



Innovation &
Entrepreneurship in
Higher Education

Early Registration Deadline Extended to May 15th! Save \$100 - Register Today!

Dear Greetings!,

As one of the first large scale factory towns, Lowell is considered the cradle of the Industrial Revolution in America.

In its heyday it represented the latest in technology and industry. Today as you visit the city during the Deshpande Symposium, you can see its resurgence with innovative startups repurposing the century old mill buildings. The Symposium's Welcome Reception on June 12th will give you a chance to browse a rejuvenated neighborhood and meet local entrepreneurs. The Awards Ceremony will also highlight the rich immigrant history of the city with a performance by the Cambodian Angkor Dance Troupe, the latest in a wave of immigrants. We encourage you to take the time to explore the city and its many restaurants and cultural offerings during your stay.



We are pleased to announce a record number of applications for the Deshpande Symposium Awards this year making it a very tough choice for our distinguished panel of university leaders. We will be announcing the Awards on June 13th at the Award Ceremony and, this year, will invite the top three finalists in each category to highlight their accomplishments at a poster session at the ceremony. Thank you all for your support in spreading the word about the awards.

Finally, the early registration deadline has been extended to May 15th and with it an opportunity to save \$100 on registration. This year we also have a group discount for institutions with five or more attendees. If you would like to take advantage of this please contact Gwen Picanco, (Gwen_Picanco@uml.edu or 978-934-2405), directly to register as a block.

We are excited with the lineup of keynote speakers this year which includes Jerry Engel from UC Berkeley, President Laurie Leshin from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Bob Metcalfe, Ethernet inventor and Professor of Innovation at UT Austin. The complete agenda and panel details are available on the Deshpande Symposium website.

We are looking forward to hosting you and your colleagues at the Symposium in Lowell.

Raj Melville
*Deshpande Foundation
Symposium Co-Chair*

Steve Tello
*UMass Lowell
Symposium Co-Chair*

Important Reminders!

May 15, 2017 - Early Registration Deadline Extended!

Book your hotel early! Rooms at the UML Inn & Conference Center will go fast! To make your reservation [click here](#).

Guest Commentary

Going to Scale - What's Next for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Education



This issue of the newsletter includes the first of a two-part series by Phil Weilerstein on the future of innovation and entrepreneurship education in higher education. The first part, "Going to Scale", describes how to enable scalable impact through experiential education. Next month the second part of the series "Creating and Cultivating Entrepreneurial Innovators" will highlight the importance of the entrepreneurial mindset to the inventor's journey.

There's a critical need to cultivate inventors, innovators, and entrepreneurs driven to solve the world's biggest challenges and create lasting impact. Fortunately, turning the challenges facing society into opportunities for economically scalable solutions is widely embraced. Inventors and entrepreneurs are celebrated as cultural heroes and icons for a new generation. But do tomorrow's innovators have access to the appropriate scientific, technical, and entrepreneurial training to make an impact? How can higher education better prepare tomorrow's inventor-entrepreneurs to identify and solve our complex 21st century problems?

Repeatable and Scalable Learning Models

A learning-by-doing approach is the best way to provide students with a greater understanding of the overall innovation process and the possible pathways to develop compelling innovations and bring them to scale. Educators can catalyze and develop [experiential learning opportunities](#) within and alongside the curriculum that provide exposure to and immersion in inventing solutions to problems that matter. This teaching model is most successful in multidisciplinary settings that bring the emerging mastery of STEM skills to bear on compelling problems. As these emergent innovations are cultivated, [engagement with the communities](#) beyond the university can provide relevant advising, mentoring, and support.

Additionally, and perhaps most importantly, faculty must think strategically about measuring outcomes around learning, personal development, and impact of innovation, particularly as they move beyond the institution to achieve scale in the market.

Experiential learning is happening in many institutions around the U.S. but often at a small scale and in ways that are not fully integrated. To support large scale programming and deeply embedded institutionalization, it is necessary to be strategic, integrating through the curriculum and frameworks, building into requirements (including accreditation) more explicitly, and expecting every student to encounter and grapple with their own potential.

To support the critical experiential element, it is necessary to:

- remove institutional barriers and replace them with springboards for self-directed action
- legitimize these activities as part of what counts both for students and faculty
- celebrate the successes that emerge from their impact as well as the individuals who pursue an innovation path for their courage and achievement.

The Time is Now

VentureWell has [supported hundreds of faculty](#) who have succeeded in creating sustained pathways and experiential learning environments that prepare innovators. Replicable, well-tested models exist, and a community of faculty innovators is leading the way. The next step is to [take this to scale](#), from the early exposure, skill development, and engagement to the [support of the most promising ideas](#) as they pursue a path to real world impact and scale.

The imperative for faculty development and creative approaches to has never been greater, and the resources and models more accessible than ever. Now is the time to take action in your community.

Phil Weilerstein is the president and CEO of [VentureWell](http://venturewell.org), a not-for-profit organization that supports an emerging generation of science and technology inventors and the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems critical to their success. Visit venturewell.org/facultygrants/ to learn more about VentureWell's faculty grant opportunities.

Community Announcements

APLU CICEP Summer Meeting



The Association of Public and Land Grant Universities' (APLU) Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Economic Prosperity (CICEP) will host its 2017 Summer Meeting in San Diego, California from June 25-28. The meeting is open to anyone with an interest in university economic engagement - not just APLU members - and will convene university administrators, economic developers, researchers, private industry leaders, and field experts to engage with and learn from one another over several days.

This year's theme is Telling Our Story: Engaging Stakeholders in Envisioning and Realizing the Impact of University Economic Engagement, and will emphasize strategic communications with policy makers and the public. Participants will learn about and share actionable ideas for how their university can better communicate the story of economic engagement, the power of the partnerships that shape such engagement, and the economic and societal impacts that result.

Session topics include:

- Technology Transfer Evolution
- Research and experience based public messaging strategies
- Defining and identifying workforce gaps
- Increasing women and minority entrepreneurs
- Talent, Innovation, and Place - connecting different types of economic contributions and engagement

2017 also marks the 10th Anniversary of CICEP! In recognition of this achievement, the summer meeting will feature special spotlight sessions, messages from CICEP's past leadership, and a celebration reception at UC San Diego's scenically located Audrey Geisel University House, the UCSD chancellor's residence.

Visit the [2017 Summer Meeting](#) website for more details and to register.

The Michelson 20 MM Foundation and NACCE Launch Intellectual Property (IP) Education Pilot in 10 Community Colleges



In the late fall of 2016 as part of National Entrepreneurship Month, the White House recognized NACCE for its leadership and participation in national initiatives that promote innovation and entrepreneurship and was encouraged to announce a new initiative for 2017 that advanced the organization's work in the area.

With the aim of accelerating effective collaboration and innovation between community colleges and universities, NACCE chose to highlight a new intellectual property (IP) education pilot funded by the Michelson 20MM Foundation that is in the early stages of launching. Intellectual Property comprises 45 percent of the country's total GDP today and represents 80 percent of the market value of all publicly traded companies in the United States. The goal of the pilot is to identify early IP champions with a lead college responsible for developing a master syllabus and nine supporting colleges adopting and/or adapting these materials for their respective courses. The IP curriculum will cover the essential of patents, trademarks, copyright and trade secrets. For more details on this innovative program, [Click here](#).

Join us for #SkyHack, a weekend-long, aviation-focused hackathon open to university students from all majors and disciplines! Celebrating the combined 50th Anniversaries of Burton D. Morgan Foundation and Kent State's Flight Training program, this event will enable students to explore issues in the aviation industry. Work together with students from multiple universities and programs as you 'hack' and plan your way to a \$10,000 grand prize.



This is a free event with food, refreshments and prizes. Open to students from any U.S. university. Travel stipends are available. Visit www.kent.edu/SkyHack for additional information.

What's Happening in Lowell...

We are working with our partners here in the City of Lowell to provide you a list of events that will be taking place during your visit. As events and activities are announced you will be able to learn about them right here! Stay tuned! More details to follow in upcoming newsletters.



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