

MEP Advisory Board

Thursday, June 27, 2024

FACA Board Meeting

This is a simplified version of the presentation for website purposes.

FACA and the Advisory Board

The MEP Advisory Board is authorized under Section 3003(d) of the America COMPETES Act (Pub. L. 110–69), as amended by the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, Public Law 114–329 sec. 501 (2017), and codified at 15 U.S.C. 278k(m), in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.

Introductions

The MEP Advisory Board

Chair: **Bernadine Hawes**, Econsult Solutions, Inc.

Vice Chair: **Donald Bockoven**, Darling Fibers

- **Beth Bafford**, Calvert Impact
- **Winston W. Chang**, Snowflake
- **Dr. Jermaine Ford, Ed.D.**, Florence-Darlington Technical College
- **Louis Foreman**, Enventys Partners
- **Gail Friedberg Rottenstrich**, Zago Manufacturing Company, Inc.
- **Michael Garvey**, M-7 Technologies
- **Sean Ketter**, Oshkosh Corporation
- **Miriam Kmetzo**, Welding Technology Corp.
- **Chris Mathews**, National Custom Hollow Metal Doors and Frames & Maple Leaf Awning & Canvas
- **Pat Moulton**, Central Vermont Recovery Officer (Departed)
- **Dr. Annette Parker**, South Central College
- **Candice M. Smith**
- **John T. Smith**, Wood-Mizer Holdings, Inc.
- **Tyrome Smith**
- **David Vasko**, Industry Consultant

Agenda

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Welcome and Introductions

- **Dr. Laurie E. Locascio**
- **Bernadine Hawes**
- **Donald Bockoven**
- **G. Nagesh Rao**
- **Mojdeh Bahar**

**Briefing from Innovation and Industry Services
Programs**

Agenda

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MEP's 2023-2027 Strategic Pillars Update

- **Supply Chain**
- **Technology and Innovation**

Public Comment

Around the Virtual Room

Closing Remarks

Welcome from NIST Director

Dr. Laurie E. Locascio

NIST Director and

Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology

Welcome from MAB Chairwoman Hawes

Bernadine Hawes

MEP Advisory Board, Chair

Welcome from MAB Vice Chairman Bockoven

Don Bockoven

MEP Advisory Board, Vice Chair

Welcome from the MEP Acting Director

G. Nagesh Rao
MEP Acting Director

Brief Update on MEP Operations

Latest Economic Reporting

New Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

Budget Update

Notice of Funding Opportunities

Updated General Terms and Conditions

Welcome to MEP!

New Hires and Personnel Changes, March 2024-Present

Network Agreements Management (481)

- Scott Dockum, Group Manager
- Deborah Ahn, Federal Program Manager
- Mark Bardini, Federal Program Manager
- Timothy Flynn, Federal Program Manager
- Thomas Nalepa, Federal Program Manager

National Platforms (484)

- Saul Rojas Muniz, IT Program Manager

National Programs (483)

- Mary Kombolias, Management and Program Analyst
- Stella Vewessee, Industrial Specialist

Outreach and External Affairs (485)

- Aaron Levy, Division Chief
- Jennifer Rosa, Senior Communications Specialist (Transfer)
- Nicole Ausherman, Senior Communications Specialist (Promotion)

Patricia Moulton – Thank You for Your Service

Patricia Moulton
Central Vermont Recovery
Officer

Two Terms of Board Service: June 12, 2018 – June 15, 2024

Mojdeh Bahar
Associate Director,
Innovation and Industry Services,
NIST

MEP Advisory Board

Mike Molnar, Director
Office of Advanced Manufacturing
June 27, 2024

An interagency team building partnerships with U.S. industry and academia

10 years of Manufacturing USA

A growing network of 17 Industry-led Innovation Institutes

Manufacturing USA Network Annual Impact

Work with
2,500+
Member
Organizations

Collaborate on
670+
major applied
research and
development
projects

Engage
106,000+
people with workforce
knowledge and skills
in advanced
manufacturing

Invest
\$416M
in these
activities from
state, industry,
and federal
funds

Our efforts help ensure **what's invented here**
is made here by a skilled American workforce.

MEP Advisory Board

Bob Fangmeyer, Director

Baldrige Performance Excellence Program

June 27, 2024

Baldrige Performance Excellence Program

Enhancing the quality of life in the U.S. by recognizing, sharing, and promoting superior leadership, management, and operational practices in business, health care, education, nonprofit, and government.

Recognizes National Role Models

- Presidential Award
- Industry-led evaluation and judging
- Seven Award Categories
- Recipients widely share best practices

820:1 economic benefit to cost ratio*

~1,500 organizations assessed annually

~56% median job growth**

Provides Educational and Improvement Offerings

- Baldrige Excellence Framework®
- Quest for Excellence® conference
- Leadership development
- Organizational assessment tools

Fosters Nationwide Ecosystem

- 30 State/Regional programs
- Communities of Excellence
- Regional Conferences
- Baldrige Consultants

~2,000 volunteer Examiners each year

~80% median revenue growth**

How Can Baldrige Benefit MEP?

<https://www.nist.gov/baldrige>

Improvement Tools:

Help small and medium-sized manufacturers (SMMs) improve quality, performance, and resilience

- Foundations for a Successful Business
- Easy Insight
- Are We Making Progress survey set
- Job Quality Toolkit and self-assessment
- Baldrige Excellence Builder
- Baldrige Excellence Framework

Educational Offerings:

Enhance knowledge and skill

- Quest for Excellence conference
- Baldrige Executive Fellows Program
- Baldrige Fall Conference
- Baldrige Examiner Training

Assessment and Recognition:

- Available at the national, regional, state, and community levels
 - Baldrige Award
 - Alliance for Performance Excellence programs
 - Communities of Excellence 2026
 - Variety of self-assessments

Future Opportunities:

- Strategic partnership to systematically provide Baldrige-based offerings through MEPNN, further enhancing the performance and long-term success of SME's in the U.S.

MEP Advisory Board

Bethany Loftin, Director
Technology Partnerships Office
June 27, 2024

Agreements

TPO negotiates and executes agreements to foster collaborations with NIST and disseminate NIST research and research outputs, including:

- Material Transfer Agreements (MTA)
- Data Transfer Agreements (DTA)
- Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA)
- Research Collaboration Agreements (RCA)
- CRADAs
- Consortia agreements
- Etc.

Patenting & Licensing

TPO manages the technology transfer process for inventions made by NIST researchers.

This includes:

- Disclosure intake
- Invention Review & Commercial Analysis
- Patenting
- Technology Marketing
- Licensing
- License Auditing
- Etc.

SBIR

TPO manages NIST's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, where NIST provides funding in the form of grants for innovative ideas or technologies from qualified small businesses that can help solve problems or enhance technologies in any of NIST's research areas.

Interagency Activities

TPO carries out many of NIST's responsibilities related to tech transfer that reach all areas of the federal government and beyond, including:

- Host agency for the FLC
- Co-chairs L2M subcommittee of NSTC
- Convenes IAWGBD & IAWGTT
- Manages iEdison
- Collects and submits annual T2 reports to Congress
- Economic Impact Studies

Discussion:

Supply Chain Working Group

Assessing the Effectiveness of SCOIN

Overview:

Two-year pilot program investing in the National Network to study manufacturing ecosystems and identify gaps in an effort to build more resilient sustainable supply chains through MEP assistance

Objectives and goals:

Map the capabilities and interconnections within manufacturing supply chains

Scale up and enhance the impact of supplier scouting services to source domestic products and continue expansion of capabilities

Progress:

144 different SCOIN projects with 128 different clients (continuous touchpoints with Centers). As of 2024Q1 – **35 projects** have been surveyed with the following impacts reported by clients on the MEP Client Survey

- **Total Sales (New and Retained): \$4.5M**
- **Total Jobs (Created and Retained): 150**
- **Total Investment (Products & Processes, Plant & Equipment, Information Technology, Workforce, Other): \$3M**
- **Total Cost Savings (Save and Avoid Investment):\$700K**

263 opportunities in first year of SCOIN (includes opportunities currently open)

86 from government agencies (federal and state) (monthly webinars and training engagements)

148 SSOs from Centers to the Network (coordinated events to develop the Network and share best practices)

29 SSOs from private entities

100% FTE's working in Centers

Increasing Supplier Scouting Activity month after month (94%-100% response rate)

MEPNN SCOIN Teams

SCOIN Leadership Team

Nathan Ginty – NIST MEP

Staci Miller – West Virginia
Manufacturing Extension
Partnership (WV MEP)

Phil Mintz – North Carolina
Manufacturing Extension
Partnership (NC MEP)

Mike O'Donnell, Center for
Industrial Research and Service
(IA MEP)

MEP Center Action Team

Mike Aller, FloridaMakes
Olivia Antonelli, MassMEP
Mike Boyte, TMAC (TX MEP)
Jim Harrison, AZ MEP
Mary Ingman, ImapctDakota (ND MEP)
Rebekah McCarter, MMTTC (MI MEP)
Chris Scafario, DVIRC (PA MEP)
Ella Snelson, Enterprise Missouri
Shane Steinke, OMEP (OR MEP)
Eric Taylor, NCMEP
Kayla Viveiros, Polaris (RI MEP)

NIST MEP Action Team

Robert Barnes, Platforms Div
Kim Coffman, Perf. & Evaluation
Scott Dockum, Network Agreements
Doug Deveraux, Program Div
Autumn Hernandez, Internal Ops
Katie Rapp, Outreach/External
Affairs
Angelina Rivera, Platforms Div
Jennifer Rosa, Outreach/External
Affairs
Samm Webb, Platforms Div
Tom Williams, Network Agreements

Assessment Methodology and Results

Beginning to One-year: West Virginia

- Modifications to system, hiring FTE, assessing the environment, developed new services

Key Findings: North Carolina

- Industry engagements

Next Steps: Iowa

- Recommendations for adjustments or enhancements for future funding

Discussion:

Leverage Technology Working Group

Leverage Technology Working Group

- **Focus the working group on the following key areas from the current MEP Strategic Plan.**
 - Increase technology adoption
 - Ensure wholistic, comprehensive application and use of technology (not just in production but in business operations, etc.)
 - Strengthen cybersecurity capabilities
 - Partner with federal labs to accelerate the use of new technologies
 - Increase technology adoption across served customers (intersections across strategic goals)
- Utilize the expertise of the selected Centers to understand the larger ecosystems that play a role in innovation technology adoption for SMMs.
 - Determine how these ecosystems contribute to meeting the goals and vision of the current MEP Strategic Plan.
 - Examine any other areas that were not considered or known at the time the MEP Strategic Plan was published.
 - Develop an action plan to meet the goals of bringing innovation and new technologies to SMMs.

MEPNN Technology Executive Team

MEP Center Team

David Boulay – Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC, Illinois MEP)

Kathie Mahoney – Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP)

Rodney Reddic – Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC, Texas MEP)

Ingrid Tighe – Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center (MMTC, Michigan MEP)

NIST MEP Team

Marlon Walker – Program Div

Michael Taylor – Program Div

Scott Dockum – Network Agreements Div

Leverage Technology Working Group

- Team was put into place on June 6, 2024.
- Workgroup kickoff meeting scheduled for the week of June 24 and will meet on a regular cadence thereafter.
- Request for Board feedback includes areas that they see as needing attention based on their understanding of innovative technology issues with SMMs in the ecosystems that they work in.

Discussion:

Narrow the Workforce Gap Working Group

Forming a MEPNN Workforce Strategic Working Group

Purpose:

- Leverage resources across the MEP National Network to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Workforce and Organizational Development-related activities
- Create and facilitate opportunities for learning and building Network relationships, including guiding the work of the Workforce Operational Group (Workforce Community of Practitioners)
- Inform NIST MEP on activities, strategies, and investments needed for Workforce and Organizational Development Practice expansion

Confirming MEP Center Participation | Drafting Charter Goals/Objectives | Discussing Outputs(s)/Product(s)

MEPNN Workforce Strategic Working Group

Goals:

- Analyze and strengthen workforce-related strategic Center partnerships at all levels
- Share best practices, identify opportunities for improvement, and collaborate on potential solutions for MEP Centers
- Guide the MEP Workforce Committee (10-15 member “Action Team”) on plan implementation

Objectives:

- Ensure NIST MEP’s workforce activities are engaging a large swath of workforce practitioners
- Consistently publicize and assist Centers in finding workforce funding opportunities
- Help Centers promote their workforce-related metrics and successes
- Continuous improvement through training and professional development, with a focus on an annual MEP National Network workforce-focused event (such as the FireWorks Conference)

Around the Table

Open Board Meeting

Wrap Up

Closing Remarks

G. Nagesh Rao
MEP Acting Director

Bernadine Hawes
MEP Advisory Board, Chair

Next MEP Advisory Board Meeting

Planning Continues: Details Coming Soon

Fireworks Conference, Sept. 16-18, 2024

Cleveland, OH

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VISIT OUR BLOG!

<https://www.nist.gov/blogs/manufacturing-innovation-blog>

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www.nist.gov/mep

Contact Us:

mfg@nist.gov

301-975-5020