

## Table of Contents

- 1 Welcome Message
- 2 Program Agenda
- 7 Speakers
- 22 Award Winners

### ***CEO Welcome from MSSC and ACT***

We extend a warm welcome to the attendees at this MSSC-ACT co-hosted Executive Briefing, “Use of Industry Certifications to Begin Career Pathways in Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics in the Southern States.” We would also like to express our special appreciation to the Southern Governors Association and the Southern Regional Education Board for their support in convening this event.

This Executive Briefing will showcase examples of the use of MSSC’s Certified Production Technician (CPT) and Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) training and certification program, often in collaboration with ACT’s National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) program, throughout the South.

---

***These examples illustrate the success of using well-established, industry-recognized national, stackable credentials as a solid foundation upon which states, companies and schools can build their own customized solutions to meeting workforce skill needs.***

---

ACT, a mission-driven, nonprofit organization, is the national leader in credentialing work readiness academic skills to prepare students for starting career pathways in all sectors of the economy. The nonprofit, industry-led MSSC is the national leader in certifying the core technical competencies needed for front-line work in advanced manufacturing and logistics. MSSC and ACT are collaborating nationwide, because results show that individuals who secure the NCRC credentials score substantially higher on MSSC’s high-stakes national industry certification assessments. Together, we provide a solid foundation for individuals beginning career pathways in advanced manufacturing and transportation-distribution-logistics. This foundation will help you fill a wide variety of jobs with higher skilled, nationally credentialed individuals, since there are some twelve million front-line jobs in the U.S. in these two closely related industries.

We are confident that you will draw valuable lessons from the many outstanding examples you will hear at this Executive Briefing. Most importantly, we hope you will apply this knowledge to meet your own needs in workforce skills education and join with us in building the world’s most competitive, highly skilled industrial workforce.

***Leo Reddy***  
***Chair and CEO, MSSC***

***Marten Roorda***  
***CEO, ACT***

WEDNESDAY | JUNE 15

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM

6:00 - 8:00 pm     Networking Reception-buffet with Invitees to June 16 Executive Briefing

THURSDAY | JUNE 16

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM

7:30 - 8:30 am     Continental Breakfast. Networking Opportunity

8:30 - 8:40 am     Welcome

- *Dr. Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President, SREB*

8:40 – 8:50 am     Meeting Goals and Organization

*Executive Briefing Moderator*

- *Steve Boecking, Vice President, Hillwood Alliance Texas Global Logistics Hub, Fort Worth*

8:50 – 9:10 am     Regional Policy Perspective

- *Ted Abernathy, Economic Development Advisor, SGA*

9:10 – 9:30 am     ACT Policy Initiatives

- *Kevin Houchin, Esq. National Programs, ACT, Inc.*

KENNESAW ROOM

9:30 – 11:00 am    SESSION ONE: Secondary Programs

*Moderator*

- *Don Gogan, VP Operations Management, Harley Davidson*

*Panelists*

*NC - North Carolina Department of Public Instruction*

- *David Barbour, Education Consultant and Program Area Supervisor*

*TN - Tennessee Labor Education Alignment (LEAP) High School program*

- *Lori Kelley-Burdine, Director of Public Information & Planning, DSCC/Workforce Development Division, Northwest TN Workforce Board*

*TX - Alamo Academies*

- *Gene Bowman, Executive Director*

*REGIONAL - Preview of MSSC Briefing on “Transforming High School Career Counseling” at SREB “High Schools that Work” July Conference, Louisville*

- *Jan Bray, President, Bray Strategies, and Executive Director (ret.), Association for Career-Technical Education*
- *LeeSa Page, MSSC Senior Advisor for KY*

THURSDAY | JUNE 16

INMAN ROOM

SESSION TWO: Post Secondary Programs

*Moderator*

- *Harry Moser, Founder and President, Reshoring Initiative*

*Panelists*

*MO - Community College Programs*

- *Christopher Klusmeyer, Manufacturing Instructor, Mineral Area College*
- *Tina Miller, Program Support Specialist/Program Navigator, Mineral Area College*
- *Liz Roberts, Deputy Grants Manager, Missouri Community College Association (combined presentation)*

*NC - North Carolina Manufacturing Institute*

- *Donna Ludwig, Account Manager, Business Services, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College*
- *Craig Lamb, VP, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College*

*SC - Industry-Community College Partnerships*

- *Kenneth Parker, Director of Manufacturing Solutions, Corporate & Community Education, Spartanburg CC*

*REGIONAL - NOCTI at Work in Southern Region*

- *Dr. John Foster, President/CEO, NOCTI and Nocti Business Solutions*

LENOX ROOM

SESSION THREE: Adult Workforce Programs

*Moderator*

- *Steve Harrington, Vice President, Distribution Management Association and Industry Liaison, National Center for Supply Chain Logistics Education*

*Panelists*

*MILITARY OVERVIEW: Use of Civilian Certifications*

- *Representative from Army Quartermaster Corps, VA*
- *Rebekah Hutton, VP Strategic Initiatives, MSSC and Liaison for Military Programs*

*KY - KMCC/KentuckianaWorks*

- *Cindy Read, Director, Center Strategies, KentuckianaWorks*

ACT Work Ready Communities: Workforce Development Eco-systems That Work

*Moderator*

- *Debra Lyons, Senior Director, External Engagement and Programs. Center for Workforce Advancement, ACT, Inc.*
- *LA: Sondra C. Redmon, Director of Workforce Development, Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance*
- *MS: Ruth R. Nichols, Ed.D., Asst. VP for Community and Economic Development, Alcorn State University*

*REGIONAL: Amatrol at Work in Southern Region*

- *Paul Perkins, President and CEO, Amatrol*

THURSDAY | JUNE 16 - Cont’d

ROSWELL ROOM

SESSION FOUR: SREB Programs

*Credential for All: Designing Advanced Career Pathways that Teach the Mix of Soft, Applied Academics and Workplace Skills Needed for Today’s Economy*

Moderator

- *Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President, Southern Regional Education Board*

Panelists

- *Toby Craver, Integrated Production Technology Instructor, Fountain Lake High School, Hot Springs, AR*
- *Zach Riffell, Co-Director, Advanced Career: Marketing, SREB*

INTERNATIONAL FOYER

11:00 – 11:15 am    Coffee Break. Networking Opportunity

11:15—12:40 pm    Breakout Sessions Resume

KENNESAW ROOM

SESSION ONE: Secondary Programs - Cont’d.

Moderator

- *Don Gogan, Vice President for Operations Management, Harley Davidson*

Panelists

*FL - Statewide MSSC Deployment in FL High Schools*

- *Marilyn Barger, Executive Director, Florida Advanced Technician Education*
- *Kathie Schmidt, Director, Career & Technical Education, St. Lucie Country Public Schools*

*OK - High School Partnerships*

- *Cassity Bixby, OSU Institute of Technology- MidAmerica Industrial Park Advanced Training Center, and Thunderbird Youth Academy*
- *Shawn England, Recruiting Coordinator, Thunderbird Youth Academy*

*KY - Industry-Led Statewide MSSC Deployment in KY High Schools*

- *Debbie Anderson, Career & Technical Education, Doss High School*

*TN - Battelle For Kids/ACT Initiative*

- *Joe T. Wood, State Coordinator for Tennessee, Battelle for Kids*
- *Donna Mason, Account Manager for Tennessee, ACT*

THURSDAY | JUNE 16 - Cont’d

INMAN ROOM

SESSION TWO: Post Secondary Programs Cont’d

Moderator

*Harry Moser, Founder and President, Reshoring Initiative*

Panelists

*VA - Patrick Henry Community College*

- *Cory Werkheiser, Career Services Specialist*

*GA - Wiregrass Georgia Technical College*

- *Lidell Greenway, Vice President of Economic Development*

*AR - Northark Technical Center*

- *Scott Howie, Director*

*MD - Community College of Baltimore*

- *Jay Bouis, MA, Director of Technical Training and MSSC Site Coordinator*

LENOX ROOM

SESSION THREE: Adult Workforce Programs Cont’d

Moderator

- *Steve Harrington, Vice President, Distribution Management Association and Industry Liaison, National Center for Supply Chain Logistics Education*

Panelists

*FL - Prison Systems*

- *Rick Frazier, Director, TCC/Gadsden Re-Entry Center*
- *Kristina Finch, Program Coordinator*
- *Marc Dick, Vocational Instructor*
- *Amy O'Donnell, Program Specialist & MSSC Site Coordinator*

*GA - Bobby Dodd Institute*

- *Tracey Crawford, Logistics Instructor & IT Coordinator*

*TX - Workforce Solutions North Central TX*

- *David Setzer, Executive Director*

*LA - Louisiana Approach to Industry Certifications*

- *Jeff Lynn, Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs LED FastStart*

THURSDAY | JUNE 16 - Cont'd

ROSWELL ROOM

SESSION FOUR: SREB Programs Cont'd

*Credential for All: Designing Advanced Career Pathways that Teach the Mix of Soft, Applied Academics and Workplace Skills Needed for Today's Economy.*

Moderator

- *Gene Bottoms, Senior Vice President, Southern Regional Education Board*

Panelists

- *Toby Craver, Integrated Production Technology Instructor, Fountain Lake High School, Hot Springs, AR*
- *Zach Riffell, Co-Director, Advanced Career: Marketing, SREB*

INTERNATIONAL BALLROOM

12:40 pm Luncheon Served. Networking Opportunity

1:00 pm Awards Presentation

- *Leo Reddy, Chair and CEO, MSSC*

1:10 – 1:50 pm Industry Perspective

Moderator

- *Leo Reddy, Chair & CEO, MSSC*

Panelists

- *Mary Batch, Assistant Manager, Human Resource Development, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas*
- *Michael Packer, Director, Production Operations, Special Programs-Skunk Works, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Fort Worth*
- *Don Gogan, VP for Operations Management, Harley Davidson*

1:50 - 2:05 pm Military Use of Civilian Certifications

- *Representative, Army Quartermaster Corps, Fort Lee VA*

2:05 - 2:50 pm Legislative Outlook

Moderator

- *Ron Painter, CEO, National Association of Workforce Boards*

Federal Outlook

- *Steve Voytek, Government Relations Manager, Advance CTE (formerly NASDCTEc)*

State Outlook

- *Michael Connet, Senior Director, Outreach & Partner Development, Association for Career Technical Education*

2:50 - 3:15 pm Keynote Speaker

*“Role of Skilled Workforce in Corporate Plant Location Decisions”*

- *Harry Moser, Founder and President, Reshoring Initiative*

3:15 - 3:30 pm Conclusions and Next Steps

- *Executive Briefing Moderator: Steve Boecking*



**Cassidy Bixby** | Outreach Specialist, OSU Institute of Technology -MidAmerica Industrial Park Advanced Training Center

Cassidy Bixby serves as the Outreach Specialist for Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology's Advanced Training Center in the MidAmerica Industrial Park in Pryor, Oklahoma where she recruits students for technical programs and assists with job placement as part of their Round 3 TAACCCT grant from the Department of Labor. Her experience at the training center, in the middle of a 3,500 acre, 82-employer industrial park has led to her involvement in many other initiatives focused on manufacturing and technical career awareness including MFG Day events, career pathways fairs at local schools, career fairs and the Elevate Summit through the area Workforce Development Board. Cassidy received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a focus in Marketing from Kansas State University in 2007.



**Chris Klusmeyer** | Manufacturing Instructor, Mineral Area College

Chris Klusmeyer is a Manufacturing Instructor at Mineral Area College (MAC) as part of the MoSTEM WINS Grant Program. He currently teaches approximately 11 different classes from Technical Math to Basic Fluid Power. Chris has been with MAC since May of 2013. Prior to MAC Chris, was an Instructor for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (2010 – 2013) teaching course work related to Water/Wastewater treatment. In addition Chris conducted EPA mandated inspections and provided technical assistance to public water/wastewater treatment operators in the southeast Missouri area.

From 1997 – 2010 Chris was the Camp Ranger Foreman at the S bar F Scout Ranch. While living on the property he was responsible for all of the day to day camp maintenance and project management responsibilities in addition to supervisory responsibilities of up to 40 full/part time workers.

Chris is a graduate of the University of Missouri St. Louis and Mineral Area College. Chris maintains, among other certifications, MSSC Instructor credentials for CPT and CLT, OSHA General Industry Trainer and International Fluid Power Society certification in Connector and Conductor. Chris is an Eagle Scout and has been involved with Boy Scouting, along with his son Carter and wife Kathy, since 1981.



**Cindy Read** | Director, Center Strategies, KentuckianaWorks

Cindy Read is the Deputy Director of KentuckianaWorks, the Workforce Development Board for Louisville, Kentucky and six surrounding counties. She led KentuckianaWorks' development of the Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center, which offers the MSSC Certified Production training and which was recognized for system change by the National Fund for Workforce Solutions in 2014. For the development of the Kentucky Manufacturing Career Center, Cindy was named a "Breakthrough Guru" by Metro Louisville government in 2015.



**Cory Werkheiser** | Career Development Specialist, Patrick Henry Community College

Cory Werkheiser is the Career Development Specialist with Patrick Henry Community College in Martinsville, VA. He works with employers and students to coordinate programs and training leading to industry credentials and employment.



**Craig Lamb | Vice President of Corporate and Continuing Education, Rowan -Cabarrus Community College**

Craig Lamb is Vice President of Corporate and Continuing Education at Rowan -Cabarrus Community College in Salisbury, North Carolina. His responsibilities include training and education projects in support of community, economic and workforce development. Worker selection, workplace certification and process improvement are areas of special interest.

Craig has committed his professional career to assisting individuals and organizations improve productivity and quality of life through training. Prior to joining Rowan-Cabarrus in 2014, he served as Executive Director of Ivy Tech Corporate College for 17 years and also served 14 years as Director of Operations for Tecumseh Area Partnership, Inc., the Workforce Investment Operator for the North Central Indiana region.

He holds a BA in Organizational Communication from Purdue University and an MA in Adult and Community Education from Ball State University.

As Program Lead for Talent Initiatives under the North Central Indiana WIRED initiative, Craig oversaw development and delivery of over 25 programs and over \$7 million in WIRED funds. He serves on the authoring team for the Strategic Doing network, an open-source consultancy network dedicated to helping communities and organizations solve complex problems quickly.

Craig is the founder of numerous workforce training initiatives, including the Ivy Tech Six Sigma Institute, and the SafeWork Indiana program and has facilitated the development of employer-based learning networks including the Wabash Valley Workforce Consortium, Advancing Manufacturing and the North Carolina Manufacturing Institute.



**David Barbour | Educational Consultant, North Carolina Career and Technical Education**

David Barbour has the educational background and industry experience that uniquely qualifies him as an Educational Consultant for North Carolina Career and Technical Education. He is a product of North Carolina Schools, graduating from North Johnston High School in 1978, earned an associate in Electronic Engineering Technology from Johnston Community College in 1980, a BS in Business from Barton College in 1994, and a masters in Industrial Technology from ECU in 2000. He earned his Ed.D. in Educational Technology Management from Northcentral University in June 2015.

His work experience demonstrates a diverse knowledge base that includes 23 years in the computer manufacturing industry with Data General Corporation in the technical and quality field, 7 years with Ericsson Mobile phones in the Research Development and quality area, and the last 15 years in secondary education. He is an ISO 9001 Lead Assessor and lead several worldwide process improvement projects for Ericsson. He is currently in charge of over 30 curriculum project for the state of North Carolina. David served as a classroom teacher for the first five years and the last ten as a state education consultant in the field of Trade and Industrial Education.

He has served in numerous positions in his professional organization including the executive board of directors and division president. He is currently on the executive board of directors for the NC SkillsUSA and the National Partnership for Careers in Law, Public Safety, Corrections and Security.

He is a father of two, a 30 year old son who is a high school Public Safety teacher, and a 10 year old daughter who will be entering the 6 grade in the fall. He has identical twin granddaughter who just turned 5. David also is a high school sports official who works football, basketball, baseball, and softball. He is also active in his church.



**David K. Setzer | Executive Director, Workforce Solutions North Central TX**

David K. Setzer has a tremendous amount of public and private sector experience. Mr. Setzer retired from SBC Communications, where he was Director-Central Office Operations, in 2001 after 30 years of exemplary service. From 1994 – 1999, he served as City Council member for the City of Midlothian and in 1999, Mr. Setzer was elected Mayor of Midlothian. He served as the city’s mayor for six distinguished years.

From 2003 to 2005 he served as the Purchasing Agent for Ellis County and is a member of the Public Purchasing Association of North Central Texas and is a charter member of the Texas Public Purchasing Association. In 2005, he joined the North Central Texas Council of Governments as the Operations Manager and in November of 2007 was selected as the Executive Director of Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas, one of 28 workforce boards in the state of Texas. Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas works in partnership with the North Central Texas Council of Governments, to provide locally designed, market-driven workforce development initiatives and services to all employers, workers, and job seekers in 14 counties in North Central Texas. In January of 2013, he earned the Certified Professional in Supply Management (CPSM) certification from the Institute of Supply Management.

He is the Past President of the Texas Public Purchasing Association, on the Board of Directors of Texas CASA, Treasurer of the Texas Association of Workforce Boards, and the Website Chair for the Public Purchasing Association of North Central Texas. He is also the Past-President of CASA of Ellis County.



**Deborah Anderson | Community Liaison, Doss High School**

Deborah Anderson is an experienced career and technical education professional. Her 32 years has included work in both secondary and postsecondary occupational training and development. During her career Deborah served as Director for Career and Technical Education for the state of Kentucky and then went on to help Louisville Public Schools develop and implement a system of career-themed high schools. She currently works as Community Liaison for Doss HS in Louisville, KY and the Jefferson Community & Technical College as the Program Facilitator for Louisville FAME which is a work and learn program sponsored by local employers to prepare students for careers in advanced manufacturing.



**Debra Lyons | Senior Director, ACT Center for Workforce Advancement**

Debra Lyons has recently been named as senior director to the newly formed ACT Center for Workforce Advancement. Here she will utilize her experience and entrepreneurial skills to successfully launch this new endeavor for ACT. She continues to serve as Executive Director to the National Workforce Solutions Advisory Board, an organization of c-level business leaders who provide guidance on ACT Work Ready Communities. With the creation of the new Center, the board’s role will be expanding. Most recently, she served as Vice President of Community and Economic Development for ACT, Inc. In this position, she led a national effort to provide community based workforce solutions to states to drive economic growth and greater productivity. Lyons is the chief architect for ACT Work Ready Communities, a unique opportunity ACT, as a 501c3 public trust, provides to all states. ACT Work Ready Communities is a data driven approach designed to link education and workforce development, align to economic development and match people to jobs. She oversaw the initiative from concept to now being active in twenty four states and hundreds of counties. Under her leadership, ACT Work Ready Communities was the recipient of the International Economic Development Council’s Human Capital Award – Populations greater than 500,000 in October 2014. She holds a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering and a master’s degree in mechanical engineering.



**Don Gogan | Vice President Operations Management, Harley-Davidson**

As Vice President Operations Management for Harley-Davidson, Don Gogan is responsible for Quality and Manufacturing Footprint. His focus is on manufacturing process technical expertise, advanced process innovation for new products and strategic initiative governance.

Gogan has been with the company since 1992. His career at Harley-Davidson has spanned Manufacturing, Finance, Marketing, Strategic Planning, International Operations and Materials. In 2002, he led the construction of the Softail plant in York and in 2006 served as the Managing Director of our New Castalloy subsidiary in Australia. Prior to being named the head of Operations Management, he was Vice President Materials Management responsible for enterprise-wide leadership of materials management, including strategic sourcing, product development purchasing, supply-chain management, indirect procurement and materials logistics. Before joining Harley-Davidson, Gogan was employed at General Electric.

Gogan graduated with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Marquette University and a master's degree in Business and Engineering from Northwestern University.



**Donna Ludwig | Account Manager, Business Services, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College**

Donna Ludwig has a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from Georgia Southern University and spent many years in marketing and communications in the banking sector before moving into higher education where she received the Certified Program Planner designation from Learning Resources Network. For twelve years, she has been Director of Customized Training for Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in North Carolina, responsible for designing and coordinating training for local employers, specializing in the technical training field.

Donna is a Corporate and Continuing Education Business Services Account Manager for the college and also the lead manager for MSSC's Certified Production Training initiative. In that role, she has solicited support and participation from manufacturing industries and workforce development agencies, secured and managed instructors, marketed the program to the community and screened and interacted with students. Over 50 students have become Certified Production Technicians in the past year, with an 80% placement rate within one month of graduation.



**Donna Mason | Client Relations Account Manager, ACT, Inc**

Donna Mason is employed by ACT, Inc. as an account manager in client relations working with secondary, post-secondary and state relations in Tennessee. She works with clients to provide educational and career planning with student assessments, curriculum support and school improvements with ACT's College and Career Readiness System. Using ACT's workforce programs, she focuses her efforts with aligning workforce development to education with ACT WorkKeys assessments and helping support the ACT WorkReady Communities program.

Previously, Donna was a project manager for the healthcare sector, working for the Bluegrass Area Investment Board in Lexington, KY. She worked with hospitals to address workforce development needs, creating training initiatives and implementing strategies to reduce skills gaps. Donna has a track record of developing strategic alliances, consultative sales and solution based deliverables.



**Dr. John Foster | President/CEO of NOCTI and Nocti Business Solutions (NBS)**

Since 2005, Dr. John Foster has served as the President/CEO of NOCTI and Nocti Business Solutions (NBS). He has over 35 years of experience in CTE, workforce training, and tailored industrial training program development. Dr. Foster served as State Director of CTE, teacher educator, local CTE Director, CTE teacher educator and construction contractor. He holds a degrees in vocational education, training administration, and organization development. He has worked with a variety of employers, industry associations and apprenticeship organizations regarding smart hiring practices and standards development. He has written four books regarding CTE and he has been a leader in cutting edge ideas like Digital Badges and Prior Learning Assessment.



**Gene Bottoms | Senior Vice President, SREB**

Gene Bottoms joined the Southern Regional Education Board in 1987 as director of the High Schools That Work initiative. He brings more than 40 years of experience working on issues of education policy and practice in the public sector. In 1997, he became senior vice president of SREB, and his leadership responsibilities expanded to high schools, middle grades, technology centers and preparing principals to become leaders of curriculum and instruction. He also directs the work to prepare teachers and school leaders to help students master both college- and career -readiness standards, particularly in the areas of literacy, mathematics and career and technical studies.

Bottoms leads more than 125 full-time staff and part-time consultants who work in the several initiatives under the broad umbrella of school improvement across SREB states and beyond. Prior to joining SREB, Bottoms served as executive director of the American Vocational Association. He also served as the director of education improvement for the Georgia Department of Education. Bottoms holds doctorate and master's degrees in guidance and counseling from the University of Georgia.



**Gene Bowman | Executive Director, Alamo Academies**

Gene Bowman was named Executive Director of the Alamo Academies on 6 February 2006. Before coming to this position, he served for 28 years in the Air Force, retiring as a colonel from Lackland Air Force Base as the Inspector General.

He had a diverse career during his Air Force tenure from being a T-37 Instructor Pilot at Randolph Air Force Base, leading a cadet squadron at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, being a staff officer at the Pentagon and directing a division at Pacific Headquarters at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. He is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and earned his Master's in Management from Webster's University at St. Louis, MO.



**Harry Moser | Founder & President, Reshoring Initiative**

Harry founded the Reshoring Initiative to bring manufacturing jobs back to the U.S. after worked for GF AgieCharmilles, starting as President in 1985 and retiring 12/31/10 as Chairman Emeritus. Largely due to the success of the Reshoring Initiative, Harry was inducted into the Industry Week Manufacturing Hall of Fame 2010 and was named Quality Magazine's Quality Professional of the year for 2012. Harry participated actively in President Obama's 1/11/12 Insourcing Forum at the White House, won the Jan. 2013 The Economist debate on outsourcing and offshoring, and received the Manufacturing Leadership Council's Industry Advocacy Award in 2014. For years he has promoted skilled workforce recruitment, resulting in several national awards from NTMA and being selected as the SPE 1996 Mold Designer of the year. He is on the boards of NIMS and MSSC.

Harry is a frequent speaker at economic development, supply chain and manufacturing events. He is frequently quoted in the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, New Yorker and USA Today and seen or heard on Fox Business, MarketWatch, CNNMoney and other national TV and radio programs. He received a BS in ME and an MS in Engineering at MIT in 1967 and an MBA from U. of Chicago in 1981.



**Janet Bray | President, Bray Strategies, and Executive Director (ret.) Association for Career Technical Education**

Janet Bray is the Chief Strategist and founder of Bray Strategies and brings a unique perspective and vision to best practices for connecting education and industry for a relevant, skilled workforce. For more than eleven years, Janet served as the Executive Director of the Association for Career and Technical Education, a not-for-profit association representing over 30,000 professionals across the United States. As Executive Director, Janet managed the staff and oversaw the development of program services for the members of the association and the CTE profession. She provided leadership on a broad spectrum of education and workforce issues and directed the strategic public policy and public awareness efforts of the association.

Janet currently provides her expertise and knowledge with the Industry Workforce Needs Council, the National Restaurant Association Education Foundation, Manufacturing Skills Standards Institute, The Society of Manufacturing Engineers, National Coalition of Certification Centers, Career Readiness Institute, Pathways to Prosperity project, Global Pathways Institute, Ideagen, Innovate-Educate, the National Association of Workforce Boards, Department of Labor work on career pathways, ed2go/Cengage, and The Hope Street Group.

Janet represents the career and technical education and workforce profession on a number of Boards and advisory groups including the Home Builders Institute Board of Trustees, Manufacturing Skills Standards Council, National Coalition of Certification Centers, Physicians Assistants Foundation, HVACR Education Foundation, ANSI Certificate Program Accreditation Committee, Workforce Solutions Group and the Board of the U.S. Partnership for Education for Environmental Sustainability. She recently completed her Board service on the Department of Labor Apprenticeship Advisory Committee, Friends of the National High School Center, Principles for Learning Coalition and America's Promise Alliance Board of Trustees. During her 40-year tenure in the association management profession, she has provided leadership to a variety of associations in strategic planning, education program development, outreach to related professions and publics and creation of innovative programs and services. She was instrumental in the development of a Youth Apprenticeship Program for the graphic arts industry in the State of Wisconsin and initiated the industry's effort to develop national skill standards. Janet has authored or co-authored several articles including "Developing Human Capital: Meeting the Growing Global Need for a Skilled and Educated Workforce," 2012, McGraw Hill Foundation and the "Trends in National Policy," chapter in Career Pathways, Education with a Purpose, 2012. She is also a co-author on the 2015 white paper, Transforming Career Counseling: Bridging School to Career in the Workforce of the Future."

Janet has been an active participant in the association community serving on the American Society of Association Executives Education Foundation Board of Directors, Greater Washington Society of Association Executives Board of Directors, and numerous association-related committees and councils. Janet holds a Bachelors Degree in History and Government from the University of Maryland and a Masters Degree in Adult Education from the George Washington University. Janet earned her Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential in 1991 and is a member of the distinguished ASAE Fellows Group.

**Jay Bouis | Director of Technical Training, Community College of Baltimore**



Jay Bouis is the Director of Technical Training at the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) in Baltimore, Maryland. He oversees the Continuing Education, Workforce Development departments of Building and Industrial Technology; Registered Apprenticeships; and Transportation, Distribution and Logistics. Since 1995 Jay has been involved with technology, training, and administration in a variety of leadership roles in the public and private sectors. Prior to entering higher education Jay was a partner at a consulting company focused on software design and testing services for industrial automation. He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Information Systems at Stevenson University and a Masters in Communication at Notre Dame of Maryland University.



**Jeff Lynn | Executive Director, Workforce Development Programs LED FastStart**

LED FastStart was developed and started by Jeff Lynn. FastStart provides customized workforce solutions to new and expanding companies in Louisiana. LED FastStart has become recognized nationally as the number one workforce development programs in the nation for the last five consecutive years. Jeff moved to Louisiana in November of 2008 from Georgia. While in Georgia Jeff was in a similar role with the State Of Georgia for over 10 years. Jeff was an architect of the Georgia program and maintained a National number one or two ranking for the ten years he was in that role. Prior to joining Georgia's program, Jeff served in several Leadership roles for Ciba Vision, a Novartis Company in Duluth, Georgia.

Jeff graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management. He is a Certified Economic Developer Trainer with over 30 years of experience in manufacturing, corporate headquarters, IT technology centers, customer support centers, etc. Jeff specializes in large scale manufacturing startups with significant emphasis on transfer of technology for operations.

Jeff's areas of expertise include: experience with 100's of companies, innovative customized recruitment processes, technical assessments, design, development and delivery of customize training programs, leadership development, human resources, operations and pre and post-secondary curriculum programs.

Jeff's experience is extensive to include custom workforce development projects with the following: KIA Motors, GM, Ford, Honda, Siemens, Toyo Tires North America, SASOL, Benteler Steel, CenturyLink and many other companies.

Jeff is a current member of the Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association (LIDEA) and the IEDC – International Economic Development council. Jeff served on the National Manufacturing Skills Standards Committee, in Washington D.C. Jeff chaired numerous projects with the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). Jeff sits on numerous advisory committees within higher education across Louisiana.

**Joe T. Wood | State Coordinator for Tennessee, Battelle for Kids**



Joe Wood has been in K-12 public education since 1987 in various roles as a teacher, coach, building administrator and from 2001-2011 he served as Director of Schools in Lexington City. Joe has been involved in multiple educational organizations such as TOSS, TSBA, SCORE, AIMS, AASA, etc. He also served on many state and regional committees such as P-16. Joe presently serves on the Tennessee Task Force for Personalized Learning. Since 2011 he has led the Tennessee work for Battelle for Kids with much of the work being with FTTT and TDOE. Joe presently works with regional cooperatives, TOSS, higher education, school districts and regional workforce development efforts.

**Kathryn Schmidt | Director of Career and Technical Education, St. Lucie County Schools**



Originally from New Jersey, Kathie holds a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Technical Education from the University of South Florida, a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Florida Atlantic University, and certification as a "Local Vocational Director" from the Florida Dept. of Education.

Kathie has been the Director of Career and Technical Education for St. Lucie County Schools, for 16 years. Prior to this, she was Palm Beach County's Director of Career Academies, held a regional position for the Florida Dept. of Education at Florida Atlantic University, and also has experience as a Career Specialist, and Certified Vocational Evaluators. She has years of experience working with educators, workforce, economic development agencies, and industry partners; has chaired a number of state advisory committees, and is also a former president of the administrators' division of the Florida Association for Career & Technical Education.



**Kenny Parker** | *Director of Manufacturing Solutions, Spartanburg Community College*

Kenny Parker is an experienced workforce training professional. He has more than 10 years experience in workforce development and training. He is currently the Director of Manufacturing Solutions for the Corporate & Community Education Division of Spartanburg Community College in Spartanburg, SC. In this current role he works with manufacturers in the Upstate of South Carolina providing training and workforce solutions, spending much of his time on customized and manufacturing specific trainings. He has held previous positions in the workforce and training areas with the South Carolina Department of Employment & Workforce as well as ResCare Workforce Services. He is a graduate of Limestone College in Gaffney, SC with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration and received his Masters Degree in Human Resources Training & Development from Webster University in Greenville, SC.



**LeeSa Page** | *MSSC Senior Advisor for Kentucky*

LeeSa facilitates collaborative efforts to more broadly implement CPT and CLT certification in the state of Kentucky. She works with the business community, education and others to increase awareness and use of the certification programs as an MSSC Senior Advisor. From 1997-2005, she served as lead staff and then Co-Director of the MSSC overseeing the development of the standards and assessments, convening employers, education, government agencies, associations and labor. LeeSa lives in Louisville, KY with her husband and two children.



**Leo Reddy** | *Chairman and CEO, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)*

Mr. Reddy is the Chairman and CEO of the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)-an industry-led, non-profit training, assessment and certification organization focused on the core technical competencies needed by the nation's front-line production and material handling workers. Mr. Reddy has held this position since 2005. Under his leadership, MSSC developed two nationally portable certifications for the U.S.'s front-line production and material handling workers, the Certified Production Technician (CPTAE) and the Certified Logistics Technician (CLTAE). Both are accredited under ANSI-ISO 17024 (Personnel Certification), making MSSC the only national certification body with this ISO recognition for both manufacturing and logistics. MSSC has built a nationwide training and testing delivery infrastructure of 730a authorized test sites and over 1300 instructors, most at community colleges and high schools, in 44 states.

Prior to becoming MSSC CEO, Mr. Reddy was the Founder and CEO of the National Council for Advanced Manufacturing (NACFAM) in 1989. During his tenure, NACFAM led the development of various national public-private partnership programs to enhance U.S. industrial innovation and competitiveness. A prolific author and frequent speaker, Mr. Reddy entered the private sector after a highly successful, 28-year Foreign Service career with the U.S. Department of State. A specialist in NATO and arms control affairs, he served on U.S. Delegations to NATO, the Helsinki Conference, the Conventional Force Reductions in Europe, and the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty signed by Presidents Reagan and Gorbachev. He headed the State Department's successful INF Treaty Ratification Task Force.



**Liz Roberts** | *Deputy Grants Manager, Missouri Community College Association*

Liz Roberts is the Deputy Grants Manager for the Missouri Community College Association. In this role, Liz helps oversee a 13-college consortium that delivers workforce training programs under USDOL TAACCCT grants. Liz has worked on three out of the four rounds of TAACCCT in Missouri, with training initiatives focused on Healthcare, Manufacturing, and STEM careers. With extensive statewide program management experience, Liz has been working with federal grants for more than nine years.



**Lidell Greenway** | *Vice President of Economic Development, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College*

Lidell Greenway has much of her career in the field of economic development. She began her work at the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce in Macon, Georgia seeing first-hand how the cycle of job creation is the key to economic vitality. During her years with the Douglas-Coffee County Economic development Authority, her role was to attract new industry and grow the existing business base. During that experience she learned first-hand the challenge that existed in recruiting a trained workforce to support this growth. In 2010, Greenway left the recruitment side of economic development to join the education side. In 2010, she became Vice President of Economic Development for Wiregrass Georgia Technical College. Since then, she has been committed to the mission of the college which is workforce development.

Greenway grew up in rural South Georgia and has spent her life in Georgia and Texas. She is a graduate of Wesleyan College in Macon, Georgia, attained her Certified Economic Developer Trainer designation, and has completed advanced economic development training through IEDC at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She is an active member of the Georgia Economic developers Association and serves on several local and regional boards in south Georgia



**Lori Kelley-Burdine** | *Director of Public Information & Planning, DSCC/Workforce Development Division, Northwest TN Workforce Board*

Mrs. Lori Kelley-Burdine has been involved in education and workforce development for her entire career. She has been an admissions counselor for The University of Memphis, staffing agent for Randstad USA, human resource manager, downtown development director and youth leadership director. For over 11 years, Lori has worked for Dyersburg State Community College, Administrative Entity for Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act grant funds. She has worked as a Business Services Coordinator, Youth Coordinator, and since July 2010 has served as the Director of Public Information and Planning for the Northwest TN Workforce Board. She is currently responsible for the management of the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) grant, where she oversees the implementation of the Certified Production Technician courses in 17 locations in 10 counties in northwest TN.

Mrs. Lori Kelley-Burdine has been involved in education and workforce development for her entire career. For over 11 years, Lori has worked for the Northwest TN Workforce Board in Business Services, Youth Services and currently serves as the Director of Public Information and Planning for the Northwest TN Workforce Board. She is responsible for the management of the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP) grant, where she oversees the implementation of the Certified Production Technician courses in 17 locations in 10 counties in northwest TN.



**Dr. Marilyn Barger** | *Principal Investigator and Executive Director, FLATE*

Dr. Marilyn Barger is the Principal Investigator and Executive Director of FLATE, the Florida Regional Center of Advanced Technological Education, funded by the National Science Foundation and housed at Hillsborough Community College in Tampa, Florida since 2004. Working closely with over 100 partner organizations, FLATE serves all of Florida and is involved in outreach and recruitment of students into credentialed technical career pathways; has produced award winning curriculum design and reform for secondary and post-secondary Career and Technical Education programs; and provides professional development for STEM and technical educators focused on advanced technologies. Dr. Barger earned a B.A. in Chemistry from Agnes Scott College and both a B.S. in Engineering Science and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering (Environmental) from the University of South Florida, where her research focused on design of membrane separation systems for water purification. She has a licensed patent and is a registered professional engineering in Florida. Dr. Barger has over 20 years of experience in developing and delivering curricula for engineering and engineering technologies for K-20 educators across the country and has authored over 50 papers on this and technical topics.



**Mary Batch | Assistant Manager, Human Resource Development (HRD), TOYOTA Motor Manufacturing Texas, Inc.**

Mary is the Assistant Manager of Human Resource Development at Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Texas, Inc. (TMMTX), located on the south side of San Antonio, Texas. Mary areas of responsibilities in HRD are corporate and compliance training, leadership development programs, role base training, maintenance fundamental skills training, and the future pipeline initiatives.

Mary's has played a critical role in growing the next workforce generation in technology. she has been instrumental exposing the youth in San Antonio in STEM initiatives through interactive engagement activities beginning at the middle school level in engineering, multi-skill maintenance and production. Entering into her sixth year with her partnership with Alamo Colleges and the Alamo Academies (National model); she has provided 8-week summer internships for high school students enrolled in the Advanced Manufacturing & Technology Academies in between their junior and senior year. Primary purpose is to expose them to the different possibilities that an education and hands on manufacturing experience can bring.

Since the inception of the internship along with the education committee of the San Antonio Manufacturing Association they have endorsed the Manufacturing Skills Standard Council of both the Safety and Quality certification as a criterion to be accepted into the summer internship at not only Toyota but with the other participating manufacturers in the area.

Her passion in providing a positive learning environment supports a diverse culture that respects people. Her most recent project is the "Advance Manufacturing Technician Program" a two year working scholarship that launched the fall of 2013 represents 36% females with the Alamo Academies interns feeding directly into the two-year program. Since 2006 she has been an active member of several educational advisory committees at the high school and community college level; in addition, Mary holds a leadership position at the national level with Automotive Manufacturers Technology Education Collaborative (AMTEC) and recently appointed to the Workforce Solutions Alamo Board.



**Michael Connet | Senior Director of Outreach and Partner Development, Association for Career and Technical Education**

Michael Connet is the Senior Director of Outreach and Partner Development at the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE). In this role, Michael is responsible for promoting the impact of CTE on America's learners and supporting the development and growth of the Associations' service to 211,000 professionals engaged in preparing America's next generation of workers. As Senior Director he leads the Associations' efforts to build relationships that harness the potential of career and technical education and create projects and initiatives that elevate the profession. Michael formerly served as the Senior Director of Programs and Communications.

Prior to joining ACTE, Michael coordinated educational technology programs at community colleges in Iowa and South Carolina, was an executive with public television overseeing education outreach initiatives and led two Fortune-50 telecommunications/technology company's Foundations in their efforts to support education. A frequent author and speaker on the role and impact of 21st century teaching and learning on US competitiveness, Michael resides with his family in the Washington, DC area.



**Kristina Finch | Program Coordinator TCC/Gadsden Re-Entry Center**

Kristina Finch was born and raised in Miami, FL. At the age of 17, she moved to Tallahassee, FL to attend Florida State University and never left. She has a B.A. in English and a M.S. in Education both from FSU. She enjoys learning and values creativity and guts. She is a wife and mother of a 3 year old boy and 3 month old girl.



**Neil Reddy | Executive Director, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)**

In January of 2006, Mr. Reddy joined the MSSC in its infancy to develop and implement the organization into a national certifying body. In participation with a great national stakeholder community of industry, academia, government, Workforce Investment Boards, unions, workers and students the MSSC continues to grow at an accelerating rate. Today MSSC will have over 900 Authorized Assessment & Training Centers in 49 states, and has issued 90,000+ credentials.

Prior to his work with MSSC, Mr. Reddy worked for four years at the National Council for Advanced Manufacturing (NACFAM). There he worked primarily on national programs and projects with DOD & NIST/NNSA dedicated toward the advancement and development of next generation manufacturing process technologies



**Paul Perkins | President and Co-founder, Amatrol, Inc**

Paul is president and co-founder of Amatrol, Inc., a Jeffersonville, Indiana-based manufacturer of technical learning systems and online interactive multimedia software for colleges, industry and high schools. Amatrol has won numerous awards for its cutting edge products, including being named Indiana Business of the Year by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Louisville Metro Business of the Year by Business First Magazine, and a recipient of the prestigious E Award for exports by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Personal accomplishments include authorship of over 20 books on industrial controls and automation, design of numerous training systems for teaching engineering and technical skills, and consulting on training program development for major organizations such as Caterpillar, Ford, GM, Motorola, Cummins and Siemens.

Education includes B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology, Summa Cum Laude with Co-op. Community service activities include serving as member of numerous national, state and local education advisory committees and as a board member of the American Technical Education Association, Indiana State Workforce Investment Board (Chair), Indiana State Chamber of Commerce (Executive Committee and Committee Chair), Ivy Tech Community College Regional Board of Trustees (Chair) and Foundation Board, Kentucky Community and Technical College Foundation (Vice Chair), One Southern Indiana Chamber of Commerce, Indiana Youth Institute (Committee Chair), Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Leadership Council, Indiana Governor's Region 10 Works Council (Chair), Clark Memorial Hospital Foundation, and National Association of State Investment Workforce Board Chairs (Chair).



**Rebekah Hutton | VP of Strategic Initiatives, Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC)**

Rebekah joined MSSC in November 2008. She played a key role in the development of many of MSSC's signature programs, including the Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) training and certification program, the Green Production Module within the Certified Production Technician (CPT) training and certification system, American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accreditation under ISO Standard 17024 (Personnel Certification), National College Credit Recommendation Service evaluation of MSSC courses. Most recently she has led MSSC's work with the Armed Services under the Department of Defense Credentialing Task Force.

Prior to MSSC, Rebekah worked in both the public and private sectors on a variety of policy issues including education, health care and human trafficking prevention.



**Rick Frazier | Director of Workforce and Business, Tallahassee Community College**

Rick Frazier has over thirty plus years of experience in higher education, government and private business. He holds a Masters and Bachelor's degree from Florida State University and has completed other post graduate work at Florida State University and Western Carolina University. Currently Rick is the Director of Workforce and Business at Tallahassee Community College's - Division of Workforce Development.



**Marc C. Dick | Program Specialist, Tallahassee Community College**

As a Program Specialist with the Tallahassee Community College Division of Workforce Development, Marc C. Dick, was an integral participant in the initiative that led to the formation of The Florida Green Academy at TCC in 2010. Marc holds the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council Certified Production Technician designation. He also holds National Center for Construction Education and Research credentials and certification as a Craft Instructor in Construction Technology, Core Curriculum, Industrial Maintenance – Mechanic, Weatherization Fundamentals and Your Role in the Green Environment. He instructs incumbent workers and career-changing adults. Marc earned a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Florida and is currently taking Master of Business Administration in Sustainability coursework at the San Francisco Institute of Architecture.



**Amy O'Donnell | Program Manager, Tallahassee Community College**

Amy O'Donnell has worked in public service for fifteen years and currently serves at the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center in the Division of Workforce Development at Tallahassee Community College. She is an MSSC Site Administrator and serves as the TCC Program Manager for a 12 member college consortium for Advance Manufacturing funded by a DOL TAACCCT grant. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Geography and Environmental Studies from Florida State University.



**Sondra C. Redmon | Director of Workforce Development, Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance**

Sondra C. Redmon has been actively engaged in workforce development for more than 25 years, dating back to the Jobs Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and then Workforce Investment Act. She currently serves as Director of Workforce Development for Central Louisiana Economic Development Alliance, serving 10 parishes in central Louisiana. In her current position, she serves to identify workforce needs of regional employers, connect training institutions with employers to develop needed training, and assist in identifying workers for new and current businesses. She spearheads the annual manufacturers' survey that helps to hone in on the future employee needs of manufacturers.

Mrs. Redmon also serving as the regional lead and coordinator of the ACT Certified Work Ready Communities, covering 10 parishes in central Louisiana. This initiative serves as an empowering tool for local parishes, in the area of economic and workforce development, by linking workforce development to education, aligning economic development needs with education and workforce, and matching individuals to jobs, based on skill levels. Mrs. Redmon is a board member of the Catahoula Parish Economic & Industrial Development District, serving as Secretary/Treasurer. She also serves as Secretary of the Central Louisiana Human Services District, and is a Board member of Louisiana Workforce Development Board Area 60, while working with a number of other community-based organizations.

She is the former Director of the Department of Human Services and Executive Director of the Human Relations Commission for the city of Flint, MI. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan-Flint, with a B.A. in Political Science.



**Steve Boecking | VP, Hillwood Alliance Texas Global Logistics Hub, Fort Worth**

Steve Boecking serves as Vice President at Hillwood Properties, developer of the 18,000-acre AllianceTexas development in north Fort Worth. AllianceTexas is anchored by the Alliance Global Logistics Hub, featuring one of the nation's largest intermodal yards operated by BNSF Railway, two Class I rail lines, Interstate Highway 35W, and the world's first industrial airport, Fort Worth Alliance Airport.

Boecking oversees the management of the 9,600 acre Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) #196 at AllianceTexas. Additionally, he works to continually enhance the multimodal transportation infrastructure, supply chain services, workforce development, and economic benefits for companies within the development.

Boecking has been a featured speaker on Foreign-Trade Zones, Global Supply Chains, and Workforce Development at several regional and national conferences such as the National Association of Foreign Trade Zones (NAFTZ), the Council of Supply Chain Management (CSCMP), The Journal of Commerce (JOC), the National Defense Transportation League (NDTL), the Transportation Club of DFW (TCDFW), and more. Boecking has also lectured on Global Supply Chain and International Trade at the University of Oklahoma, Texas Christian University, University of North Texas, Southern Methodist University, and the University of Texas at Arlington.



**Steve Harrington | Vice President, Distribution Management Association, and Industry Liaison, National Center for Supply Chain Logistics Education**

Steve Harrington is currently the Industry Liaison for the National Center for Supply Chain Technology Education. In this role, he is responsible for the development and oversight of a National Industry Leadership Team consisting of Supply Chain industry leaders and various other industry stakeholders. He has 27 years of experience in warehouse operations most recently as the West Coast Logistics Manager for the Perrigo Co., a Fortune 500 over-the-counter generic drug manufacturer. Steve is Chairman and past President of the Distribution Management Association of Southern California (DMA), a 250 member logistics industry association he organized and developed. He is a two time "Spirit of the Entrepreneur" award winner for his volunteer work with DMA and for his work in the field of economic development during his prior tenure with the Inland Empire Economic Partnership. He is a graduate from Cal State University Fullerton with a degree in Business. Steve is married with three daughters and enjoys traveling, golf, sports and family gatherings.



**Steve Voytek | Government Relations Manager, Advance CTE**

Steve Voytek is the Government Relations Manager for Advance CTE the national organization representing the state and territory leaders for Career Technical Education (CTE). In this role Steve advocates for the organization's federal policy priorities on Capitol Hill and cultivates relationships in support of Advance CTE's national goals and objectives. Prior to this Steve was a Research Associate for the National Association of Workforce Boards, focusing primarily on economic and workforce development policy and legislation. Steve has also worked in the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) where he focused on science and technology policy. A Maryland native, he has also served as a state and local government affairs advocate for the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

Steve holds an M.A. in History from West Virginia University and an M.A. in International Relations from Collegium Civitas in Warsaw, Poland. He also graduated with a B.A. in Political Science and Economics with high distinction from Hiram College.



**Ted Abernathy | Economic Development Advisor, SGA**

Born in Dallas, NC, Ted received his bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; his Master's from Johns Hopkins University, is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute and is an Eisenhower Fellow for global economics. Ted is the economic development policy advisor to the Southern Governors Association, and the Managing Partner of Economic Leadership LLC, a consultancy that is currently working in more than a dozen states to develop economic strategies. Ted has 35 years of experience in directing economic development and workforce development programs. In the past two years Ted has worked with state Chambers of Commerce in North Carolina, Arkansas, Missouri and Kentucky to develop economic development plans and with another dozen regions, counties and organizations on strategic plans.

From 2008-2013, Ted was the Executive Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board, a 42-year old public policy think tank that provided economic development research, strategy and marketing advice, to states and communities across the South. Before coming to Southern Growth, Ted was a practicing economic developer for 28 years. Most recently, he served as Executive Vice President and COO for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership. During his eight years directing RTRP's operation he worked with hundreds of clients and helped generate 65,000 new jobs and almost \$10 billion in investment.

Ted's current projects include developing a new rural economic strategy for the North Carolina Chamber of Commerce, developing economic development plans for the 8 states that comprise the Mississippi Delta, creating new economic strategies in North Carolina for the Research Triangle Regional Partnership and the Piedmont Triad Partnership, conducting a national citizen input process on building community economic vitality, developing best practices in manufacturing and innovation for the U.S. Economic Development Administration and helping the Organization for International Investment create an economic development coalition to better attract foreign investment and helping the Missouri Chamber Foundation build a more economically competitive Missouri.

As a nationally known economic futurist, Ted speaks to about 100 groups annually on topics ranging from global trends to state and community economic competitiveness.



**Tina Miller | Program Support Specialist/Program Navigator, Mineral Area College**

Tina Miller is a Program Support Specialist / Navigator with the MoWINs grant programs at Mineral Area College where she received an Associate Degree. She is responsible for grant, National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC); National Association of Manufacturers (NAMS) recognized certificate promotion and recruitment with employers, incumbent workers, high school students and the unemployed.

National certifications and employment opportunities are the goals she assists students to obtain. Navigating students through the grant process while offering support and guidance offers them a sense of security and confidence. As the assessment coordinator and proctor she ensures students are prepared and successful through the assessment process. Tina serves as a job coach where she advises students on the skills necessary to obtain and retain employment.



**Zachary Riffell | Co-director, Advanced Career: Marketing, SREB**

Zach Riffell taught English to high school students when he first started teaching. He eventually transitioned to the head of the Green Construction Trades Academy helping students earn valuable skills and certifications. Erratic support for the program led him to pursue his master's in educational leadership so that he could have a more direct role in championing CTE programs. It was this desire to effect change on a larger scale for CTE that led him to SREB where he has worked on the development and marketing of Advanced Career. He is currently working on his dissertation focused on instructional priorities in exemplary construction training programs in high schools.



**Ron Painter | Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Workforce Boards**

Ron Painter is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Workforce Boards, assuming his role in July of 2009. Ron was the founding CEO of the Three Rivers Workforce Investment Board in Pittsburgh, where under his leadership the organization focused on producing labor market research, working with public educators on improved student career information, supporting community leaders in the development of regional benchmarks, and establishing the Regional Workforce Collaborative whose membership includes community colleges, WIBs, employers, labor, and economic development professionals. Before joining the Three Rivers Workforce Board, he worked in Washington, DC, first on loan to the U.S. Department of Labor for the Enterprise Project, and then for the National Alliance of Business. Mr. Painter holds an undergraduate degree in Political Science from Grove City College in Pennsylvania and a Master's in Public Administration and advanced graduate coursework from the University of Pittsburgh's Graduate School of Public & International Affairs, where he served as Adjunct Faculty.



**Toby Craver | Project Based Learning Facilitator, Fountain Lake Charter High School**

Mr. Toby Craver is the Project Based Learning Facilitator at Fountain Lake Charter High School in Hot Springs, Arkansas. He also teaches Integrated Production Technologies (IPT) to juniors and seniors; he is also the former High School Testing Coordinator. Before moving into his current role, Mr. Craver taught Agriculture Education for 18 years. During this time, he became heavily involved with the Literacy Design Collaborative (LDC). He has had one module published as exemplar entitled "Where's the Beef". This involvement with LDC led him to the Advanced Career Curriculum where he served as a literacy consultant during the writing of the curriculum. Mr. Craver has implemented IPT Courses 1 and 2 during the 15-16 school year and plans to add Courses 3 and 4 next year.



**Tracey Crawford | Logistics Instructor & IT Coordinator, Bobby Dodd Institute**

Tracey Crawford has been employed with Bobby Dodd Institute a non-profit agency that supports training and employment for people with disabilities for 19 years. She wears many hats with the company to include FSO, IT Coordinator and Logistics Instructor. Tracey attended Clayton State University where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Human Services and is also a Certified Logistics Instructor. Tracey loves spending time with family and living a simple life. The older she gets, when asked what she would like for her birthday; she tells everyone that she would like to not miss it (referring to her birthday) as a gift. She and her husband Kenneth, Sr. live in Atlanta, Ga. They are the proud parents of a son Kenneth, Jr. whom they refer to as their Heartbeat.



**Michael Packer | Director, Production Operations, Special Programs-Skunk Works, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Fort Worth**

Mr. Packer is Director, Manufacturing for Advanced Production Programs at Lockheed Martin Skunk Works®. He has over 40 years of production engineering and operations experience in line management and staff roles at department, plant, division and corporate levels. He was elected to the SME International Board of Directors in 2012 and again in 2014 and was elected to the SME College of Fellows in 2014. Mr. Packer currently Chairs the National Center for Defense Manufacturing and Machining (NCDMM) Board of Directors and serves as Director and Treasurer on the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) Executive Board. Mike is also active in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (conferred Associate Fellow in 2011), SAE International as past General Chair AeroTech World Congress and National Defense Industrial Association as past Manufacturing Division Executive Committee Chair. Mike is Shingijutsu Lean Production System certified and is a past Board Member of MIT's Lean Aerospace Initiative (LAI). Mr. Packer has published numerous articles concerning manufacturing strategy, advance manufacturing technologies, team-based organization development and talent management. He earned a BS in Industrial Technology from Eastern Michigan University, an MBA from Washington University at St. Louis and completed the Manufacturing Executive Program at the University of Michigan.

Program Speakers



**Kevin Houchin, Esq | National Programs, ACT, Inc.**

Kevin Houchin is part of ACT’s National Programs group and leads strategic collaborations in both workforce and education initiatives. In addition to his work with MSSC, Houchin leads ACT’s efforts with NAM, NCCED, National Restaurant Association, CEWD, SkillsUSA, NIMS, and others. Houchin also serves on MSSC’s Advisory Committee. He holds a J.D. with a focus on IP and Business Development from The University of Iowa College of Law and is licensed to practice in Iowa and Colorado.



**Dr. Ruth Nichols | Asst. VP for Community and Economic Development, Alcorn State University**

Dr. Nichols holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in K-8 education from the University of Southern Mississippi, a master’s degree in guidance and counseling and a doctorate in technical and adult education from Clemson University. Additional training include: AACC President’s Academy; Our Town Community Development through Mississippi State University; University of Southern Mississippi’s True South Economic Development Course; Penn State Academic Leadership Academy; University of Central Arkansas Community Development Institute, and Delta Regional Authority’s Delta Leadership Institute. Throughout her career Dr. Ruth has gone from being a kindergarten teacher to college President. Currently, she serves as Special Assistant to the President of Alcorn State University for Community and Economic Development. Ongoing initiatives include the Entrepreneur Academy, Miss-Lou Region Certified Work Ready Community, Friday Forums, and Possibilities Tour - an empty building project. She serves on numerous community boards, is a Rotarian, and was named one of Mississippi’s 50 Leading Business Women in 2014.

Dr. Nichols is a certified life coach and is researching successful community/ workforce development models. Topics of particular interest are the enhancement of soft skills/work ethics, customer service, and the influence of different generations on the “personality” of the workforce.

Award Winners

MSSC INSTRUCTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



**Victor Burgos, Ivy Tech Community College**

Last year MSSC held nominations from students to select the MSSC Instructor of the year. MSSC is pleased to announce the winner of the MSSC Authorized Instructor of the Year Award goes to Victor Burgos from Ivy Tech Community College! There were over 50 nominations submitted and we congratulate Victor on an amazing accomplishment. Below are a several highlights from his student and staff nominations:

*“He has impacted the lives of over 50 WorkOne Job Seekers and employed students with many advancing in their current position or hired into manufacturing positions within the Southern Indiana Region. Mr. Burgos inspired his students that after training for the CPT to continue into the Mechatronics and Robotic fields which some of the students have plans to continue training. He has opened the door to Advanced Manufacturing with Indiana being the number one state in Manufacturing.”*

-Stacey, Staff

*“Victor challenged us to always “keep our eye on the prize”. Although broadly referring to a concept, term, symbol, or process related to our curriculum of study in manufacturing practices, safety, and theory, Mr. Burgos always related from his life experiences of employment, education, and teaching. It was immediately apparent to me as well as all in the class that Victor was “a tonic of positivity and attitude”*

-Anthony, CPT Student

*“Victor set a very productive tone in the classroom, treating us as adults, yet leading the class purposefully. He expected excellence, but wasn’t hard on us when we fell short. He prepared us to not only pass the tests, but also gave us knowledge about how to succeed in a manufacturing environment afterwards. He was cheerful and encouraging.”*

-Perry, CPT Student

## VENDOR AWARDS

---



### ***AMATROL***

The MSSC has had a long standing relationship for over 15 years with Amatrol, both in its years of CPT standards, curriculum, and community partnership development.

Amatrol is the world's leader in skills-based, interactive technical learning. Our comprehensive learning solutions range from engaging high school students in the learning of basic science and math to teaching hands-on skills in the latest, highly sophisticated motor drives. Our interactivity, both in equipment and computer-based learning solutions, integrated with strong alignment to industry needs is what makes Amatrol the industry's leading technical education provider. Amatrol's learning solutions include interactive multimedia as well as print-based student learning materials, virtual trainers, teacher's guides, industrial quality hands-on training equipment, and instructor training.



### ***NOCTI***

The MSSC has been working with NOCTI for over 14 years and has proved to be a superb partner in the development of our CPT and CLT standards, and technical development of our assessments and their delivery to our broad community of over 930 authorized assessment centers in 49 states.

With over five decades of experience in developing tools to continuously improve the field of Career and Technical Education (CTE), NOCTI delivers solutions for increasing students' technical competence and certifying new and incumbent workers in the private sector. NOCTI is a national leader in creating customized and standardized assessment solutions.

Since it was first funded by a federal grant to Rutgers University in the late 1960s, NOCTI has functioned as a not-for-profit consortium representing each of the fifty states and the US territories and is governed by a prestigious Board of Trustees. This group of individuals reinforces NOCTI's expertise in, and strong commitment to, improving America's workforce.



### ***The Quality Group***

The MSSC had the great fortune to work with The Quality Group (TQG), to develop both its CLT virtual learning and to use its robust and user-friendly Learning Management System. MSSC has had a superb partnership with TQG for over 9 years. The Quality Group has been providing customized, best-of-class blended e-Learning solutions for leading global corporations and academic institutions since 1992. Our solutions include rich and engaging content ranging from Lean, Six Sigma, SPC and Basic Statistics to Project Management and Employability Soft Skills (the WinAt-Work series).

Our courses are delivered by our powerful web-based e-Learning portal technology, OpusWorks®, providing the tools, analytics and custom development capabilities needed for rapid deployment of strategic learning initiatives. Whether served from a client's proprietary Learning Management System (LMS) or as a stand-alone e-Learning portal, our courses feature carefully crafted instructional design and compelling interactivity with video, graphics, audio, and self-assessments.