CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Director's Report Spring 2024



Our Charge

- Increasing the university's impact
- Elevating the *Ut Prosim* difference
- Maintaining a transdisciplinary focus
- Addressing the urban-rural divide





Mission

We advance economic and community prosperity through delivery of applied research, engaged partnerships, and targeted university expertise.

We value:

- Connecting communities
- Collaboration and teamwork
- Continuous learning
- Community-tailored research
- Contributing to equitable development



PORTFOLIO UPDATES

VZ

Current Highlights

National and Multi-state

- Appalachian Regional Commission-ARISE, Industry-led Innovation Engine for Production and Mass Deployment of High-Performance Affordable Buildings Using Industrialized Offsite Construction (Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Tennessee), with Virginia Tech College of Engineering
- NSF Enabling Partnerships to Increase Innovation Capacity (EPIIC), SUNY Research Foundation, LIGHT UP Collaborative, with Alvernia, Bowie State, Kean, Marymount and Rowan Universities
- National Whitewater Center, Economic and Social Impact Analysis (North Carolina and Southwest Virginia)
- US Economic Development Administration, University Center Cohort Program, with University Economic Development Association



ARC ARISE: Rendering of modular home



Whitewater Center



Current Highlights



Tech Hubs heavily leverages the Virginia Tech College of Engineering's Advanced Manufacturing Team, led by Professor Chris Williams.

State and Multi-regional

- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Community-based Research and Outreach for Farmworker Wellness in Virginia, Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia State University
- New River Valley Regional Commission, Virginia's Advanced Manufacturing and Advanced Materials Hub, US Economic Development Administration Tech Hubs Program and GO Virginia Region 2, with Virginia Tech College of Engineering, LAUNCH, and the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research
- USDA-National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Small business health and organizational wellbeing workshop with Virginia Tech's Agricultural and Applied Economics Department
- US Economic Development Administration, University Center Program, Virginia Regional Development with Virginia State University
- Virginia Cooperative Extension, Community Development Program Development
- Virginia Cooperative Extension and Virginia Tech Outreach and International Affairs, Vibrant Virginia Project Development with Alleghany Foundation and Harvest Foundation, Virginia Tech Center for Rural Education and Institute for Policy and Governance
- Virginia Association of Counties/Virginia Municipal League, Learning Needs Assessment with Virginia Tech Roanoke Center

Current Highlights

New River, Roanoke/Alleghany, Lynchburg, Shenandoah Valley

- GO Virginia Region 2 (Roanoke/Alleghany-Blacksburg-Lynchburg), Support Organization Services, Talent Pipeline Initiative
- New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Board: Ready Southwest Early Childhood Education Evaluation and Career Lattice, Work-based learning Toolkit, Workforce Reports and Data Analysis
- Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, Economic Impact Analysis
- V-TOP Region 2 Internship Collaborative, (Roanoke-Blacksburg-Lynchburg), Coordinator
- VERGE Alliance (Roanoke-Blacksburg), Strategic Services



Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation



Spearhead Trails

Southwest Virginia and Southside

- Friends of Southwest Virginia, Spearhead Trail Strategic Business Plan
- GO Virginia Region 3, Controlled Environment Agriculture Roadmap, Hub Development
- Patrick County Chamber, Community Planning Facilitation
- Partnership for Prosperity, Danville Regional Foundation, Childcare Needs Assessment,
- Center for Early Success, Feasibility Study

CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Current Highlights

Greater Washington

- Chimes, Cost-Benefit Analysis for Ability One (Washington DC)
- GO Virginia Region 7, Virginia Alliance for Semiconductor Technology, with Virginia Tech Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Space@VT, Industry collaboration and workforce development initiatives (Greater Washington)
- Urban Alliance, STEM internships development (Greater Washington)
- Virginia Cooperative Extension, Arrowbrook Urban Extension Center Feasibility Study (Fairfax), with School of Building Construction
- Virginia Tech Electrical and Computer Engineering, Major Design Experience, experiential learning program (Greater Washington)
- Virginia Tech Innovation Campus, Entrepreneurship Initiatives (Alexandria)

Hampton Roads

- Black BRAND, B-Force Accelerator Evaluation (Hampton Roads)
- Poverty Leadership Study, with Christopher Newport University (Hampton Roads)
- GO Virginia Region 5 and 6, Promoting Careers In Aquaculture 2.0 (Eastern Shore, Hampton Roads, Northern Neck, Middle Peninsula) with Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research Extension Center, Rappahannock Community College, Eastern Shore Community College, Virginia Peninsula Community College
- GO Virginia Region 5, Tech Center Hydrogen Hub Development (Hampton Roads), with VT Corporate Research Center
 - VA Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center, Economic Impact Analysis (Hampton Roads)



Arrowbrook Urban Extension Center



Black BRAND, B-Force Accelerator



Christopher Newport University



CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Pipeline - Discussion/Under Development

- City of Hopewell
- Concerned Citizens of Charles City County
- GO Virginia Region 3
- Jefferson National Lab
- Mountaineer Trail Network
- Virginia Cooperative Extension
- Virginia Tech College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Virginia Tech College of Engineering
- Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center
- Virginia Tech Roanoke Center
- Virginia Tech Transportation Institiute
- Virginia Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission
- 4-VA and Space@VT



City of Hopewell



Jefferson National Lab

PERSONNEL UPDATES

VZ

Board Member Updates



Conaway Haskins Vice President for Entrepreneurial Ecosystems, Virginia Innovation Partnership Corporation



Keith Holland Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Faculty and Staff Updates



Kim Gray Administrative Assistant



Emmalee Wagner GO Virginia Talent Pipeline Initiative, Program Coordinator

OTHER BUSINESS

Cother Business

- Minutes
- Open discussion



CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

JOHN PROVO

jprovo@vt.edu cece.vt.edu

