

# Oklahoma Innovations - OCAST's Official Newsletter

## January 2015

### OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDENT

Dave Rowland of Tulsa has been named president and CEO of the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance. He succeeds Chuck Prucha who retired after leading the organization for the past four years. Rowland will direct the statewide economic development efforts that help companies become more innovative, successful and profitable.

Rowland brings a strong background in manufacturing leadership and strategic partnerships to the positions. He as director of operations and general manager of MerCruiser in Stillwater until 2009 and most recently he held a senior position at Tulsa Winch Group.

Rowland states “the importance of a healthy manufacturing sector can’t be underestimated. Facing uncertain times, 4,000 manufacturers in communities across the state continue to be the foundation that supports Oklahoma’s growth.”

The Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance worked with more than 400 companies on projects that led to \$120 million in increased sales last year. Their services focused on improving the bottom line through concepts like Lean Manufacturing and at the same time growing the entire company through new-product development, export assistance and strategic planning.



### **I2E ADDS TWO EMPLOYEES, PROMOTES ONE**

Claire Robison is the new Venture Advisor in Oklahoma City and is replacing Kenneth Knoll. As a Venture Advisor, she will assist client companies with business opportunity

planning and analysis throughout the multi-stage commercialization process. Claire has several years' experience in the banking industry as a commercial banking officer at BancFirst underwriting credit for general industry, real estate and private lending. She is also an adjunct professor at Oklahoma City Community College.

Taking on the dual role held previously by Michael Kindrat-Pratt, Kevin Moore is the new Manager of Oklahoma's SeedStep Angel group as well as a Venture Advisor for i2E client

companies. Most recently Kevin worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, as a Bank Examiner. He has applicable personal investment advisory experience spanning six years with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney and Northwestern Mutual. Kevin received a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Oklahoma State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Central Oklahoma.

Mark Lauinger will be replacing David Thomison as i2E's Senior Vice President of Client Services. In this role, Mark manages a team of advisors that deliver vital start-up development services to emerging, high-growth companies moving them from concept to commercialization and profitability. A graduate of both Georgetown University with a Bachelor degree in Business Administration and Rice University with an MBA with concentration in finance and entrepreneurship, Mark brings more than two decades of experience working for both large and small corporations. Most recently, he was Chief Operating Officer and Vice President for Strategic Alliances with Reliant HR Technology in Tulsa. He also has experience at USIS in Tulsa and Ashford Inc. and Koch Industries in Houston.

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## **SBA WEBINAR FOCUSES ON UNDERSTANDING HEALTH& HUMAN SERVICES- NIH STRUCTURE FOR FUNDING**

The Small Business Administration will hold a Webinar on January 28th, 1:00-2:00 p.m. EDT. This monthly webinar service will explore topics relevant to Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Technology Transfer Research (STTR) programs. It will also discuss how researchers and small businesses can use this funding source. The series will begin with an overview of the program and its implementation at participating agencies.

Some of the webinars will feature winners of the Tibbetts Award who have successfully brought their SBIR/STTR technologies to market. They will share their stories and tips on how they progressed from SBIR/STTR seed funding to commercialization.

The series will also include several webinars highlighting how large corporations can partner with SBIR/STTR awardees to integrate SBIR funded technologies into their supply chain.

Webinars are open to anyone interested in how universities and industry can seek funding for their innovative research and commercialization efforts.

Registration for the event can be found at [http://center.ncet2.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=690](http://center.ncet2.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=690).

Direct all questions or comments to Nagesh Rao at [nagesh.rao@sba.gov](mailto:nagesh.rao@sba.gov) or visit [www.sbir.gov](http://www.sbir.gov).

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## SAVE THE DATE

A Manufacturing Connection Event will be held Thursday, March 12 from 5-7 pm at the Tulsa Tech Owasso Campus.

This event is intended to unite and provide a networking opportunity for manufacturers, educators, service providers, students, parents and job seekers. The event will feature exhibitor booths, refreshments and drawings for attendees. Manufacturing companies, education partners, students, parents and all interested parties are encouraged to attend.

OCAST PROGRAMS CALENDAR	SBIR/STTR CALENDAR
OARS application deadline: March 4, 2015	<a href="#">Department of Energy (Phase I / Phase II):</a> February 3, 2015
FY15.2 Intern application deadline: March 4, 2015	<a href="#">Department of Defense:</a> Closes – February 18, 2015
Health application deadline: March 25, 2015	
Health, OARS, FY15.2 Intern awards announced: June 16, 2015	

## OKLAHOMA INNOVATIONS RADIO SHOW

[Immuno-Mycologics Inc.](#) (IMMY) produces diagnostic platforms that detect antibodies and antigens for various fungal organisms. Whether you are with a hospital or lab, the goal is to provide top quality products at competitive prices to help ensure the most accurate and reliable results for patients.

[Listen to the show.](#)

As the presence of hybrid, plug-in hybrid and electric vehicles on today's roads increases, so does the opportunity for reusing old advanced battery packs. Spiers New Technologies is positioning itself to be a leader in the field of second-life use for battery packs from electric and hybrid vehicles.

[Listen to the show.](#)

[MyHealth Access Network](#) links more than 3,500 providers and their patients in a community-wide health information system that helps to better monitor and improve care. Participating in MyHealth Access Network ensures patients receive the highest quality care, potentially saving lives by getting critical medical information to health care providers immediately.

[Listen to the show.](#)

To hear more interviews on *Oklahoma Innovations* visit the [OCAST website](#) or listen weekly on:

Altus - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KOCU 90.1 FM

Ardmore - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KLCU 90.3 FM

Chickasha - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 100.1 FM

Clinton - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KYCU 89.1 FM

Lawton/Fort Sill - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KCCU 89.3 & 102.9 FM

Oklahoma City - Sunday at 5 p.m. - KTOK AM 1000

Tulsa - Sunday at 8 a.m. - KRMG AM 740/FM 102.3

Wichita Falls, TX - Saturday at 6 a.m. - KMCU 88.7 FM