

Bios for Speakers and Moderators

John Baines is the president of HAHN Automation, a German-based custom automation company located in Hebron, KY. HAHN's customers include automotive parts suppliers, medical device makers, and many others. The Kentucky location is responsible for all projects in North America and works with the parent company on joint global projects around the world. Baines has been with HAHN since 2004. Prior to joining the company, he worked in the Detroit, MI area for Freudenberg-NOK (Vibracoustic) and Flexible Products – both automotive suppliers for molded rubber components. He also has served as board president of the European-American Chamber of Commerce in Cincinnati for the past two years. He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and B.A. in German Studies from Northwestern University. Additionally, he completed coursework for an M.Eng. in Automotive Engineering from the University of Michigan. He is fluent in German.



Gregg Bennett is Center Director and Manager of Stakeholder Relations for the Alabama Technology Network of the U S Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Prior to ATN's formation he was Executive Director of the Beville Manufacturing Technology Center, specializing in consulting engineering and workforce development related to industrial production. Before developing the Center in 1987, Bennett was Assistant to the Vice-President of Economic and Community Affairs at the University of Alabama and earlier was Senior Economic Developer for the SC Appalachian Council and Director of the Governor's Export Advisory Council. He taught for Limestone College in Gaffney South Carolina and worked for the US Department of Commerce. He earned bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Alabama. He helped found the Trans-Atlantic Technology and Training Alliance (TA3), and served as chair of the Consortium of Manufacturing Competitiveness, the National Coalition for Advanced Manufacturing Technology, and was on The President's National Council on Vocational Education. He has received the Alabama Community Service Award. Gregg has published several articles and papers on technology education and economic development, and on partnerships for work force development. He has consulted on numerous projects to develop technology transfer and workforce development programs throughout the US and in Europe. He resides in Gadsden, AL and is married to Dr. Doris Bennett, professor of Economics at Jacksonville State University, and is father of Josh and Lucy Bennett.

Adam Friedman is Director of the Pratt Center for Community Development and is one of New York's leading experts in building sustainable communities and encouraging sustainable business practice, particularly in the manufacturing sector. The Pratt Center, a department within Pratt Institute, provides architecture, urban planning and other

professional services to strengthen New York City's low income communities and build a more diverse economy. Mr. Friedman has more than 30 years of experience in both economic development services as well as research and policy. He was the founding



executive director of the New York Industrial Retention Network (NYIRN), which worked with 200 to 300 manufacturing companies each year and was recently consolidated into Pratt. NYIRN's research and advocacy led to creation of New York City's Industrial Business Zones, to the growth of a green manufacturing sector in New York, and the launch of numerous new initiatives to save and create jobs, and integrate economic and environmental policy. Mr. Friedman previously served as Executive Director of the Garment Industry Development Corporation and

director of economic development for Borough Presidents David Dinkins and Ruth Messinger. He teaches urban planning at Pratt Institute and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Michael Gould is Associate Director of Skills & Industry Division in the Department for Employment and Learning and has responsibility for programme management of "Success through Skills", the Northern Ireland Skills Strategy; pre-employment training with the "Bridge to Employment" scheme and for the Critical Sector Initiatives, a new £15m, three year program aimed at addressing skills shortages in sectors critical to the Northern Ireland economy and increasing enrollments in STEM. Prior to his appointment at the Department for Employment and Learning Michael, spent



fours years in Washington, DC as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Northern Ireland Bureau. He played a key role in the development of Northern Ireland Bureau's future business strategy and led the outreach programme for Northern Ireland with the Federal Government and the State Legislatures in the US. Before working in America, Michael spent ten years in the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development involved in agri-food marketing and latterly in education; he has also worked as a Senior Lecturer in Further Education and in commercial aquaculture management. During his time in DARD Michael undertook a six month placement in Sweden with the Swedish Ministry of Agriculture under the EU Bi-Lateral Exchange Scheme. Michael holds an MSc. in Marketing (Distinction) and also post-graduate qualifications in Education, Communications and a primary degree in Agriculture. Michael was one of the first individuals in Northern Ireland to be awarded Chartered Marketer status.

Ted Hall is the founder and CEO of ShopBot Tools, Inc., who created a digital fabrication tool that was oriented to use by individuals and small shops. A tool that took advantage of the technology's capability to cut, drill, sculpt, machine, carve, or trim with high precision and in relation to a digital model but that made sense in a small shop for making one object or many, and that empowered individuals through the new



technology with enhanced capabilities to express their creativity in projects of all sizes and using a wide range of materials. Since starting ShopBot Tools 16 years ago, there are thousands of ShopBots fabricating away in garage shops, hacker spaces, schools, FabLabs, and small and large manufacturing operations around the world. A new networked community of digital fabricators, www.100kGarages.com started by Bill Young and Ted, has emerged as a singular resource for anyone wanting to make something, emphasizing and building on the relationship between digital models, digital fabrication tools, and their potential to return local production and

manufacturing to our communities. ShopBot Tools develops and manufactures tools for digital fabrication at its facility in Durham, NC. ShopBots come in sizes from a Desktop model that does both subtractive and additive digital fab, to 10ft x 30ft machines that fabricate parts for trucks, boats, houses, and airplanes. www.ShopBotTools.com. For 25 years before ShopBot and digital fabrication began to consume all his time, Ted did neuroscience research and taught at Duke University.

Richard Johnson is an Executive in Residence at Kentucky Science and Technology Corporation. Rick joined KSTC in February 2011. Previously Rick ran two closely held electronic manufacturing companies and divisions of two publicly traded electronic manufacturing companies. Rick started his career as a design engineer and progressed into engineering management, sales management and then general management. Rick has experience in the telecommunications, petrochemical, security, transportation, components, electronic sensing and capital equipment markets. Rick holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from U.C. Berkeley, an M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University, and an MBA from UCLA. Rick has been awarded four U.S. patents.

Dr. G. Edward Hughes became the founding president and chief executive officer of Gateway Community and Technical College on December 1, 2001. Under Dr. Hughes' leadership, Gateway has transformed into a comprehensive two-year college with emphasis on workforce development and training, transfer education and adult education and services. Before joining Gateway, Dr. Hughes became one of the youngest college presidents in America when in 1985 he assumed the presidency of Hazard Community College at age 34. A life-long educator, Dr. Hughes has served as a teacher, program coordinator, and academic and student affairs administrator in community and technical colleges in Arkansas, Illinois, New York and Tennessee. Ask him what he'd like to be doing if not working in community colleges and he will probably tell you playing trumpet in a rock band like Chicago. In 2008 he joined other community leaders in Northern Kentucky to perform live in "Suits that Rock", a concert benefit for the Carnegie Center in Covington. Dr. Hughes has provided national leadership in the community college field, helping to establish the



Rural Community College Initiative. Currently he is member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges and is active in many local groups including—as Chair of Life Learning Center, Board member of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, STRIVE Partnership Executive Committee, Metropolitan Club Board of Directors, and the TRI-Ed Board of Directors. He received his BA in psychology from Catawba College, Salisbury, N.C.; his MA in psychology from Middle Tennessee State University; and Ph.D. in higher education from Southern Illinois University. He is married to Sarah Hughes, who is Coordinator of Special Events and Public Relations for the Northern Kentucky Area Health Education Center. The Hughes have three grown daughters and two grandsons.

Hans Lehman is Vice Principal at EUC Syd in Sønderborg, Denmark. He is responsible for vocational educational programmes, work force training, educational development and international activities. One of the major strategic initiatives is education and sustainability. Before that Hans was lecture and then Vice Principal at the Sønderborg Business College and Lecturer at Odense University. He has a Masters degree in English from Odense University and an MBA in educational management from the University of Leicester, United Kingdom.



Rand W. Key serves as the Senior Vice Chancellor of the Lone Star College System.



In his role, Rand is responsible for coordinating the day-to-day administrative and auxiliary operations. Specifically, he oversees the system's workforce development, corporate college, continuing education, human resources, institutional research and effectiveness, public safety, campus security planning and the University Center. Key holds a Juris Doctorate from the Cumberland School of Law of Samford University, where he also received his M.B.A. He received his M.Ed. from the University of Alabama and also received his B.S. from Samford University.

George Konstantakis is an entrepreneur, inventor and licensed Professional Engineer. Currently President of Brooks Stevens, George co-founded Ingenium Product Development in 1997 and helped broker the merger between the two firms in 2007. For over 15 years, George has been helping clients engineer and develop products in the consumer, industrial, recreational and healthcare industries. Specializing in Program Management, high-end solid modeling and engineering simulation (CAD, FEA, CFD, MBS), he brings product ideas to successful fruition for his clients... the likes of Harley-Davidson, Briggs & Stratton, Mercury Marine, and GE Healthcare. At Brooks Stevens, George connects the Research, Industrial Design, Engineering and Model



Making professions. Our goal is to empower our clients to make strategic business decisions by “doing the right things right”... resulting in truly relevant new products. George holds an MS in Aerospace Engineering from Pennsylvania State University, a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a Certificate in Managing Product Development from Northwestern University. He is on the Advisory Council of Bizstarts Milwaukee (www.bizstartsmilwaukee.com), and he is an active member of APDF, NSPE, ASME and other professional and community organizations.

Jeannine La Prad, President & CEO, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, is responsible for helping CSW advance its mission of catalyzing transformative change in education, economic, and workforce development through research and action. She has spent the last 15 years researching and promoting innovative economic, education, and social policies and practices that help people successfully engage in sustainable work and lifelong learning. Through these efforts she has facilitated the advancement of sectoral partnerships and career pathway programs. Most recently Jeannine has been working with states and communities on the development of policies and programs that help increase the number of jobs and skilled workers in areas of high growth and demand, with a particular emphasis on energy, industrial energy efficiency, and advanced manufacturing. She has written a number of reports about the clean energy economy and has recently co-authored a paper on community-based job creation in the areas of local food, building deconstruction, and energy efficiency. Jeannine also serves as an advisor to the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) on their administration of the Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN) and is a member of the Board of Directors for Creative Change Educational Solutions, a non-profit organization focused on sustainability education. Prior to joining CSW, Jeannine did consulting work with the University of Michigan, as well as developed innovative training and distance learning for the chemical, petrochemical, and automotive industries. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in organizational psychology and communications and a Master’s in higher education policy from the University of Michigan.



Lou Lenzi is the Industrial Design Director at GE Appliances, where he is responsible for all industrial design and user interface design activities for GE, Profile, Café, Monogram, and Hotpoint branded lines of major appliances. Prior to joining GE Appliances, Lou has held numerous senior design leadership positions with IBM, RCA, Thomson, Audiovox, and GE Healthcare, where he was head of the GEHC’s Global Design Organization. Over the course of his career, Lou’s design teams have received numerous design and innovation awards from the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA), the Consumer Electronics Association, and a Design-of-the-Decade award from *BusinessWeek* for the DirecTV on-screen user interface. Lou has lectured on Design and Innovation at Harvard, Notre Dame, and MIT.

Lou is a 1980 graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a BS in Industrial Design and is a member of the Academy of Fellows of the Industrial Design Society of America.

Dr. Nichola Lowe is Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research and teaching interests include regional industrial adjustment, workforce development and immigrant labor market incorporation. Since moving to North Carolina in 2005, she has primarily studied efforts by state agencies to build out viable employment, entrepreneurial and business expansion opportunities in the state's biopharmaceutical industry. As part of this project, she has looked at innovative community college training initiatives and their role in helping workers with traditional manufacturing experience transition to more stable jobs in biopharmaceuticals. She has also conducted research on the knowledge contribution of immigrant workers in North Carolina's construction industry. She received her Ph.D. in urban studies and planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2003, an M.S. in international economic development from U.C. Davis and a B.S. in political economy from U.C. Berkeley.

José Luis Fernández Maure is the International manager at TKNIKA (Institute of Innovation for Technical Colleges from the Basque Country), where he is responsible for mobility projects connected with innovation. Before that, he was responsible for the coordination of public Technical Colleges from the Basque Country in International projects and leader of trainers' and trainees' mobility projects at the Association IKASLAN (Association of Public Technical Colleges from the Basque Country). Prior to that, he was a teacher at Elgoibar BHI Technical College with responsibility for International projects. He Represented TKNIKA at the International Networks EFVET (European Forum for Technical and Vocational Education and Training) and TA3 (Transatlantic, Technological and Training Alliance) and is a member of the board at the International Network of the World Federation of Colleges and Polytechnics and President of the International Association of Professionals of Creativity CREANOVA. Jose Luis's experience includes the organization of International conferences in the Basque Country and Istanbul, His University degree is from Deusto University.



James F. McKenney is currently the Vice President of Economic Development and International Programs of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). He is the primary point of interface between AACC and other public/private organizations, agencies and trade associations that focus on economic and workforce development. Dr. McKenney oversees the development of partnerships and collaborative projects with international organizations/agencies as well as U.S.-

based organizations. In this capacity, he has guided the development of Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) with community college representative organizations in Denmark, the Netherlands, the UK, Germany, Canada, China, and FAS, the Training & Employment Authority of Ireland. He serves on the boards of the American Youth Policy Forum, and the National Commission on Cooperative Education, Higher Education Development, and serves on numerous ad hoc advisory committees. Additionally, he staffs the AACC Workforce Commission and serves as staff liaison to the following AACC affiliated councils: National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers, the National Council for Continuing Education and Training, and the National Council for Workforce Education. Foundation. Dr. McKenney received his Ph.D from the University of Maryland.

Ross Meyer is the first Executive Director of Partners for a Competitive Workforce – a Cincinnati regional partnership managed by United Way of Greater Cincinnati consisting of philanthropy, government, business, education, and community organizations that aims to grow the skills of the workforce to match the needs of employers in the tri-state region. Since 2008, PCW has leveraged over \$25 million in public and private funds and helped over 5,000 individuals prepare for in-demand jobs. A native of Cincinnati, Mr. Meyer spent two years in New York City where he worked in Mayor Bloomberg’s Office conducting policy analysis and research for the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding. He also helped develop New York City’s Office of Financial Empowerment, worked for Enterprise Community Partners on green building finance, and consulted for the City of Miami’s Department of Economic Development to create a Workforce Housing Fund. Before moving to New York, Mr. Meyer was deeply involved with various human service and community development organizations in Cincinnati’s Over-the-Rhine community for over eight years. A Harry S. Truman Scholar, Mr. Meyer earned his Bachelor’s degree *summa cum laude* from Miami University of Ohio, and his Master of Public Administration degree from New York University where he was a Catherine B. Reynolds Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship. He currently serves on committees for the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber of Commerce, Agenda 360, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, the Urban League, the Ohio Workforce Coalition, and the National Skills Coalition.

Dr. Darlene Miller has over 20 years experience working in community colleges with expertise in workforce and economic development. Prior to joining the National Council for Workforce Education as Executive Director, Darlene served as President of Manchester Community College (MCC) in New Hampshire. Prior to directing MCC, Darlene served as Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development at Shoreline Community College. Darlene chose to focus her professional career on community colleges because of her commitment to opportunity, access, and life-long learning. She is firmly committed to ensuring that higher education and life-long learning are readily and widely accessible to persons across a broad range of abilities, backgrounds, interests, circumstances, and ages. Darlene started in higher education as a faculty member at Vermont Technical College teaching mathematics, computer science, and engineering. She moved into academic administration in 1994 as Dean of Business, Math, and Technology at Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, OH.

Additionally, she served four years as Executive Dean of Workforce Education at Green River Community College in Auburn, Washington. Darlene has a Master's degree in Biomedical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY and a Doctorate in Higher Education, Policy, Research and Administration from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA.

Dr. Rebecca Nickoli is currently Vice President for the Corporate College and Grants Administration for the statewide system office of Ivy Tech Community College. She worked at the Richmond campus and as head of the Logansport campus before coming to the system office. Nickoli is a consultant-evaluator and team chair for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) and a member of HLC's "First Committee." She is currently president for the National Council of Workforce Education, and was also recently appointed to AACC's Workforce and Economic Development Commission. Nickoli serves on the board of Accessing Technology through Awareness in Indiana (ATAIN) and on the board of the Indiana Council for Continuing Education. Nickoli recently chaired the Joyce Foundation's "Shifting Gears in Indiana" initiative. In addition, she has been active in the Auto Communities Forum, a group of community colleges and interested partners from industry, research, and philanthropy developing strategies and new directions for communities significantly impacted by automotive lay-offs and closures. Nickoli is also involved in the Indiana "Skills2Compete" program and the Indiana Chamber's "Workforce Wise" project to research and analyze older workers and students in Indiana and to create more effective strategies for serving them. Nickoli holds an Educational Specialist degree in Curriculum and Instructional Planning from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, and a doctorate in Educational Administration from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana.

Jane Smith Patterson served as Assistant Secretary and later Secretary of Administration for Governor Hunt from 1977-1984 and led the development of the first integrated information technology services effort in the 50 states. Over the next six years, Jane was vice-president of ITT Corporation – Networks Systems group and ITT-Alcatel and Alcatel, North America. During this period she worked in Brussels and Paris during the merger and acquisition process of ITT and Alcatel. In 1990, she was recruited to become interim-vice chancellor UNC-Wilmington. In 1993, she returned to state government for Governor Hunt, as Chief Advisor for Policy, Budget and Technology in his 3rd term and Senior Advisor for Science and Technology and the Director of the Office for Technology in his 4th. Jane has received numerous national and international awards and honors for her work in science and technology, particularly in information technology. In 2001 she moved to the NC Economic Development Center to direct the state of North Carolina's new Rural Internet Access Authority, later renamed the e-NC Authority. With the advent of President Barack Obama administration's broadband stimulus program, the Authority was successful in assisting in bringing more than \$260 million in federal funds for broadband deployment and additional funding for education and outreach for NC citizens, businesses and institutions on broadband access, use and adoption. Jane Smith Patterson completed undergraduate and masters degree programs at UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University plus additional studies at Harvard. She has published articles and chapters

in books on information infrastructure policy and applications in Japan, England, Europe and the United States.

H. Jeffrey Rafn is the President of Northeast Wisconsin Technical College managing the operation of NWTTC's three campuses and six regional learning centers, which serve over 43,000 students and more than 1,100 businesses annually. Dr. Rafn, a native of Chippewa Lake, Ohio, served for 21 years as an administrator and educator in Massachusetts and New Hampshire before moving to Northeast Wisconsin in 1997. The last seven of those years Dr. Rafn served as the Commissioner to the New Hampshire Community Technical College System. He earned his PhD from Boston University. Dr. Rafn serves or has served on several boards and commissions including: Global Corporate College; AACC Commission on Academic, Student & Community Development; ACT National Career Readiness Community College Advisory Panel, Trans-Atlantic Technology and Training Alliance (TA3); Advisory Board of Community College Research Council at Teachers College at Columbia University; Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis Council – UW Madison; Northeast Wisconsin Educational Resource Alliance (NEW ERA) (past chair); NEW NORTH Executive Committee and Board of Directors; NEW NORTH Educational Attainment Committee (chair); Advisory Council for St. Vincent's Hospital, Green Bay; Executive Board of Greater Green Bay Chamber of Commerce; Executive Committee of Advance Business Development Center; and, Partners in Education (past chair).

Risto Raivio is head of sector for Vocational Education and Training Policy for the European Commission in the Directorate General for Education and Culture supporting policy dialogue between the Member States and Social Partners in view of developing quality, effectiveness and relevance of vocational education and training systems.

Previously Mr. Raivio headed the Citizenship Unit of the Education and Culture DG, promoting active European Citizenship. From 1996 – 2002 Dr. Raivio worked for the Committee of the Regions, a

consultative EU body representing local and regional authorities. Before joining the EU institutions Mr Raivio was researcher at the University of Tampere in Finland from which he holds a PhD in social sciences. He also spent a research and study period in the University of Konstanz in Germany from 1990 to 1992. Risto has been an elected local councilor in his home town of Pirkkala in Finland. He has chaired the local executive board and has been vice chair of the local education committee and actively involved in various civil society organizations. During the fall semester 2011 Dr. Raivio worked as a visiting EU fellow at the University of North Carolina in USA. He conducted a study on Community Colleges' role in supporting local skills development and identified related policy lessons for European context.



Stuart A. Rosenfeld is Principal and Founder of Regional Technology Strategies, Inc., headquartered in Carrboro, North Carolina. He previously served as Deputy Director of the Southern Growth Policies Board where he directed the Southern Technology Council and Consortium for Manufacturing Competitiveness. Dr. Rosenfeld has more than 40 years experience in economic and workforce development with a strong focus on small metro and nonmetropolitan areas. He pioneered much of the U.S. work on clusters and networks and in 2004 received a Lifetime Achievement award from the Competitiveness Institute in Barcelona for that work. Prior to joining Southern Growth, he was a Senior Associate at the U.S. Department of Education where he co-authored a Congressionally mandated national study of vocational education, directed an elementary school in Vermont, started a software company, and worked for the General Electric Company. He co-manages the Alliance for Sustainability and Trans-Atlantic Technology and Training Alliance. Stuart has published more than 100 articles, chapters, and books and has advised or testified before panels and committees of the U.S. Congress, National Academy of Sciences, European Commission, and OECD. He has a Ed.D. in Education Planning, Social Policy, and Administration from Harvard University and B.S. cum laude in chemical engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He currently serves on the board of the Danish Institute for the Experience Economy and South Arts.

Marjut Salminen, a graduate of Tampere Business College, has been the International Coordinator for Tampere College in Finland for the past 11 years. Before that she was in the private sector, mainly in sports equipment, working with U.S. and Canadian customers, including ice-hockey sticks for Wayne Gretzky, which were made in Tampere and in marketing in the retail clothing sector. Her connections to the TA3 began at a meeting and symposium in Sønderborg, Denmark in 2002, which opened the door to new opportunities for relationships in the US (her motto is Carpe diem), and last year she hosted the 2009 TA3 meeting in Tampere. Marjut studied for one year at the University of Tampere to become familiar with EU-projects. When she began her current position, international cooperation was quite new in Tampere, and she worked to participate in EU projects, especially in the Leonardo da Vinci programs. Marjut is prepared to work hard to create a working links between European countries and the US and finds the cooperation a great opportunity for students and teachers.



Phillip Singerman serves as Associate Director for Innovation and Industry Services at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and is responsible for the NIST suite of external partnership programs, including the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the Technology Innovation Program, the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program, and NIST technology transfer and small business innovation research awards. Immediately prior to joining NIST, he was a Senior Vice President at B&D Consulting, a DC-based firm providing strategic advice and technical assistance on federal economic development programs to non-profit organizations, local governments, and universities. Previously he was a managing director of a seed stage



venture fund. Mr. Singerman has more than 30 years of experience in tech based economic development; he was the first chief executive of two of the best known public-private partnerships, the Ben Franklin Technology Center of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the Maryland Technology Development Corporation. During the Clinton Administration he served as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, a Presidential appointment requiring Senate confirmation. Mr. Singerman received his bachelors degree from Oberlin College and holds a doctorate from Yale University. He has taught at Yale College, Barnard College

(Columbia University), and the Fels Institute of Government (University of Pennsylvania). After graduating from college he served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Colombia, South America, working in rural community development projects.

Dr. Angie Taylor serves as Vice President of Workforce Solutions and Innovation at Gateway Community and Technical College. Acquiring over two million in grant funding each year, Dr. Taylor's division procures funding for corporate training, assisting companies in developing and expanding existing training programs. Dr. Taylor's primary work entails building community networks of various employers, agencies, secondary schools and post-secondary institutions, creating new avenues of service to enhance adult preparation for college and work. Dr. Taylor also serves as a national speaker coaching community colleges on career pathway development. Recently, Dr. Taylor procured funding to begin a new program, Gateway VETS – Veterans Employment and Training Services and over 300 veterans will be served. Dr. Taylor holds an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Cincinnati, an M.Ed. in Counseling and Personnel Services from the University of Missouri, and a B.S. in Psychology and School Health from Eastern Kentucky University.

Dr. Perry W. Ward is President of Lawson State Community College. Through his leadership, the college was recently named one of "America's Top 50 Community Colleges" by the Washington Monthly Magazine and Dr. Ward was one of 17 community college leaders honored in 2011 at the White House as a "Champion of Change." The college's Center for Automotive Excellence features partnerships with General Motors, Ford, and Toyota and a development and training through the Alabama Center for Advanced Technology and Training (ACATT). Dr. Ward earned a B.A., from Miles College, M.S.W. and a Ph.D., in Educational Administration/Higher Education from the University of Alabama. Dr. Ward's many affiliations include, among others, Executive Board Member, Birmingham Business Alliance, Board of Directors, Boy Scouts of America, Board of Directors, National



Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers, Board Member, Red Mountain Theatre Company, Board of Directors Entrepreneurial Center, Vice President, Education and Workforce Development Committee, Leadership Birmingham and Leadership Alabama, Member, President's Roundtable of the Lakin Institute, HBCU-Title III President's Advisory Board, Member, Executive Committee, Alabama Community College Conference, Member, Past President, Alabama Community College System President's Association. He is married to Ann Ward and has three children and three grandchildren.

John Winzeler is president of Winzeler Gear. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Bradley University. John serves on many education steering committees and advisory councils and is presently a member of the permanent collection committee at the Museum of Contemporary Art. He also enjoys working with the Fashion Committee and Industrial Design School at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His hobbies include: Growing a manufacturing business, collecting contemporary art, and the art of women's couture. John and his wife Carol enjoy spending time together with family at their Island home in Wisconsin and traveling to F1 automobile races, major art shows, and contemporary art museums around the world.

