

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
BUSINESS
ENGAGEMENT
CENTER

THINK BIG  WE DOSM



URI Business Engagement Center (BEC)

Presentation to the
3rd Annual Senate Education Summit

10/29/14

URI and Economic Development

- URI is the flagship public university in RI
- AND the only public research university in RI
- It is critical that we play an important role in economic development for the state
- We have developed a 5 pronged strategy for the university and our economic development efforts
- The URI-BEC is a critical component of that strategy

Five Pronged Focus

- Research & Development
- Technology transfer and the creation of new companies
- Education and Entrepreneurship
- Building a 21st Century Workforce
- Transformative and Catalytic capital projects
- Engagement (BEC, SBDC, RI-MEP)

URI-BEC

- Opened in September 2013 with coverage from the Providence Journal, the PBN, radio and television
- Modeled after University of Michigan
- Many universities are creating centers like the URI-BEC but we are at the front end of the wave
- The BEC Executive director has been contacted by several other universities considering a similar center
- Goal is to increase industry engagement across the University in an era of decreased federal funding
- Since the doors have opened, over 90 companies have accessed the services of the BEC and it continues to be a hub of activity for both faculty and students

Areas of Industry Engagement

- Internships and Careers for students (to date the BEC has referred 27 companies to the Center for Career and Experiential Education)
- Sponsored faculty or student research (Capstone program)
- Tech transfer and moving ideas to market
- Utilizing URI labs and facilities
- Philanthropic support (Recent support includes Toray and Taco for our Engineering Bond, Cox support of the Honors Colloquium, and a Shimadzu equipment agreement)
- Partnership agreements have been signed with Amgen, Shimadzu and Navatek with several others pending

Examples of Companies

AMGEN[®]

GTECH[®]
CORPORATION

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Electric Boat



NAVATEK

 **Fidelity**
INVESTMENTS

 **Astro-Med, Inc**
TEST & MEASUREMENT PRODUCT GROUP

nationalgrid

'TORAY'
Innovation by Chemistry

HOPE
GLOBAL
Engineered Textile Solutions


verizon

COX
COMMUNICATIONS

Amica
AUTO HOME LIFE

Raytheon

 **G-FORM**[®]

 **SHIMADZU**
Excellence in Science

 **Taco**

FM Global[®]

 **Hasbro**[®]

APC[®]
by Schneider Electric

BEC Industry events since opening

- September 2013 Bio Science Leaders
- November 2013 Defense & Marine Trades event
- January 2014 Community Planners event
- March 2014 Composites Research event
- March 2014 EPSCOR/STAC event
- April 2014 Green Boat Workshop with RIMTA
- August 2014 Pharmacokinetics event
- October 2014 Engineering event for Manufacturers with RIMA and Polaris

Looking Ahead

- URI is currently at the front end of a growing trend in higher education
- Corporate Affiliates program has been established at GSO and is pending in Pharmacy
- A Collaborative Clinical Placements partnership has been formed for our partners in the healthcare industry
- Industry + University relations are critical to economic growth for our state and URI is well positioned
- BEC has allowed for even greater industry engagement at URI and increased prosperity for the university and positive statewide momentum
- Most importantly, BEC has benefitted our students from all backgrounds by giving them access to good jobs in Rhode Island



URI-BEC

QUESTIONS?