



ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEST PRACTICES SUMMIT

Nurturing Entrepreneurship through Collaboration

OCTOBER 21, 2015
NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS
CONFERENCE CENTER

SUMMIT LEAD PARTNERS | SPONSORS:





ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEST PRACTICES SUMMIT

Nurturing Entrepreneurship through Collaboration

ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEST PRACTICES SUMMIT PLANNING TEAM

CO-CHAIRS:

Nancy Eberle – University of Nebraska Extension; Nebraska Entrepreneurship Acceleration Team (NEAT)

Gregg Christensen – Nebraska Department of Education

MEMBERS:

Tom Field – Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program

Dell Gines – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City-Omaha Branch

Kevin Hagemoser – Nebraska Enterprise Fund

Shawn Kaskie – Center for Rural Research/Development, University of Nebraska Kearney

Doris Lux – Central Community College-Columbus

Samuel Nelson – Center for Entrepreneurship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Deb Payne – Idea to Income Coach

Erin Redemske – Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City-Omaha Branch

Jim Reiff – Nebraska Enterprise Fund

Marilyn Schlake – Extension Educator, University of Nebraska Extension

Craig Schroeder – Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force (NETForce)

Carroll Welte – UNL Extension, Northeast Research and Extension Center



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NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS (NIC) CONFERENCE CENTER | LINCOLN, NE

The Summit is for educators, economic developers, community developers, local and state policy makers and thought leaders to explore and share best practices for nurturing entrepreneurship in communities of all sizes.

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
8:00-9:00	REGISTRATION	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER-2ND FLOOR
9:00-9:10	OPENING REMARKS <i>Craig Schroeder – Chair, Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force (NETForce)</i> <i>Nancy Eberle, Chair – Nebraska Extension’s Nebraska Entrepreneurship Acceleration Team (NEAT)</i>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM
9:10-9:50	BUILDING THE 21ST CENTURY ECONOMY: THE IMPORTANCE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT <i>Eric Engelmann – Founder & CEO Geonetric</i> Eric is the visionary CEO and founder of Geonetric, a software company that builds online solutions and provides digital marketing services to health systems around the country. Geonetric’s growth and unique company culture has been recognized by numerous organizations including being named to the Inc. 5000 Fastest Growing Company for seven consecutive years and receiving the Alfred P. Sloan Award for Excellence in Workplace Effectiveness and Flexibility in 2012 and 2013. Through his leadership, Geonetric has grown into one of the most admired companies in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Corridor. Eric is a driving force behind the Iowa Startup Accelerator, Iowa’s first and only 90-day accelerator for early stage startups.	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
9:50-10:10	<p>CALL TO ACTION Tom Field, PhD – Paul Engler Chair of Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Director of the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program Dr. Field will bring his unique perspectives on the importance of entrepreneurship to bear as he opens the dialogue on how Nebraska communities and the state as a whole can better “grow their own” to create a growing and vibrant economy. Tom is a passionate advocate for education, agriculture, free enterprise, engaged citizenship, and the potential of young people. He is a noted agricultural author with works including his column “Out of the Box” and featured commentator of “The Entrepreneurial Minute” on the Angus Report on RFD-TV.</p> <p>Jeanna Stavas – Owner and Innkeeper, Whispering Pines Bed & Breakfast In 2005, Jeanna left her six-figure career and became proprietor of Whispering Pines B&B where she fulfills her true passions, building relationships with her guests and spending time in the kitchen playing with food. A Leadership Nebraska City graduate, she served for 7 years on the Nebraska Association of Bed and Breakfast (NABB), and still serves locally on the Otoe County Visitors and LB840 Committees. Jeanna is a strong female role model for aspiring entrepreneurs of all ages, committed to giving back to her community and industry and is a life-long learner.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM
10:10-10:30	BREAK	
10:30-11:15	<p>BREAKOUT SESSION TRACKS</p> <p> Education <i>Target Audience: K-16 and adult educators, administrators, school counselors, Extension staff</i></p> <hr/> <p> Economic Development <i>Target Audience: Local & State Economic and Community Development Professionals</i></p> <hr/> <p> Policy <i>Target Audience: Local & State Policy Makers, Service Providers and Entrepreneurial Advocates</i></p>	
<p>TRACK 1</p> <p>EDUCATION</p> <p></p>	<p>DEVELOPING A TALENT PIPELINE Facilitator: Shawn Kaskie</p> <p>Cultivating an Entrepreneurial Culture Kristina Foth – Valley County Economic Development & Chamber of Commerce, Assistant Director Dahn Hagge – Coordinator, Valley County Community Foundation Fund Kayla Hinrichs – Extension Educator, Nebraska Extension in Central IV Counties Ord Public Schools and Valley County have modeled successful collaboration and how to strategically focus on creating an entrepreneurship-friendly ecosystem through cooperation between the schools, non-profits and student organizations. ESI Camps, Business Discovery Days, and Young Entrepreneur Showcase are ever-evolving models they'll share.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
	<p>Seward County - Training the Next Generation of Entrepreneurs and Workforce <i>Jonathan Jank – Executive Director, Seward County Economic Development Corporation</i></p> <p>A number of recently developed public-private partnerships in Seward County are working to educate the next generation of entrepreneurs and workforce. Learn about specific programs and events that are accomplishing this.</p> <p>Holt County Economic Development & O’Neill Public Schools (OPS) reVISION <i>Nicole Sedlacek – Executive Director, Holt County Economic Development</i></p> <p>Holt County Economic Development (HCED) has partnered with O’Neill Public Schools to go through the reVISION process to help bring educators and community and business leaders to the same table to talk about current and future workforce needs in the community and help align career and technical education to those needs. HCED has also assisted with bringing pilot projects to OPS school district and West Holt school district to help introduce entrepreneurship.</p>	
<p>TRACK 2</p> <p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p> 	<p>BUILDING RURAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS <i>Facilitator: Gregg Christensen</i></p> <p>Brent Comstock – Chief Innovator at BCom Solutions</p> <p>Brent will share his model and successes in reinventing rural communities. He is challenging entrepreneurs and innovators to consider looking to rural communities for ventures like tech start-ups and social enterprises. Explore how educators, entrepreneurs and community members can work together to create rural start-up hubs. Brent is an Auburn, Nebraska native and Robertson Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.</p>	<p>NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2</p>
<p>TRACK 3</p> <p>POLICY</p> 	<p>CHANGING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT STRUCTURE <i>Facilitator: Marilyn Schlake</i></p> <p>Entrepreneurial Communities and New Generation Partnerships <i>Don Macke – Co-Founder and Director of the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, Lincoln</i></p> <p>Through community-driven strategies, the Center empowers leaders to tackle economic development challenges, create solutions and bring resources together to empower business, social and civic entrepreneurs. Don and his staff have created a proven roadmap for designing and delivering entrepreneurship strategies that work long-term.</p> <p>NetWork Kansas-Developing an Entrepreneurial Eco-System <i>Erik Pedersen – Vice President of Entrepreneurship for the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship, NetWork Kansas</i></p> <p>NetWork Kansas is focused on growing the entrepreneurial environment throughout Kansas. The statewide network of non-profit, business-building resources helps entrepreneurs and small business owners start and grow businesses. Erik oversees the Entrepreneurship (E-) Community partnership, which has now grown to 48 communities across Kansas.</p>	<p>NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2</p>

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
11:30-12:30	<p>LUNCH & SPEAKER <i>Facilitator: Nancy Eberle</i></p> <p>Creating an Entrepreneur-Friendly Eco-System in Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts</p> <p>Governor Ricketts has a strong entrepreneurial background and supports entrepreneurship development in Nebraska. Born in Nebraska City and raised in Omaha, he is the son of an entrepreneur and worked in his father's company which later became TD Ameritrade.</p> <p>He is the founder of Drakon, LLC, which supports local entrepreneurs and start-up companies. Governor Ricketts will discuss how we can grow entrepreneurship development in Nebraska.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-BANQUET HALL
12:45-1:30	<p>BREAKOUT SESSION TRACKS</p> <p> Education <i>Target Audience: K-16 and adult educators, administrators, school counselors, Extension staff</i></p> <hr/> <p> Economic Development <i>Target Audience: Local & State Economic and Community Development Professionals</i></p> <hr/> <p> Policy <i>Target Audience: Local & State Policy Makers, Service Providers and Entrepreneurial Advocates</i></p>	
<p>TRACK 1</p> <p>EDUCATION</p> <p></p>	<p>ENHANCING EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT <i>Facilitator: Gregg Christensen</i></p> <p>Creating an Entrepreneurial Mindset through Real-Life Experience in the Circle C Market Todd Chessmore – Superintendent, Cody Kilgore Unified Schools The Circle C Market is a student run grocery which was started in cooperation with the Village of Cody, Cowboy GRIT a 501C3 nonprofit, and Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools through an inter-local agreement. Hear the incredible story behind the Circle C Market and how teachers, school administration and community members pulled together to make it a reality. The Circle C encourages real-life learning and the entrepreneurial spirit.</p> <p>The Journey to Grand Island's Career Pathway Institute Robin Dexter – Associate Superintendent for Student Services, Grand Island Public Schools The Career Pathways Institute is an innovative 21st Century learning experience that benefits area students and businesses. It has become a model that Nebraska schools and communities are visiting as they seek ways to motivate students, provide opportunities to enter the world of work and gain a head start on postsecondary education (2- and 4-year).</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
<p>TRACK 2</p> <p>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p> 	<p>NURTURING INNOVATION THROUGH MAKER SPACES & INCUBATORS <i>Facilitator: Shawn Kaskie</i></p> <p>Linkubator – Western Nebraska Community College <i>Judy Amoo – Dean for Economic & Community Development, Western NE Community College</i></p> <p>The Western Nebraska Community College Linkubator provides entrepreneurial development and education to grow and diversify western Nebraska businesses. It connects businesses with an array of services and resources orchestrated to help entrepreneurs grow their vision.</p> <p>Making for Innovation <i>Dan Duncan – Executive Director, Nebraska Innovation Campus Development Corporation</i></p> <p>Maker Spaces are springing up around the globe providing unique spaces for people to learn, create and form teams that in some cases turn into companies. Nebraska Innovation Studio is a maker space geared for unleashing creativity and giving that creativity a medium in which to express itself. It takes the traditional maker space formula, blends in techniques developed through scientific inquiry quantifying the elements needs for innovation and provides a place for a density of people with a diversity of talents and ideas to collide.</p> <p>Engaging Middle School Youth and the Business Community <i>Jeaneen Talbott – Principal, Omaha Public Schools McMillan Magnet Center</i></p> <p>McMillan Magnet School in Omaha focuses on technology, mathematics, and engineering. Outreach to business and industry is a key dynamic in providing hands-on learning that excites and engages students.</p>	<p>NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2</p>
<p>TRACK 3</p> <p>POLICY</p> 	<p>BUILDING NEBRASKA'S ENTREPRENEURIAL LANDSCAPE <i>Facilitator: Jim Reiff</i></p> <p>Legislative Efforts to Foster Economic Opportunities and Entrepreneurship <i>Heath Mello – District 5 State Senator</i></p> <p>Senator Mello is chairman of the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee and and serves as co-chair of the Council for State Governments - Economic Development Committee. He is committed to supporting entrepreneurs and will share state-based policy initiatives and legislation underway for increased entrepreneurship in Nebraska.</p> <p>Ti2 – Nebraska's Talent and Innovation Initiative <i>Joe Fox – Business Innovation Manager, Nebraska Department of Economic Development</i></p> <p>Mr. Fox manages the newly implemented Business Innovation programs. He will share insights on this program and the Talent and Innovation Initiative, commonly known as Ti2, which is designed to enhance momentum in Nebraska's fastest growing industries, maintain and build its world-class workforce, and leverage private sector innovation.</p>	<p>NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2</p>

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
1:45-2:45	<p>BIG IDEA TALKS <i>Facilitator: Gregg Christensen</i></p> <p>BIG IDEAS FOR DRIVING NEBRASKA ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORWARD <i>Big Idea Talks are "quick pitches" of ideas, experiences and lessons learned to enhance entrepreneurship and innovation in Nebraska.</i></p> <p>The Challenges Facing Young Entrepreneurs – What Drives Me Amber Burenheide – Engler Entrepreneur, ABCChickens Founder Amber is a small town girl trying to create value in the niche markets in northeast Nebraska. ABCChickens is a small part of her family farm that she hopes to grow with laying hens and a hatchery. By doing this she will be able to preserve the family farm and create opportunities within her hometown.</p> <p>Taking Risks, Using the Good to Great Model Jeff Hornung – Engler Entrepreneur, KingPin Enterprises Jeff's company focuses on buying clean, straight used cars/trucks from down south and bringing them to the Midwest market for sale. Vehicles he's bought include cars, trailers, trucks, school buses and semi-trucks. Jeff will share how he is applying the Good to Great Model in his entrepreneurial venture.</p> <p>The Future of AgTech Steve Tippery – President and CEO, INTELLIFARM Steve creates a competitive advantage for his organization and bottom line costs by leveraging his understanding of agriculture, machinery markets, and technology to improve products through design. Steve enjoys change and responds to challenging work. He has a reputation of "getting things done". He has extensive experience with rapidly changing product requirements, shifting timelines, and low project cost expectations.</p> <p>Growth Experiences Through Experiential Learning (Enactus) Abbey Rhodes – UNK Enactus President Enactus is an international non-profit organization that brings together students, academic and business leaders who are committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
	<p>The Value of Mentoring & the NMotion Accelerator Vishal Singh – Quantified Ag and Rockstar Alumni Member of NMotion Vishal Singh is the President and CEO of Quantified Ag. Vishal was born and raised in his formative years in the metropolitan city of New Delhi, India. His family moved to a small farming community in Nebraska in the mid 80's. This was his first exposure to the world of agriculture. He has over 15 years experience in the Agriculture Technology (AgTech) industry. He has developed custom drones for plant crop imaging and completed previous projects with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and individual state beef councils.</p> <p>Accelerating Youth Entrepreneurship Shelby Kittle – Owner, Shelby's Custom Airbrushing Shelby Kittle, a sophomore at Ord Public Schools, owns Shelby's Custom Airbrushing. Shelby is an alum of the Valley County ESI Summer Camp program, having attended/taught for 4 years. Her business consists of airbrushed signs, mailboxes and fishing lures. She recently expanded into another business called Shel-Bee Honey in which she is raising bees to produce honey to sell.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Please exit the auditorium from the first floor exits at the front of the auditorium. This provides the most direct access to the refreshments and for on-boarding the shuttles for the Entrepreneurs of the Haymarket Walking Tours.</p> <hr/>	
2:45-3:15	BREAK (REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING)	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-ENTRYWAY
2:45-3:00	<p>ON-BOARD YOUR SHUTTLE TO THE HAYMARKET</p> <p>ENTREPRENEURS OF THE HAYMARKET WALKING TOUR SHUTTLE BUS TO HAYMARKET <i>(Pre-registered participants only)</i> Shuttles begin boarding in front of the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center at 2:45, depart by 3:00 and return to NIC after the tours in time for the Rural Futures Conference Welcome and Finding Hope- Pioneering Your Own 40 Chances presentation by Howard G. and Howard W. Buffett.</p>	<p>NIC CONFERENCE CENTER-EAST ENTRANCE</p> <p>SHUTTLE BUS TO HAYMARKET</p>

TIME	SESSION	LOCATION
VALUE-ADDED SESSIONS		
3:00-4:30	<p>EXPLORING - GALLUP'S ENTREPRENEURIAL PROFILE 10 Gregg Christensen – Entrepreneurship Specialist, Nebraska Department of Education Take the Entrepreneurial Profile 10™ assessment in advance and bring your report to this session to explore the EP 10™ assessment (formerly Entrepreneurial StrengthsFinder) and learn how it can be used to help entrepreneurs explore and leverage their entrepreneurial talents while building mentoring/support networks to enhance their chances of success.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2
3:00-4:30	<p>PROSPECTING - NEW TOOLS FOR EDUCATORS Marilyn Schlake – Extension Educator, University of Nebraska Extension, Community Vitality Initiative, Department of Agricultural Economics and Nebraska Extension Ben Dutton – Extension Educator-University of Nebraska Extension, Community Vitality Initiative, Red Willow County Office Andrew Zimbroff – Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist-University of Nebraska-Lincoln This is your chance to add to your toolkit (or arsenal) of innovative teaching ideas to promote creative thinking and problem-solving in the classroom. The presenters will share interactive tools that can be incorporated into current curricula or as stand-alone teaching tools.</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2
3:15-4:30	<p>DISCOVERING - ENTREPRENEURS OF THE HAYMARKET WALKING TOUR Deb Payne – Idea to Income Coach Jump on a shuttle to head for the Entrepreneurs of the Haymarket Walking Tour. We will get behind the brick walls to see how the founders have created innovative and creative spaces for their teams. Shuttles will load at 4:30 for return to Nebraska Innovation Campus in time for the Rural Futures Conference Welcome & Heuermann Lecture.</p>	HAYMARKET ENTREPRENEUR LOCATIONS
5:00	<p>WELCOME TO THE RURAL FUTURES CONFERENCE Ronnie Green – Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and IANR Vice Chancellor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln</p>	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM
5:15	<p>FINDING HOPE: PIONEERING YOUR OWN 40 CHANCES Howard G. Buffett – Chairman & CEO, The Howard G. Buffett Foundation Howard W. Buffett – Lecturer, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Everyone has the potential to accomplish great things. What will you do? No matter how big or small – whether locally, nationally, or globally – you can make a difference. We can all play an important part in finding solutions to some of our most challenging problems. <i>This session is jointly sponsored by the Heuermann Lectures in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.</i></p>	
6:45	EVENING RECEPTION	NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-BANQUET HALL



ENTREPRENEURSHIP BEST PRACTICES SUMMIT

Nurturing Entrepreneurship through Collaboration

PRESENTERS AND PANELISTS

OPENING SESSION	
NEBRASKA INNOVATION CAMPUS (NIC) CONFERENCE CENTER-AUDITORIUM	
OPENING REMARKS 9:00-9:10	<i>Craig Schroeder-Chair, Nebraska Entrepreneurship Task Force (NETForce)</i> <i>Nancy Eberle-Chair, Nebraska Extension's Nebraska Entrepreneurship Acceleration Team (NEAT)</i>
OPENING KEYNOTE 9:10-9:50	THE IMPORTANCE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
	<i>Eric Engelmann – Founder, President & CEO, Geonetric</i> Eric is the visionary CEO and founder of Geonetric, a software company that builds online solutions and provides digital marketing services to health systems around the country. Geonetric's growth and unique company culture has been recognized by numerous organizations. Eric is also a driving force behind the Iowa Startup Accelerator, Iowa's first and only 90-day accelerator for early stage startups.
CALL TO ACTION 9:50-10:10	
	<i>Tom Field, PhD – Paul Engler Chair of Agribusiness Entrepreneurship</i> <i>Director of the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program</i> Tom is a passionate advocate for education, agriculture, free enterprise, engaged citizenship, and the potential of young people. He serves the people of Nebraska as the Director of the Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship Program and holder of the Engler Chair in Entrepreneurship at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. He is also a noted agricultural author with works including his column "Out of the Box" and featured commentator of "The Entrepreneurial Minute" on the Angus Report on RFD-TV.
	<i>Jeanna Stavas – Owner and Innkeeper, Whispering Pines Bed and Breakfast</i> Jeanna Stavas is owner and innkeeper at Whispering Pines B&B where she welcomes guests to the 1878 Victorian farmhouse that sits on six acres in historic Nebraska City, NE. In August 2005, just over 10 years ago, Jeanna left her six-figure career and became proprietor of Whispering Pines B&B where she fulfills her true passions, building relationships with her guests and spending time in the kitchen playing with food.

MORNING BREAKOUTS

10:30-11:15

TRACK 1-EDUCATION
10:30-11:15

DEVELOPING A TALENT PIPELINE (PANELISTS)
NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM



Kristina Foth – Valley County Economic Development & Chamber of Commerce, Assistant Director

After graduating from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln with a degree in Business Administration and a minor in Marketing, Kristina returned to her hometown to pursue her interest in rural community development. Through her community development work, she also discovered a passion for leadership development and empowering others to utilize their talents and resources to pursue their dreams whether it be an entrepreneurial venture or civic leadership opportunity.



Dahn Hagge – Coordinator, Valley County Community Foundation Fund

After returning to her hometown of Ord, Nebraska, with her husband and four children, Dahn pursued her passion for rural community development by designing comprehensive programming and initiating progressive partnerships to support the four pillars of the HomeTown Competitiveness Rural Development Model including youth engagement, entrepreneurship, leadership and philanthropy.



Kayla Hinrichs – Extension Educator, Nebraska Extension in Central IV Counties

Kayla received her Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees in Family and Consumer Sciences from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. She works as an Extension Educator for Nebraska Extension serving Greeley, Howard, Sherman and Valley Counties. In her role as a 4-H Educator, she enjoys helping youth learn about nutrition, leadership and entrepreneurship.



Jonathan Jank – Executive Director, Seward County Economic Development Corporation

Jonathan Jank is the current Executive Director of Seward County Economic Development Corporation. He holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business Administration from Concordia University - Nebraska. Jonathan and his wife, Rachel live in Seward and own a rental property business geared toward serving the college student housing market in Seward.



Nicole Sedlacek – Executive Director, Holt County Economic Development

Nicole Sedlacek is the Executive Director of Holt County Economic Development where she has been since its inception in 2007. She is a graduate of Northeast Community College and the University of Oklahoma's Economic Development Institute. Nicole is currently serving as President of the Nebraska Economic Developers Association. She is a Certified Gallup Strengths Coach.

TRACK 2-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 10:30-11:15	BUILDING RURAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2
	<p>Brent Comstock – Chief Innovator at BCom Solutions, LLC</p> <p>Brent Comstock grew up in rural Southeastern Nebraska in a town with two stoplights. No McDonald's. No Walmart. Compelled to make a difference in the way people perceive rural communities, Brent established a technology company at age 12. BCom Solutions now manages digital branding and technology solutions for over 500 clients around the world with marketing strategies reaching over 1 million people per year.</p>
TRACK 3-POLICY 10:30-11:15	CHANGING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT STRUCTURE NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2
	<p>Don Macke – Co-Founder and Director of the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, Lincoln</p> <p>Don Macke is a Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Center for Rural Entrepreneurship. The Center (www.energizingentrepreneurs.org) works throughout the United States and Canada supporting research, outreach, professional development and policy work related to rural entrepreneurship. He has served on the staff of the Nebraska Legislature, the Cabinet of the Nelson Administration in Nebraska, and has worked as a consultant in 45 states, Canada and the Caribbean.</p>
	<p>Erik Pedersen – Vice President of Entrepreneurship for the Kansas Center for Entrepreneurship, NetWork Kansas</p> <p>As the Vice President of Entrepreneurship for NetWork Kansas, Erik is responsible for all aspects of the Entrepreneurship (E-) Community Partnership. An E-Community uses a local leadership team to direct activities that will cultivate an entrepreneurial environment by: a) overseeing a locally controlled loan fund, b) identifying and engaging with resources to help local entrepreneurs start or grow businesses, and c) implementing initiatives to cultivate startups, facilitate transitions and assist or accelerate existing businesses.</p>
LUNCHEON KEYNOTE AND SPECIAL GUEST 11:30-12:30	CREATING AN ENTREPRENEUR-FRIENDLY ECO-SYSTEM IN NEBRASKA NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-BANQUET HALL
	<p>Governor Pete Ricketts</p> <p>Governor Pete Ricketts will join us at the Summit as our noon keynote. Governor Ricketts has a strong entrepreneurial background and supports entrepreneurship development in Nebraska. Born in Nebraska City and raised in Omaha, he is the son of an entrepreneur and worked in his father's company which later became TD Ameritrade.</p> <p>He is the founder of Drakon, LLC, which supports local entrepreneurs and start-up companies. Governor Ricketts joins us at the Best Practices Summit to discuss how we can grow entrepreneurship development in Nebraska.</p>

AFTERNOON BREAKOUTS

12:45-1:30

TRACK 1-EDUCATION 12:45-1:30	ENHANCING EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (PANELISTS) NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 2ND FLOOR-AUDITORIUM
	<p>Todd Chessmore – Superintendent, Cody Kilgore Unified Schools</p> <p>Mr. Chessmore is the Superintendent/K-12 Principal at Cody-Kilgore Unified School District. He has taught special education and served as an elementary and high school principal, special education director, Title 1 Director, activities director and superintendent. Mr. Chessmore attended high school in Sutherland, served in the Army, and received his degrees from Kearney State College and Wayne State College.</p>
	<p>Robin Dexter – Associate Superintendent, Grand Island Public Schools</p> <p>Dr. Robin Dexter joined the Grand Island Public Schools in Grand Island, NE in 2009 as Associate Superintendent for Student Services. She is responsible for supervision and administration of: curriculum, instruction, and assessment; professional development; special education; counseling; policy development; and grants. Dr. Dexter has experience as a teacher, principal, and university professor.</p>
TRACK 2-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 12:45-1:30	NURTURING INNOVATION THROUGH MAKER SPACES & INCUBATORS (PANELISTS) NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2
	<p>Judy Amoo – Dean for Economic & Community Development, Western NE Community College</p> <p>Judy was hired as Dean of Economic and Community Development at Western Nebraska Community College 11 years ago. She manages the business "Linkubator," through the college and leads entrepreneurship education initiatives. Her background also includes overseeing the vocational and industrial programs for inmates at the Philadelphia Prison System and she was a prison guard at San Quentin.</p>
	<p>Dan Duncan – Executive Director, Nebraska Innovation Campus Development Corporation</p> <p>Dan Duncan assumed the role of Executive Director of Nebraska Innovation Campus in Lincoln NE on October 1, 2011. Prior to taking this new role, he was assistant dean and director of the Agricultural Research Division at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Before his appointment in 2004 as Assistant Dean and Director at ARD, Duncan served 16 years as Director of the University of Nebraska Agricultural Research and Development Center.</p>
	<p>Jeaneen Talbott – Omaha Public Schools- McMillan Magnet Middle School, Principal</p> <p>Jeaneen Talbott has been in education for 25 years as a teacher in Health and Physical Education for 8 years, a Graduate Assistant at the University of Nebraska-Omaha College of Education Administration for a year, an Assistant Principal for 13 years, and now in her third year as Principal. A graduate of the University of Nebraska-Omaha and Mid-Plains Community College, she has appreciated her Nebraska education.</p>

TRACK 3-POLICY
12:45-1:30

BUILDING NEBRASKA'S ENTREPRENEURIAL LANDSCAPE (PANELISTS)
NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2



Joe Fox – Business Innovation Manager, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

Joe Fox is the Business Innovation manager for the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Joe manages the newly implemented Business Innovation programs that are responsible for \$7M in annual state prototyping and R&D grants, SBIR matching grants, and commercialization investment for the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.



Heath Mello – District 5 State Senator

Heath Mello was first elected in 2008 and re-elected in 2012 to represent the 5th Legislative District (South Omaha and Midtown) in the Nebraska Legislature.

Senator Mello currently serves as Chairman of the Legislature's Appropriations Committee. He currently serves on the Executive Committee and as the Co-Chair of the Economic Development Committee within the Midwestern Legislative Conference of the Council of State Governments. Mello is also a member of the Budgets & Revenue and Labor & Economic Development Committees within the National Conference of State Legislators.

BIG IDEA TALKS

1:45-2:45



Amber Burenheide – Engler Entrepreneur, ABChickens Founder

Hometown: Howells, Nebraska; Major: Agricultural Economics
 Minor: Engler Entrepreneurship; Graduating in December 2015
 ABChickens is a small part of the family farm that she hopes to grow with laying hens and a hatchery. She is determined to create value for her family's farm.



Jeff Hornung – Engler Entrepreneur, KingPin Enterprises

Hometown: Davey, Nebraska; Major: Agribusiness
 Minor: Engler Agribusiness Entrepreneurship; Graduating in May 2017
 Jeff's business, KingPin Enterprises, focuses on buying clean, straight used cars/trucks from down south and bringing them to the Midwest market for sale.



Shelby Kittle – Owner, Shelby's Custom Airbrushing

Shelby Kittle is 16 years old and a Sophomore in Ord High School. She is active in FFA, FBLA, and Girl Scouts. She wants to go to college and major in entomology and possibly minor in entrepreneurship. She airbrushes fishing lures, mailboxes, and pictures so she can sell them to help put herself through college.



Steve Tippery – President and CEO, INTELLIFARM

During his 17 year career in the agricultural equipment industry, Steve has held roles in design engineering, project management, program management, engineering management, and product line management. He has led global new product development design teams using module and platform development strategies. Steve's entire career has taken place within the international agricultural equipment / agricultural technology industries.



Abbey Rhodes – UNK Enactus President

Abbey Rhodes is a senior business administration major with an emphasis in economics and finance. She is the president of the social entrepreneurship student organization, Enactus, at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



Vishal Singh – Quantified Ag and Rockstar Alumni Member of NMotion

Vishal Singh is the President and CEO of Quantified Ag. Vishal was born and raised in his formative years in the metropolitan city of New Delhi, India. His family moved to a small farming community in Nebraska in the mid 80's. This was his first exposure to the world of agriculture. He has developed custom drones for plant crop imaging and completed previous projects with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and individual state beef councils.

VALUE-ADDED SESSIONS

3:00-4:30

**EXPLORING
3:00-4:30**

**GALLUP'S ENTREPRENEURIAL PROFILE 10
NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-A1/A2**



Gregg Christensen – Entrepreneurship Specialist, Nebraska Department of Education

Gregg Christensen is a Gallup-trained Entrepreneurial Profile 10 coach and has also provided coaching and leadership training using the StrengthsFinder assessment for educational, economic development, non-profits, community development, student organizations and non-profit groups. Mr. Christensen provides curriculum and professional development assistance to educators in the K-12, two year and four year postsecondary systems throughout Nebraska.

**PROSPECTING
3:00-4:30**

**NEW TOOLS FOR EDUCATORS
NIC CONFERENCE CENTER 1ST FLOOR-B1/B2**



Marilyn Schlake – Extension Educator, University of Nebraska Extension, Community Vitality Initiative, Department of Agricultural Economics and Nebraska Extension

As an Extension Educator, Marilyn is focused on business and economic development for adults and youth located in rural Nebraska. Marilyn served as the Director of NebraskaEDGE, an entrepreneurial training program that provided business planning services to more than 2800 individuals. Marilyn also co-authored the "Tilling the Soil of Opportunity: NxLevelL Guide for Agricultural Entrepreneurs," and the UNL, 4-H curricula, "EntrepreneurShip Investigation" (ESI).



Ben Dutton – Extension Educator-Community Vitality, Red Willow County Office

Ben Dutton has been with Nebraska Extension for 1 year with a focus on small business development and entrepreneurship education. He worked in K-12 education for 12 years as a business & Spanish teacher, high school principal and district superintendent. He has always had an entrepreneurial bent having owned several businesses in various industries and currently rehabilitates and sells older homes in North Platte, NE.



Andrew Zimbroff, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Andrew Zimbroff specializes in entrepreneurship and new business creation, as well as the promotion of community vitality through business development. Andrew is also passionate about entrepreneurship education, and using experiential learning to train future entrepreneurs. He works closely with 3 Day Startup -- A global nonprofit that puts on entrepreneurship educational workshops at universities around the world.

**EXPLORING
3:15-4:30**

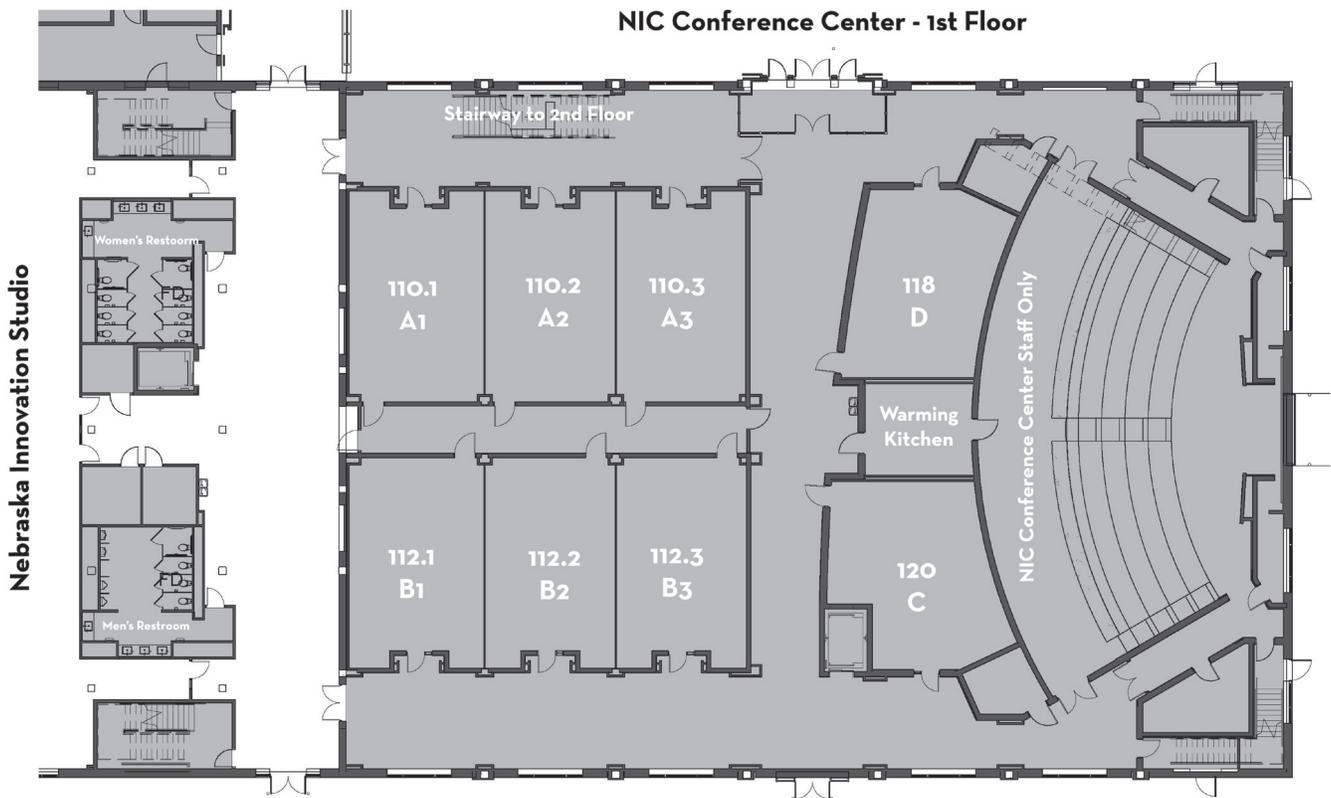
ENTREPRENEURS OF THE HAYMARKET WALKING TOUR



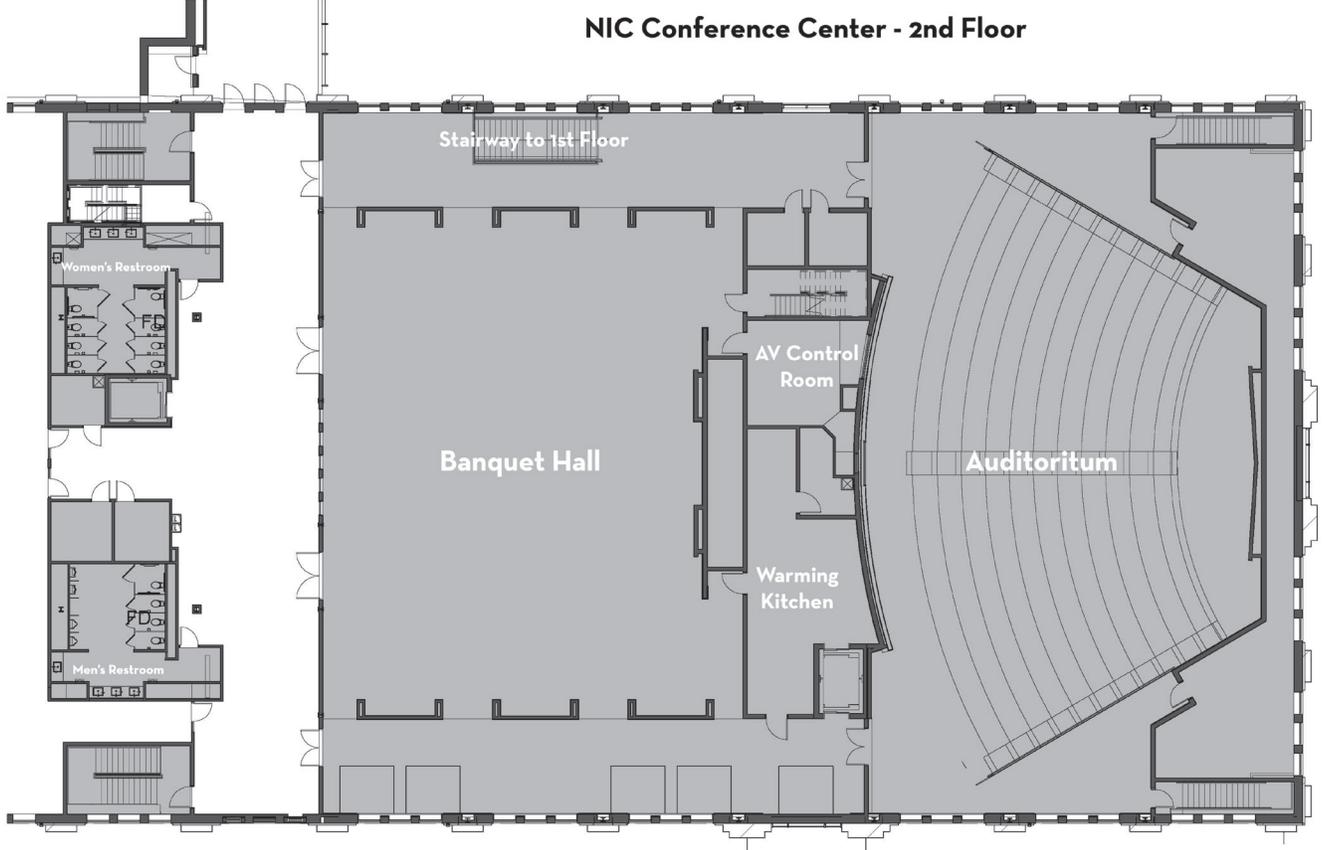
Deb Payne – Business and Career Coach (Idea to Income Coach)

Deb Payne specializes in discovering, developing and directing entrepreneurial talents and strengths in the millennial to the baby boomer generations. She inspires entrepreneurs and small business owners to take action on new ideas as they start or build their business. Deb is the city champion of Lincoln and a walking billboard for the amazing entrepreneurs that have started and launched their businesses in the community.

NIC Conference Center - 1st Floor



NIC Conference Center - 2nd Floor



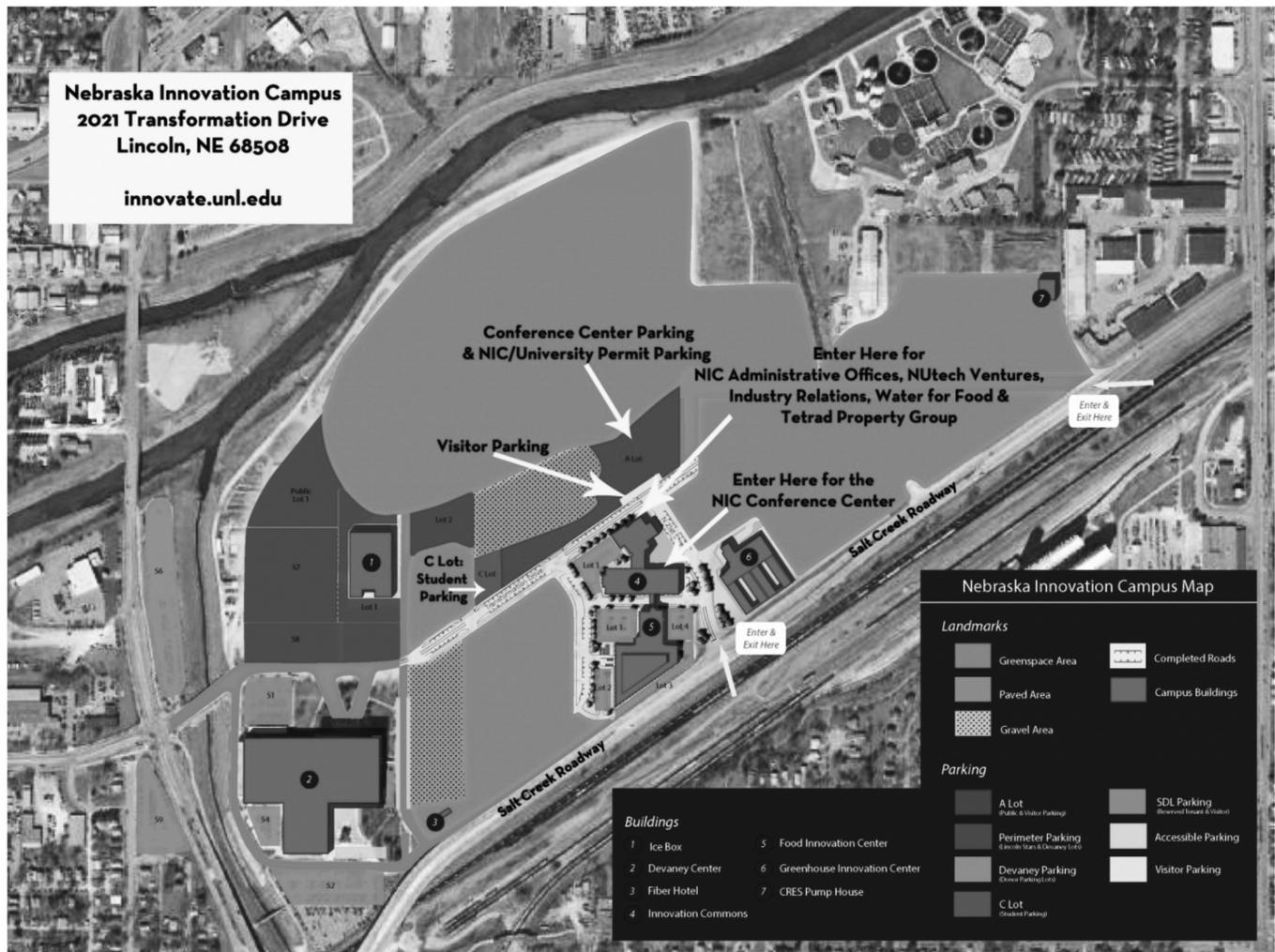
Directions to Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC) 2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, NE

From Omaha, NE:

1. Take I-80 W toward Lincoln, NE
2. Follow I-80 W to US-6 in Waverly.
3. Take exit 409 from I-80 W.
4. Turn left onto US-6 W
5. Turn left onto State Fair Park Drive
6. Continue onto Salt Creek Roadway
7. Turn right onto N 21st Street
8. Arrived at Nebraska Innovation Campus

From Grand Island, NE:

1. Take I-80 E toward Lincoln, NE
2. Follow I-80 E to W Cornhusker Hwy in Lincoln, NE. Take exit 399 from I-80 E.
3. Turn left onto W Cornhusker Hwy
4. Continue on W Cornhusker Hwy to State Fair Park Drive
5. Turn left onto State Fair Park Drive
6. Continue onto Salt Creek Roadway
7. Turn right onto N 21st Street
8. Arrived at Nebraska Innovation Campus



Parking

Parking is available at the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center. Please park in the **RED** lot only, **not** the Visitors Parking or street parking in front of the Conference Center. This is metered parking and is monitored for ticketing.

Entrance

Please enter only through the NIC Conference Center entrance. The entrance to the NIC Administrative Offices, NUtech Ventures, etc. are for those offices only and not for the NIC Conference Center.



It is the policy of the Nebraska Department of Education not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its education programs, administration, policies, employment or other agency programs.

Design of the *Entrepreneurship Best Practices Summit* conference program was funded through the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006, administered through the Nebraska Department of Education. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the United States Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

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