



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **PwC Confirms Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE Mentor Mahler is Nation's Best for 2015**

**Kennewick, WA** – This past year has been historical on many levels for the local Mid-Columbia Chapter that includes a National Championship, and the accolades are still coming in. P. Simon Mahler, who has dedicated the past three years as a volunteer to changing the culture of SCORE locally in the Tri-Cities, is garnering more national attention.

According to the annual report published by PricewaterhouseCoopers, **91 small businesses** that were started by people in 2015 in the local region were mentored from start to finish by the local SCORE leader. “I knew it was a lot, and I’m excited, but there is work to do,” says Simon Mahler. “What the statistics won’t tell you is that it took over 2,000 hours, 110,000 miles driven, and mentoring to over 4,000 people last year that made 91 small businesses successfully launch. I’m no genius, but if I only had 91 successful launches from the 4,000 I mentored, then I need to improve,” Mahler says laughing. “The bigger challenge that lies ahead for me personally is to make sure those businesses stay going and growing, especially in the smaller market communities, and that requires a tremendous effort,” says Mahler.

“Simon has a passion to help each SCORE business client in any way he can. You hear it in his voice, you see it in his eyes and you feel it in his heart. He inspires the greatness of each person who has an idea to really get them going in a direction that is motivating,” says Jean Peterson, Chapter Administrative Executive. “Everyone who knows Simon knows that he has sacrificed a great amount to help make Tri-Cities relevant in our state and on a national level,” Peterson notes.

According to the published report on SCORE’s website, P. Simon Mahler helped launch 91 businesses that employed over 900 people in 2015. In second place was a mentor from Pennsylvania who successfully launched 27 businesses during the same year. “If we could bottle his energy, passion, and knowledge up and put it in all our Chapters nationwide, SCORE would be implemented globally,” says Ken Yancey, CEO of the SCORE organization.

Since 1964, SCORE has helped more than ten million aspiring entrepreneurs. Each year, SCORE provides small business mentoring and workshops to more than 375,000 new and growing small businesses. More than 11,000 business experts volunteer as mentors in 320 chapters serving local communities with entrepreneur education to help grow one million small businesses annually.

For more information about starting, operating, or growing an existing small business, call to schedule an appointment with a Mid-Columbia Tri-Cities SCORE mentor at **509-735-1000 Ext 235** or visit Tri-Cities SCORE at [www.midcolumbiatricities.score.org](http://www.midcolumbiatricities.score.org).

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