



WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF THE BIC QUARTERLY

We created this quarterly newsletter specifically for you, our key stakeholders. It is designed to compliment the bi-weekly e-updates that our entire community receives and offer a deeper dive into the three pillars of our mission and goals: **LEARNING, TECHNOLOGY, and COMMUNITY**. When we engage in **LEARNING and TECHNOLOGY**, and come together as a **COMMUNITY, INNOVATION** is inevitable!

We have so much to share with you! Our team has grown, our programming is expanding, we had a summer full of students, we're launching the BIC Manufacturing Academy, and so much more! Read on!

Let us know what you think of this issue...we appreciate feedback. If there is anything you'd like to see or if you'd like to contribute something to future issues, please reach out!

Sincerely,
Allison Mikaniewicz, Marketing Coordinator



A NEW KIND OF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING INSTITUTE

by Dennis Rebelo, Chief Learning Officer, Berkshire Innovation Center

Berkshire
Innovation
Center

I found the Berkshires by mistake over a decade ago. This region became a place of exploration for my young family. The Berkshires sparked a different energy for each of us and it felt strikingly like home.

All through the years leading up to today, the Berkshires was there for me serving as a constant touch point. One of my very first acquaintances was Deb Raber, the women's soccer coach at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, who immediately thought I should meet Dr. Josh Mendel. Josh and I connected automatically on matters of education and the importance of helping students gain career exploration at early stages in their educational journeys. In fact, it was Josh who introduced me to BIC Executive Director Ben Sosne, who told me the BIC's story.

Ben's enthusiasm and depth of understanding the ways government, community, industry and education partners could collaborate synergistically to spark and sustain systems for economic development was also striking to me. I was able to hear first hand from Ben how the strategy was set to bolster economic growth in a region ready for it. I also learned that the landscape of the Berkshires is not just populated with views of nature, but also the presence of advanced manufacturers and other technology-focused firms.

By hearing from organizational leaders in the workshop I facilitated about "talent strategies for tech organizations," I learned what local organizations needed. I heard from high school students in the BIC's BETA program and area college students through other workshops I hosted.

I saw what is possible here and I opted to make a change. The BIC, the organizations and institutions illustrated a real concern for one another and desire to create, innovate and skill-up to do work of the future. I felt that energy. So I committed to this place and said "yes" to helping the BIC build out the BIC Manufacturing Academy, which will be launching its first programming this fall. I also said "yes" to building more than that by becoming the BIC's Chief Learning Officer. In this role, I will focus on developing key programming events and initiatives to support skill development of employees, members and partners, and advance the BIC's organizational effectiveness as a whole. I am honored to play my part at the intersectionality of education and training to ensure sustainable economic development for community members and BIC member organizations.

I see the need for the BIC as a guiding resource for students, leaders, team members of area businesses, and even people who have yet to discover the Berkshires. The Berkshires has much to offer from mountain hikes and adventures to culture and live music events — and, now one more something creating some added "pull," the Berkshire Innovation Center.

I am energized to arrive at the BIC to collaborate and help guide the programming and development that are not only promising, but possible, right here in the Berkshires.

The full version of this article originally ran in the October 2022 issue of the Berkshire Business Journal.

Members

Boyd Technologies
Digital Eyes Film
Dive Technologies
Electro Magnetic Applications, Inc.
General Dynamics Mission Systems
Idle Smart
Interprint
Lenco Armored Vehicles
LymphedIVAS
Mill Town Capital
Modern Mold & Tool
moveEV
Neenah, Inc.
New Dalton Group
PIRIT Heated Products
Pro Workforce Performance
Robert Sims
Rousslet Robatel
Sabic
Shared Estates Asset Fund
Sinicon Plastics
SolaBlock
Sonoco Plastics
Sustaine
Unistress
United Aircraft Technologies
VidMob

Affiliates

1Berkshire
Berkshire Bank
Berkshire United Way
Brien Center
Cohen Kinne Valicenti Cook
CoinBusters.io
Data Flow
edm Architectures & Engineers
EforAll
Greylock Federal Credit Union
Hamilton Brook Smith Reynolds
IAR Marketing
J.M. Spartan Training
L-EAF
Lee Bank
MacFarlane Office Products
Michael D. Miller, M.D.
Mountaine One
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BIC Newsletter thanks
to the support of:

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Mission Systems

Find Your
Next
Challenge





B[E]TA 2022

B[E]TA 2022 was a huge success! The 18 student cohort spent six (6) weeks visiting area manufacturers and learning about their operations and career opportunities, learning entrepreneurial and leadership skills, and team building. And throughout the program, they worked simultaneously on two separate projects as teams that were presented to a panel of industry judges at the end of the program. Project 1 grouped the cohort into 2 teams and was entrepreneurial-focused. They had to develop a website that would

solve a real issue that youth in this area face. Project 2 grouped the cohort into 4 teams and was technology-focused. Each team had to develop, design, and 3D print an unnecessary invention. The recording of the second project presentations is available on our YouTube channel. Check it out. Looking forward to B[E]TA 2023!

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UPCOMING EVENT

November 17, 2022

Project Frontline's Berkshire Theatrical Premier is at the Berkshire Innovation Center. Join us for a feature-length screening of this documentary film presented by Boyd Biomedical and produced by Digital Eyes Film, both member companies at the BIC. The doors will open at 6:00 PM, showtime is 7:00 PM, followed by a Q&A with the producers and subjects of the film. Free to attend but registration is required. Come with the question in mind...Have we learned from crisis?



TECH IMPACT COLLABORATIVE

OLLI@BCC -Berkshire Innovation Center - 1Berkshire

Innovation in the Berkshires

Lecture Series

Wednesdays: October 12 - November 16



More Information

The Berkshires is rich in innovation and not just in today's world. We have a long history of entrepreneurship and innovation. Take a journey with the Tech Impact Collaborative through that history, an overview of the industries that are innovating right here, right now, and wrap up with a look forward. Lectures are held via Zoom with the exception of the last session which will also be held in-person at the BIC.

October 12: History and Overview*

November 2: Life Sciences

October 19: Clean Tech*

November 9: Creative Economy

October 26: Defense and Aerospace*

November 16: Growing the Berkshires Tech Economy

*Recordings of past lectures available online. Click the QR Code above.

NOTES FROM THE PROTOTYPING LAB

SUMMER 2022 INTERNS LEAVE AN INDELIBLE MARK ON THE BIC

The BIC was thrilled to work with three fantastic college interns this summer.

- Reva Whitman, a McCann graduate studying Mechanical Engineering Technology at the University of Maine
- Kevin D'Aniello, a PHS graduate studying Earth and Environmental Sciences at Syracuse University
- Isabelle Lapierre, a Miss Hall's graduate studying Physics at the University of Vermont

They worked on several internal projects: building and evaluating existing 3D printed wind turbine designs and designing two of their own wind turbines. They also supported BIC members by offering design assistance and by helping to table a public outreach event. They joined the BETA program on tours of member companies, and helped with several BIC events. We will continue growing our internship program in order to help develop local talent and introduce students to the innovative work done by our members.

FOR INFORMATION ON INTERNS OR ON THE USE OF EQUIPMENT AT THE BIC, CONTACT TIM BUTTERWORTH, OPERATIONS MANAGER (TIM@THE-BIC.ORG)



BIC BY THE NUMBERS

January - October 2022

102

Member company visits to the BIC

174

Number of in-person meetings/events held at the BIC

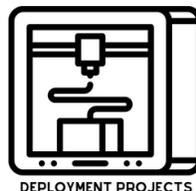
3,584

Number of people in the building (includes 431 students and 321 educators)

The BIC Manufacturing Academy is a new industry-led initiative designed to address persistent challenges facing the manufacturing economy in the Berkshire region through ongoing education, training, and technology assistance. It is being developed in partnership with MIT, General Dynamics, and the MassTech Collaborative, with funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce.



Technology bootcamps will be half to full-day sessions focused on a particular technology. The format will be technical reviews from industry experts as well as case studies of firms already using the technology.



Complementing the technology bootcamps, deployment projects will involve use case applications of particular technologies utilizing the advanced technologies available at the BIC, as well as suppliers of particular technologies.



The apprenticeship program will recruit incumbent workers and provide them with the skills to become fully self-sufficient on the job, as well as develop the capabilities to move into more senior roles within their firm.



The Manufacturing Academy will curate and develop a library of training materials targeted at manufacturers participating in the Academy. The materials will complement topics covered in the Technology Bootcamps and Apprenticeship Program.



BIC WELCOMES TWO NEW MEMBERS TO THEIR TEAM



Dr. Dennis Rebelo is our Chief Learning Officer. In this newly created position, he will institutionalize learning programs and experiences for students from high school through executive leaders in the region. Dr. Rebelo is a former professor of Technology, Leadership & Management and co-founder of the Sports Mind Institute. His best-selling book, *Story Like You Mean It*, continues to be used by varied organizations to promote personalized and organizational storytelling. He has consulted and advised leaders in professional sports, fintech, life sciences, and food industries. Dr. Rebelo is from Rhode Island and recently purchased a home in the Berkshires.

Shaun O'Neil is our new Technology Fellow. In this role, he will support the Operations Manager with facilities maintenance and technology-focused projects for the BIC and its members. Shaun is experienced in engineering design, machining, mold making, manufacturing, and distribution. He has owned several businesses where he has designed, built, and marketed products. He is happiest when he is solving problems by creating solutions that have both "form and function". Shaun lives in Hinsdale with his wife and children.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT:

3 QUESTIONS FOR BOYD BIOMEDICAL ABOUT PROJECT FRONTLINE

The Berkshire Innovation Center sat down with Matt Boyd, Chief Commercial Officer at Boyd Biomedical and Producer and Writer of Project Frontline, to discuss the documentary.



Q. Where did the idea for creating a documentary on the pandemic response come from?

A. Our involvement in MERT (Massachusetts Emergency Response Team) was the impetus that drove us to capture this major life event and crisis. We felt fortunate to be included in the work being done by this inspiring group of people that were just diving in and doing what needed to be done. From the very beginning, this felt like a story that needed to be captured.

Q. For you personally, what were some of the biggest take-aways as you were writing and producing this documentary?

A. For me, this whole process highlighted the story of the pandemic as a whole. Starting with the short-term crisis which led into the medium term where solutions were quickly developed and implemented, which then led us to the long term where we are now, looking into the future. I feel that the documentary outlined two major pillars brought into focus by the pandemic: 1) Nationally there was a lot lacking in our domestic supply chain and manufacturing infrastructure. 2) In Massachusetts, there was an already-existing ecosystem that included a robust basis of manufacturing that allowed us to be resilient, agile, and innovative. Both of these situations are the result of decades of decisions. How do we learn from all this and become even more resilient, agile, and innovative in order to better handle what comes in the future?

Q. There have been two screening events so far. What has the overall response been from the audiences?

A. Response has been great. People are engaged in the film and find it compelling and interesting, and of course, easy to relate to. It's also interesting to see the many different things that people take away from it. One audience member noted that the film offered many examples of great decision-making during crisis and thought it would be great for high school students to view for that reason. As we were talking to people in the lead up to the screenings, some said "no thanks - I've already lived through that once." I guess what I'd say to people is that the overall message of the film is positive. Of course, the crisis at the start of the pandemic was awful but it was an event we all learned from and it helps us frame our response should something similar happen in the future. The film's message is not a "don't do this" and "don't do that". The message we're trying to get across is let's invest in and build an infrastructure that better equips us to deal with situations. And we should always be asking: "Have we learned from crisis?"

Join us at the BIC on Thursday, November 17th for a screening of Project Frontline, followed by audience discussion with the Producers & Subjects of the film. For more information see page 2.