

Oklahoma Innovations - OCAST's Official Newsletter

October 2015 - [Watch the Video Edition](#)

SE TO HOST INNOVATION-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Innovation and Collaboration for a Stronger Southeastern Oklahoma

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More than 100 community leaders from a cross section of academia, industry and government will gather for a Regional Innovation and Collaboration Forum at Southeastern State University in Durant on November 16 to explore ways to leverage regional strengths to realize regional economic growth.

Join the discussion on a regional approach to innovative economic development.

When: Monday, November 16, 2015 from 8:30am to 3:00pm

Where: Southeastern Oklahoma State University, Hallie McKinney Ballroom, 1405 N. 4th Avenue, Durant, OK 74701

Cost: \$25

For More Information: Contact Kathy Hendrick at khendrick@se.edu

Designated Event Hotel: Hampton Inn & Suites Durant, 3199 Shamrock Lane, Durant, OK 74701, 580-924-0300

Guest Speaker: Lieutenant Governor Todd Lamb

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION HOLDS CONFERENCE IN OKLAHOMA CITY

SSTI, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving initiatives that support prosperity through science, technology, innovation and entrepreneurship held its national conference in Oklahoma City October 26-28.

As the most comprehensive resource available for those involved in technology-based economic development, SSTI offers the services that are needed to help build tech-based economies. They strive to maximize the capacity of members to deliver successful outcomes within the context of the complex innovation communities in which they participate.

At the conference participants came together to meet with partners, talk about practical solutions and look at energizing ideas to issues shaping their economies. The conference featured five workshop tracks participants could choose to follow which were; Sectors, Clusters & Innovation Initiatives, Partners from Discovery to Market, Capital Solutions, Drawing Ideas from Experience, and Toward a Prosperity Policy.

The conference had numerous speakers, both local and national. Mike Bowman, the Advanced Technology Leader for Sustainable Energy at GE's Global Research Center was the keynote speaker. Mike leads a large

portfolio of multidisciplinary research aimed at delivering technology differentiation to GE businesses, with an emphasis on Power & Water, Energy Management, and Oil & Gas.

OCAST's Michael Carolina & Chad Mullen were also included in the panel of workshop leaders. Michael led a roundtable discussion for State-Based Initiatives while Chad was the moderator for Building Vibrant Entrepreneurial Networks in Small Towns.

2015 ENTREPRENEURIAL SUMMIT

The Entrepreneurial Summit will be held on November 19, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City. This is a no cost event, and registration is required by Thursday, November 12.

This annual entrepreneurial event features keynote speaker, Barry Moltz who has founded and run small businesses with a great deal of success and failure for more than 15 years.

The Entrepreneurial Summit will also include lessons learned from a panel of local entrepreneurs who will share their successes and failures and the strategies that worked and those that didn't.

The event concludes with a networking luncheon with entrepreneurial college students who will be participating simultaneously in the annual Who Wants to be an Entrepreneur workshop.

To register or for more information go to www.i2e.org/event/entrepreneurial-summit-2

IMMY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW FACILITY

Dr. Sean Bauman welcomed company leaders, state legislators and local dignitaries for a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate its upcoming facility on October 23.

Construction on the new headquarters for [IMMY](#) broke ground Friday morning at 2701 Corporate Center, Norman. According to city building permits, the property will cost \$8 million and includes an office and warehouse.

The new building will measure three times the size of its current facility, and will allow IMMY to add more than 50 jobs over the next decade. The new company headquarters will serve several purposes, including housing its products.

Construction is expected to take a year to complete. The McKinney Partnership is the architect of the sleek design, while Timberlake serves as the general contractor.

The future company headquarters will be a far cry from the company's humble beginnings. The elder Bauman founded IMMY at a time when mycology, the study of fungi, had become a forgotten area in the clinical laboratory.

Since then, IMMY has evolved from a small company that filled a need in the market to an organization focused on innovating products that save lives around the globe, particularly in developing countries.

This year, IMMY is set to sell two million of its flagship product to countries around the world.

OCAST HOSTS SBIR WORKSHOP

OCAST hosted the Oklahoma fall SBIR Workshop October 20 at the Presbyterian Foundation Conference Center in Oklahoma City.

Nationally recognized experts from Grow Emerging Companies conducted the workshop which allowed a group of attendees to learn about how SBIR and STTR programs work, how to identify the right topics and opportunities and how to prepare and submit successful proposals to Federal agencies.

Participants were updated on OCAST & i2E's SBIR/STTR support programs and resources. New companies learned how and when to engage the program while existing clients learned of additional and expanded resources available to them.

The event concluded with an R&D elevator pitch workshop as well as an opportunity to meet one-on-one with the SBIR consultants to discuss their projects and gain invaluable insight to preparing a competitive proposal.

Sponsors for the event were i2E and the Greater OKC Chamber.

STEM SUMMIT HELD IN OKLAHOMA CITY

Governor Mary Fallin's third annual STEM Summit was held on October 13 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City.

The summit serves as a forum that brings together Oklahoma business leaders, educators and other key stakeholders focused on the critical importance of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in Oklahoma communities.

Sessions included Collective Impact – Aligning Communities to Foster Change and Align Education and Business, Developing City Models and Public-Private Partnerships that Meet STEM Needs of the Next 40 years, and Receiving the Recommendations of the Governor's Science and Technology Council.

Governor Mary Fallin gave the keynote address during lunch, where she discussed the importance of STEM education as well as the skills gap Oklahoma experiences in this area.

Meaningful Community Strategies and Math and Science Education and Development were discussed in afternoon sessions.

Attendees of the event included local legislators, K-12 education leaders, CareerTech instructors, higher education administrators and professors, and business professionals.

STEM INTERIM STUDY HELD AT STATE CAPITOL

An interim study on the barriers to STEM education and workforce and the efforts to address the problem was held at the Capitol on October 21.

State officials stated during the study that a lack of teachers in STEM education may be one of the largest detriments to the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math movement.

The teacher shortage has largely impacted math and science classrooms as school districts struggle to find qualified and certified teachers to fill those positions. Since 2008 over 500 emergency certifications have been

granted at the Oklahoma State Department of Education for teachers. The largest area of certification has been in STEM related field.

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE ON MANUFACTURING HELD IN NORMAN

The Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance held its annual conference October 7 at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center in Norman.

The conference is widely known as the state's most important gathering of manufacturing professionals, giving participants the opportunity to learn from one another and set the agenda for economic growth and development.

Workshop and mini-seminar sessions included topics such as Lean Manufacturing, Export Issues, Supply Chain Improvements, New Product and Market Development, Energy Reduction and Efficiency, and New State Legislation and Regulations.

Lieutenant Governor Todd Lamb was among the events featured speakers.

PIONEERING OKLAHOMA COMPANIES FEATURED IN THE OKLAHOMAN

Several of Oklahoma's innovative companies have been featured in recent articles in *The Oklahoman*:

- [NASA's moon walk still inspires Oklahoma aerospace engineer](#)
 - [Oklahoma City startup works on electric car batteries](#)
 - [Stillwater's MaxQ uses innovation, new materials for health care](#)
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UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Southeastern Oklahoma Innovation Forum](#): **November 16**
 - FY2016 Intern Partnerships awards announced: **November 17**
 - [2015 Entrepreneurial Summit](#): **November 19**
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OKLAHOMA INNOVATIONS RADIO SHOW

There is a need to provide detailed information on exactly how to accomplish disaster mitigation projects. The University of Oklahoma College of Journalism is developing multiple short, high-quality [educational video](#) media elements that can be used in various creative applications. Each video segment provides practical visuals to show the general consumer how to mitigate the impact of a potential earthquake disaster.

[Listen to the show](#)

Kenneth Sewell, [Vice President for Research](#), at Oklahoma State University discusses how OSU researchers improve quality of life by bringing new technologies, processes and medicines to the marketplace.

[Listen to the show](#)

Unmanned aerial systems promise improved geopolitical stability and quality of life, and every segment of the aerospace industry has roots in the heartland, including commercial spaceports.

[Listen to the show](#)

Oklahoma has one of the richest collections of ecological zones in the country. Journalists are coming from all over to learn more about the state's environment and what makes Oklahoma one of the most fascinating places to visit.

[Listen to the show](#)

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Chickasha - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 100.1 FM
Clinton - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KYCU 89.1 FM
Lawton/Fort Sill - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 89.3 & 102.9 FM
Oklahoma City - Sunday at 5 p.m. - KTOK AM 1000
Tulsa - Sunday at 8 a.m. - KRMG AM 740/FM 102.3
Wichita Falls, TX - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KMFCU 88.7 FM