

BUILDING A STRONGER OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA  
BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

# BRIEFS

**April 2015**

## **A Message from Chairman Rhonda Hooper**



Hello everyone:

This spring the Oklahoma Business Roundtable has been actively supporting economic development education and marketing activities – working with the Governor, Lt. Governor, Commerce Department, and our many community partners. These efforts focus on business retention and expansion – encouraging investment and jobs in our great state.

In the coming months, we will help our companies and communities market products/services at major trade shows and forums: for aerospace development (Paris Air Show); for aerospace maintenance repair/overhaul (MRO Trade Show); in wind energy (AWEA); for unmanned aerial vehicles (AUVSI); in biotechnology (Global BIO Show); and we'll target national site consultants at events in Dallas and Atlanta. Speaking of company and site consultants, several executives visited Oklahoma this month for the annual turkey hunt hosted by Lt. Governor Todd Lamb.

The Roundtable is also helping with several entrepreneurial initiatives, designed to inspire, grow and equip our future workforce. These projects include the statewide Governor's Cup collegiate business plan and First Robotics competitions, the Oklahoma Venture Forum, the Aerospace Career program, STEM awareness, SXSW, and i2E's Tulsa Fellows program supporting advanced-technology startups.

Plus, the Roundtable supports the Oklahoma Educated Workforce Initiative (OEWI) whose mission is to engage business leaders in the development of education policies that will better address the needs of tomorrow's workforce. Watch for more information on this important issue.

Please mark your calendar for our next business meeting, reception and dinner to be held June 9, 4:30 – 7:30pm, at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa. Governor Fallin will join us along with a special guest speaker from American Airlines.

Thank you for your continued membership and support!

*Rhonda Hooper*

Chair

## **Welcome to the Table!**

The Roundtable is pleased to welcome the following new member companies and their representatives:

- **Partners Enable Midstream** – Lynn Bourdin, III, President and CEO
- **Enid Regional Development Alliance**, Brent Kisling, Executive Director

## **SAVE THE DATE**

### **Oklahoma Business Roundtable Annual Business Meeting June 9, 2015**

3:00 – 4:00 – Executive Committee Meeting

4:30 – 6:00 – Business Meeting

6:00 – 6:45 Reception

6:45 – 8:00 – Dinner

**Southern Hills Country Club**

Valet Parking Provided

## Oklahoma Venture Forum Salutes Continental Resources/Welcomes GE Executive

The Roundtable served as host for the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Venture Forum (OVF) on April 8th at the Governor's Mansion. This year, Roundtable member Harold Hamm received the OVF Chairman's Award for Economic Impact.



Roundtable Chairman Rhonda Hooper and Governor Fallin welcome GE's Eric Gebhardt.

Keynote speaker was Eric Gebhardt, Chief Technology Officer and Vice President, Engineering at GE Oil & Gas. Gebhardt outlined GE's overall program within the oil and gas technology, plans for their new research center in Oklahoma City and highlighted several key research and technology sectors which GE believes will "ignite the future".

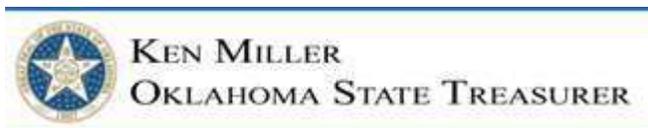
## Governor's Cup Competition

Managed by i2E, the Donald W. Reynolds Governor's Cup encourages students from Oklahoma colleges and universities to act upon their ideas and talents in order to produce tomorrow's businesses. 2015 Roundtable support is targeted to scholarships and general program support. Each year, Roundtable members assist with judging for the coveted Paulsen Scholarship – named for Past Roundtable President Don Paulsen. Awards will be presented this month.



Special thanks to Roundtable judges for the Governor's Cup Collegiate Business Plan Competition. (l-r) Richard Clements, OGE; Bryan Mitchell, CH2MHill; Peggy Fernau, ACT Aspire and Kyle Coke, Dell Corp.

## Monthly State Economic Development Report Available



Oklahoma State Treasurer Ken Miller publishes a very informative monthly newsletter, "The Oklahoma Economic Report" which contains news and analysis of Oklahoma's economy. Oklahoma Link to the March 31 edition:

[http://www.ok.gov/treasurer/documents/OER\\_3-31-15.pdf](http://www.ok.gov/treasurer/documents/OER_3-31-15.pdf)

# Roundtable Supports Marketing & Education Initiatives

## Oklahoma Educated Workforce Initiative

### First Robotics Competition

The Roundtable provided funding assistance to the annual US First Robotics regional competition – benefiting hundreds of high school students from across Oklahoma. Under strict rules, limited resources, and time limits, teams of 25 students or more are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program robots to perform prescribed tasks against a field of competitors. It's as close to "real-world engineering" as a student can get.

### Lt. Governor Lamb Hosts Consultants and Prospects

Held annually in April, Lt. Governor Todd Lamb hosted site location consultants and corporate executives at community venues across the state, including Woodward, Alva, Okemah, Ardmore and Duncan.

### LEGO's Turnipseed Promotes 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills for Students

Stephan Turnipseed, President Emeritus of LEGO Education, North America visited Oklahoma to address the World Creativity Forum in March. While here, the Roundtable hosted a special luncheon to discuss the importance of nurturing *communication and leadership skills in our education process*. Turnipseed said a hands-on, minds-on approach helps students actively take ownership of the learning process and develop 21st-century skills such as creative thinking and problem solving

### Former Lockheed Martin CEO Promotes STEM at Higher Education Day

Norm Augustine made a return visit to Oklahoma in February – addressing a special Legislative session focused on the importance of higher education and STEM initiatives in both Oklahoma and the nation.

### ReadyNation's Phil Peterson Visits State in March, Promotes Early Learning Initiatives

Phil Peterson, deputy director for ReadyNation, held several education forums throughout the state in March, including a session at the State Capitol. ReadyNation is a business leader organization working to improve policies for children and youth. Peterson assists states and local jurisdictions in developing Pay for Success projects in the areas of early childhood education. His visit was coordinated with the OKCEO organization and Potts Foundation – which promotes the importance of Oklahoma early childhood education efforts.

## Delegation Promotes State at South By Southwest Festival

A special Oklahoma delegation promoted Oklahoma tourism, film, music and interactive company development at the SXSW Music Festival in Austin in March.

## Economic Development News

Managers from Morningstar's global Equity Research team recently identified nine technology themes with the potential to have significant long-term economic benefits for the country.

- 1) **Big Data and Analytics:** Capabilities with data sets too large and complex to manipulate or interrogate with standard methods or tools.
- 2) **Nanotechnology:** The branch of technology that deals with dimensions and tolerances of less than 100 nanometers, especially the manipulation of individual atoms and molecules.
- 3) **Medicine and Neuroscience:** Any or all of the sciences, such as neurochemistry and experimental psychology, that deal with the structure or function of the nervous system and brain.
- 4) **Networks and Computer Systems:** A telecommunications network that allows computers to exchange data. In computer networks, networked computing devices pass data to each other along data connections.
- 5) **Energy and Environmental Systems:** Exposure to alternate, renewable energy— solar, wind, water, battery (positive or negative), and development or benefit of an environmental management system (EMS).
- 6) **Robotics:** The branch of technology that deals with the design, construction, operation, and application of robots.
- 7) **3-D Printing:** A process for making a physical object from a three-dimensional digital model, typically by laying down many successive thin layers of material.
- 8) **Bioinformatics:** The science of collecting and analyzing complex biological data.
- 9) **Financial-Services Innovation:** Search for and acknowledgement of nontraditional emerging funding sources, platforms, currency, and stored and transferred value.