 2021

THE KEY REGIONAL OUTCOMES TO ACHIEVE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS

- Expand technology based curriculums into all levels of education (K-12 to College) in order to build a more skilled workforce that can better support the region's industries
  - Measurables: program applicants, pathway completion, DOL hiring data and related jobs

- Collaboration will be required between large and small businesses as well as between counties

- Know the network of Industry 4.0 subject matter experts to help share this knowledge with other entities such as industry and education partners.
  - Measurables: Number of events hosted and facilitated annually, the number of participants at hands-on events, growth in enrolment and job attainment

Industry 4.0 Technologies Ecosystem Working Group

Focus on building regional capability and readiness for Industry 4.0 Technologies

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WHAT DO WE NEED TO ACHIEVE EACH YEAR

2021

- Identify existing and needed SMEs

- Identify grant opportunities that could help support activities

- Evaluate existing curriculums

- Decide which Industry 4.0 technologies should be given priority

2022

- Accelerate outreach efforts and generate awareness

- Organize an event

- Apply for grants

2023

- Acquire a mobile lab to take the exposure of Industry 4.0 technologies to counties on the fringe of the region

2024

- Evaluate ongoing activities for effectiveness

- Determine the best practices

- Continue growth

2025

- Stand up a center for perhaps software development and/or other advanced technologies, even of this is a satellite organization to an existing facility

THE MIDDLE GEORGIA INNOVATION PROJECT

Software Engineering Ecosystem Working Group

Focusing on building local capability for software engineering and creating a relevant industry cluster

Meeting #3 Summary Notes: Contribute to Action Plan

April 28, 2021

THE KEY REGIONAL OUTCOMES TO ACHIEVE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS

- Work with the region's superintendents of the school system regarding the need to collaborate across county lines to meet the needs of workforce development

- Invest in teacher's education in order to grow the STEM curriculum via a "Teacher Development Strategy"

- Improve the region's "Quality of Life"
    - Housing
    - A need for a combined effort from the region to engage people early in the "plug in"

- Create a unified message around Industry 4.0 similar to "Silicon Valley" and "Research Triangle"

Software Engineering Ecosystem Working Group

Focusing on building local capability for software engineering and creating a relevant industry cluster

Meeting #3 Summary Notes: Contribute to Action Plan

April 28, 2021

WHAT DO WE NEED TO ACHIEVE EACH YEAR

2021

- Monthly collaboration with regional superintendents of the school system across county lines via the Regional Commission
- Identify all industries that benefit from a STEM workforce
- Create a shared "Quality of Life" vision between all Development Authorities and Chambers.
- Create a "Quality of Life" plug in strategy

2022

- Create and execute the "Teacher Development Strategy" to invest in teachers education to grow STEM education
- Create a housing action plan
- Create a shared faculty (E-Campus) between institutions

2023

- Shared regional intern talent pool
- Execute a "Teacher Act" to incentivize teachers to pursue STEM emphasis
- Run a STEM marketing campaign across the region

2024

- Tag education between regional companies and companies to share interns

2025

- Downtown tech village in Macon/Milledgeville

Software Engineering Ecosystem Working Group

Focusing on building local capability for software engineering and creating a relevant industry cluster

Meeting #3 Summary Notes: Contribute to Action Plan

April 28, 2021

WHO SHOULD LEAD THIS PROCESS AND WHO SHOULD BE AT THE TABLE

LEADER

- Brigadier General John Kubinec

TEAM

- School System Superintendents

- Community Leaders

- Educational leaders for higher level institutions

- Regional Commissions and Chamber Leaderships

- Company Partners

- 402d Software Engineering Group