Welcome to the 3rd Annual Appalachian Ohio State of the Region Conference! We are so pleased that you have joined us to examine the region’s economy, learn about existing initiatives in the region, and plan for the economy of tomorrow. The Economic Development Administration University Center at Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs is pleased to host the annual State of the Region Conference. This year’s theme, “Manufacturing in Appalachia: Opportunities Abound” could not be delivered at a more critical time. Please join me in welcoming Matt S. Erksine, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, U.S. Economic Development Administration and Dr. Charles Wessner, Director, Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at the U.S. National Academies to Appalachia Ohio and the Ohio University campus.

This year’s conference is a joint effort with the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth and the Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership. The partnerships the Voinovich School has long held with the Local Development Districts, local governments, and area businesses were also crucial in assisting us in planning this conference. Thank you to our partners for helping to make today’s conference a reality!

The manufacturing sector is changing worldwide. The businesses in the sector need to localize their supply chain, manage higher utility costs, hire, train, and retain skilled employees, and cope with the overall costs of doing business. The U.S. is expected to experience an in-shoring of manufacturing firms over the next few years as opportunities for goods manufactured domestically continue to grow. This conference seeks to examine the manufacturing trends in this region, encourage private and public sector leaders to discuss advantages and disadvantages of doing business locally, hear from the region’s leading manufacturers about their needs, better understand where job growth is happening, and determine the competitive advantages of the region.

The EDA University Center is a joint initiative of Bowling Green State University and Ohio University. Collectively the Center serves 59 rural Ohio counties, including the 32 Appalachian Ohio counties. For over 18 years the Voinovich School’s EDA University Center has provided direct business assistance services, applied research initiatives, and for the past three years, the annual State of the Region Conference. The School is committed to these efforts and looks forward to what the future holds.

We are pleased you have joined us today and hope that you find the conference insightful, engaging and useful as you continue your efforts into the future.

Cordially,

Mark L. Weinberg, Director
HONORED GUEST

MATT S. ERSKINE, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development

Matt S. Erskine serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development for the U.S. Economic Development Administration. He was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Chief Operating Officer in September 2011.

Before joining the Obama Administration, he was Senior Vice President at the Greater Washington Board of Trade and Executive Director of the Greater Washington Initiative, a private-public regional economic development effort that has helped to position the Washington region as a premier business destination. Additionally, Erskine was President of PLAY, a management consulting firm in Richmond; a Principal in the Advanced Technology-Telecom and Professional Services practices of the management consulting firm Korn-Ferry International; and, management consultant at Coopers & Lybrand Consulting in the Telecommunications & Media Strategy and Federal Government practice areas.

He also served in the public sector as the Deputy Secretary of Commerce and Trade in Virginia Governor Mark Warner Administration, where he led and managed multiple gubernatorial initiatives and had oversight of the operations of 16 departments and agencies, consisting of more than 2,500 employees and a combined annual budget of $800 million. Erskine was also appointed by Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine to the bi-partisan Virginia Research and Technology Advisory Commission.

Erskine earned a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) from the University of Virginia as an Echols Scholar and a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) from the Harvard Business School. He recently completed his five-year term membership with the Council on Foreign Relations. He regularly competes in triathlons, marathons, and endurance races. Erskine and his wife have three children.
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

DR. CHARLES W. WESSNER, Director, Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, U.S. National Academies

Dr. Charles Wessner is a National Academies scholar and a powerful advocate of effective innovation policies. As the founder and Director of the National Academy of Sciences Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship Program, he is recognized nationally and internationally for his expertise on innovation policy, including public-private partnerships, entrepreneurship, early-stage financing for new firms, and the special needs and benefits of high-technology industry. He works closely with the U.S. Congress, the White House, and major agencies and departments of the U.S. government.

Dr. Wessner provides policy advice on questions of innovation policy, including support for basic science, applied research, the role of the 21st Century University, and principles of cooperation between universities and industry. As an outgrowth of his work with the U.S. government, he advises technology agencies, government ministries, and the Prime Ministers of countries in Europe and Asia. In addition, he cooperates closely with international organizations and lectures at major universities in the U.S. and abroad.

The overarching goal of his work is to develop a better understanding of how we can bring new technologies forward to address global challenges in health, climate, energy, water, infrastructure, and security.
### AGENDA

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>8:00-8:30</td>
<td>Networking/Registration/Exhibits - Walter Hall - Lobby</td>
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<td>8:30-8:45</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Walter Hall - Rotunda</td>
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<td>Master of Ceremonies: John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University</td>
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<td>8:45-9:30</td>
<td>Opening Remarks:</td>
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<td>Dr. Roderick McDavis, President, Ohio University</td>
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<td>Matt S. Erskine, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, U.S. Economic Development Administration</td>
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<td>Susan M. Brehm, J.D., Regional Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration</td>
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<td>9:15-9:45</td>
<td>&quot;New Manufacturing, SBIR, and the Role of the 21st Century University in Economic Development and Entrepreneurship&quot;</td>
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<td>Introduction: Mark Weinberg, Ph.D., Director, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University</td>
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<td>Keynote Speaker: Dr. Charles Wessner, Director - Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship - U.S. National Academies</td>
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<td>9:45-10:00</td>
<td>Morning Break</td>
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<td>10:00-10:45</td>
<td>The State of the Region: An Overview and Reflection of Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Moderator: Christopher Slagle, J.D., Partner in Charge-Marietta Office, Bricker and Eckler LLP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Overview of the State of the Region’s Economy and Recent Trends”</td>
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<td>Presenter: Jason Jolley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economic Development, EDA University Center, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Reflections from Business Retention and Expansion Visits and Perspectives on Reshoring Opportunities”</td>
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<td>Presenter: John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG)</td>
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<td>10:45-11:30</td>
<td>&quot;Challenges and Successes: Insights from Local Manufacturers&quot;</td>
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<td>Moderator: Zach Space, J.D., Principal, Vorys Advisors LLC</td>
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<td>Panelists: Mike Evans, Vice President of Supply Chain and Partner, Bellisio Foods</td>
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<td>Roger Joyce, Executive Vice President, The Bilco Company</td>
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<td>Alicia Snider, Human Capital Operations Manager, Miba Bearings U.S., LLC</td>
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<td>Tonya Kohler, Human Capital Operations Manager, Miba Bearings U.S., LLC</td>
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<td>11:30-11:45</td>
<td>“A Regional Perspective on Manufacturing”</td>
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<td>Introduction: John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University</td>
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<td>Comments: Earl Gohl, Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission</td>
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<td>11:45-1:00</td>
<td>“Manufacturing: A Roundtable Discussion”</td>
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<td>Introduction: John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG)</td>
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<td>Interviewees: Dr. Charles Wessner, Director of Technology, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship, U.S. National Academies</td>
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<td>Eric Burkland, President, Ohio Manufacturers’ Association</td>
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<td>Glenn Richardson, Managing Director for Aerospace and Advanced Manufacturing, JobsOhio</td>
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# AGENDA

## Concurrent Sessions

### Manufacturing Track - Walter Hall - Room 135

**“Finding, Screening, and Keeping Productive Employees: Programs that Work”**

**Moderator:** Laurene Huffman, MEP Outreach Specialist, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth  
**Panelists:**  
Tammy Eallonardo, Manager, The Reserves Network  
Kim Stewart, PHR, H.R. Business Partner, Kraton Polymers  
Mike Archer, President and CEO, Pioneer Pipe / Pioneer Group

### Economic Development Track - Walter Hall - Rotunda

**“Growing in a Competitive Future”**

**Moderator:** Jason Jolley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economic Development, EDA University Center, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University  
**Panelists:**  
Bret Allphin, Development Director, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District  
Cindi Kerschbaumer, Project Manager II, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)  
John Hemmings, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC)  
Kathy Zook, Program Manager of Special Projects, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

## Afternoon Break

2:15-2:30

## Concurrent Sessions

### Manufacturing Track - Walter Hall - Room 135

**“Ohio MEP: Solving Today’s Manufacturing Challenges”**

**Moderator:** John Molinaro, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG)  
**Panelists:**  
David Beck, President and CEO of the Center for Innovative Food Technology (CIFT)  
Laurene Huffman, MEP Outreach Specialist, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth  
Michael Kaminski, Senior Business Growth & Innovation Advisor, MAGNET  
Larrell Walters, University of Dayton Research Institute; Director of the Institute for the Development and Commercialization of Advanced Sensor Technology (IDCAST)  
Kara Valz, Executive Vice President, Marketing and Center for Small Manufacturing, TechSolve  
Rich Amsden, Manager of MEP Programs, Polymer Ohio, Inc.

### Economic Development Track - Walter Hall - Rotunda

**“Building Networks to Support Manufacturers”**

**Moderator:** John Glazer, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University  
**Panelists:**  
Tammy Eallonardo, Manager, The Reserves Network  
Mike Workman, Founder, Contraxx Furniture  
Angie Peters, Manager, The Business Resource Network  
Marty Loney, Chair, Ohio State Training Association/Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 396

## Closing Comments and Evaluations

3:30-3:45

### Manufacturing Track - Walter Hall - Room 135

**Jason Jolley, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Economic Development, EDA University Center, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University**

### Economic Development Track - Walter Hall - Rotunda

**John Glazer, Director - TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University**

## Tour of Ohio University’s Innovation Center & 3-D Printer Demonstration - Innovation Center

**Presenter:** Jesus Pagan, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Engineering Technology and Management, Russ College of Engineering, Ohio University
MIKE ARCHER, President/CEO, Pioneer Pipe / Pioneer Group

Mike Archer is the President and CEO of Pioneer Pipe and the Pioneer Group of companies based in Marietta, Ohio. In business for 33 years, Pioneer is a full-service construction, maintenance, and fabrication company actively involved with industrial and commercial projects in Ohio, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. Pioneer operates six facilities in the Mid-Ohio Valley and annually employs over 600 people across the region. Prior to joining Pioneer, Mr. Archer held positions in the business group of Baker & Hostetler LLP. He graduated summa cum laude with a business management and economics degree from Marietta College in 1997, and graduated magna cum laude with a law degree from the University of Notre Dame in 2000. Mr. Archer serves as Chairman of the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth and the Ohio Appalachian Business Council, and serves on the Advisory Board for the Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Marietta Memorial Health System and The Association of Union Constructors. Mr. Archer has previously served as President of the Washington County Bar Association, and on the Board of Trustees of the Polymer Alliance Zone and the West Virginia Manufacturers Association.

BRET ALLPHIN, Development Director, Buckeye Hills – Hocking Valley Regional Development District

Bret Allphin has 13 years of experience with the Buckeye Hills – Hocking Valley Regional Development District in Marietta Ohio, serving as GIS Manager and most recently as Development Director since 2012. Buckeye Hills is a Local Development District that serves as a liaison between local governments and public agencies at the State and Federal level. Buckeye Hills acts on behalf or residents of an eight county region in Southeastern Ohio to provide a range of community services including grant administration, grant research, mapping and data research, transportation planning, small business development, and senior services through the Area Agency on Aging. Mr. Allphin is a 2001 cum laude graduate of Marietta College where he majored in Political Science and minored in Leadership Studies.

RICH AMSDEN, Manager of MEP Programs, Polymer Ohio, Inc.

Rich Amsden has worked within OHMEP since its start at both the State and Center levels. He is responsible for reporting all programmatic data to the NIST Manufacturing Extension Partnership. He also works with OH!Manufacturing staff to ensure deadlines are met and clients are receiving information and service as promised, and oversees all data collection and analysis activities for the MEP program.

DAVE BECK, President and CEO, Center for Innovative Food Technology

Dave Beck began his duties as president and CEO of the Center for Innovative Food Technology (CIFT) on Aug. 1, 2008. He became the second president in the history of CIFT. He has been with CIFT since the organization’s inception in 1995. With a wealth of knowledge in the food processing industry, he previously held executive positions at Dinner Bell Foods and Campbell Soup Company. Beck obtained his bachelor of science degree in mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh and a master’s of business administration degree from The University of Toledo.
Presenters • Panelists • Moderators

ERIC L. BURKLAND, President, The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association

Mr. Burkland, a native of Wheeling, West Virginia, is a 1974 honors graduate of Miami University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. During 1972 and 1973 he studied at the European Study Center in Luxembourg. Later, he returned to Miami University to pursue post-graduate studies in political science. Mr. Burkland assumed the presidency of The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association in 1989. He has served on numerous panels and participated in initiatives in a variety of public policy areas, including taxation, education, workers’ compensation, transportation, environmental management, and energy during the terms of five Ohio governors.

TAMMY EALLONARDO, Manager, The Reserves Network

Manager of a top-performing branch of The Reserves Network, Eallonardo and her team employ more than 250 people in Pickaway, Ross, Pike, Scioto and Jackson counties. They successfully provide local manufacturers and distribution centers with recruiting, training and retention solutions that produce a strong workforce - the key to reducing costs and maximizing profits! Prior to entering the staffing industry, Eallonardo worked in the travel & tourism industry in various capacities, including the management of a full-service hotel in Chillicothe, Ohio. This year will mark her 19th year in the staffing industry and she is a two-time winner of The Reserves Network’s Superstars award, a sales and relationship competition that celebrates excellence. Eallonardo is a life-long resident of southern Ohio and the daughter of a small business owner and paper mill worker. She delights in helping job seekers find their niche and has helped to make The Reserves Network a positive resource for the workforce of southern Ohio through long-term employment opportunities and career development for candidates entering the workforce, as well as skilled tradesmen and women.

MIKE EVANS, Vice President of Supply Chain and Partner, Bellisio Foods

Mike has been in the Food Processing Industry for 30 years. All Operations. Company’s include; Campbell Soup Co., The Pillsbury Co., Grand Metropolitan, Diagio and Bellisio Foods for the past 21yrs. He was born in Lorain, Ohio and grew up in Galion, Ohio (70 miles SW of Cleveland, 70 miles NE of Columbus). Mike Graduated from Galion High School, Galion Ohio and received his undergraduate degree from Morehead State University in Morehead, KY with a Bachelors in Business Administration and a Spanish Minor. He also attended the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont where he graduated magna cum laude, was on the President’s List, and was a Member of Delta Tau Delta. Mike obtained his Graduate Degree from University of Toledo, M.B.A. where he graduated magna cum laude.
JOHN GLAZER, Director, TechGROWTH Ohio, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

After an early career as a university teacher, Mr. Glazer became the long-standing President and CEO of Little Professor Book Centers, Inc., the largest organization of independent bookstores in the U.S. He took the franchising company through several rounds of angel financing, achieving successful exits for investors before acquiring the company in 2001. Mr. Glazer served for six years on the Executive Committee of the Book Industry Study Group in New York. He was also founder and CEO of four other startup companies: two lesson-rich failures, one modest exit, and another still operating in Ann Arbor, Germany, and South Africa. He serves as President of New Work Enterprises, Director for Johannesburg-based Lift Africa Technologies, and as board member for several technology start-up companies and community non-profits. Mr. Glazer has organized a number of technology-based economic development projects in the U.S. and internationally. He has worked with inventors and entrepreneurs to start up enterprises, finance them, and execute the operational systems that help them succeed. Currently, Mr. Glazer is the Director of TechGROWTH Ohio, the Third-Frontier Entrepreneurial Signature Program in Southeast Ohio and housed at the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. TechGROWTH helps early-stage technology companies acquire resources to accelerate commercialization. He has an ABD PhD and Master’s degree in Philosophy from the University of Michigan.

EARL GOHL, Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission

Earl Gohl was unanimously confirmed as federal co-chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) by the U.S. Senate on March 10, 2010. In his Senate confirmation hearing, Mr. Gohl stated that his objective as ARC federal co-chair would be to ensure that each federal dollar expended by the Commission was “an investment in the economic future of Appalachian families that will generate a return for American taxpayers.” He is the eleventh federal co-chair to be appointed since the Commission was established by an act of Congress in 1965. Mr. Gohl came to ARC with 20 years of experience in Pennsylvania state and local government. He held a variety of positions from 1975 to 1995, including deputy secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs. As deputy secretary, Mr. Gohl awarded and administered $100 million annually in housing and community development programs benefiting communities within the Appalachian Region. He also managed several initiatives to strengthen the capacity of rural local governments to meet economic challenges. Mr. Gohl served as a special assistant, and then as an associate assistant secretary, at the U.S. Department of Labor from 1996 to 2001, and then was the director of government relations/deputy director for the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration until 2009. Mr. Gohl holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rider College (now Rider University) in New Jersey and a Master of Public Administration degree from Pennsylvania State University.
Presenters • Panelists • Moderators

JOHN HEMMINGS, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

John Hemmings is the Executive Director (August 2008 to Present) of the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC), and has been with OVRDC since 1991. The OVRDC, located in Waverly, Ohio, is a public regional planning commission that coordinates federal, state, and local economic and community development resources to encourage development in twelve southern Ohio counties: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton. OVRDC serves as a Local Development District (LDD) for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and as an Economic Development District (EDD) for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). In this capacity, OVRDC prioritizes development needs and sets priorities for projects to be funded by ARC and EDA. Established in 1967, OVRDC has a 45-year history of fostering economic development and job creation in the region. Mr. Hemmings is a native of Scioto County, Ohio and lives there with his wife, Crystal, and his son, Jonathan. Majoring in Business Economics, John graduated summa cum laude from Ohio University in 1989 with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

LAURENE HUFFMAN, MEP Outreach Specialist, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth

Laurene Huffman serves APEG as an Ohio MEP Outreach Specialist for manufacturers with less than 50 employees. She has been involved in the manufacturing sector for over 19 years. Most recently as the Executive Director for Washington State Community College’s Workforce Development Division, she managed and assisted in the delivery of customized solutions: job profiling, assessments, and planning and implementation of training programs. Her background is in Quality Management and College Advancement, is a certified SHL job profiler and assessment feedback provider, and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Resource Management from Marietta College. Laurene was born, raised, and lives in beautiful Washington County. She resides in the Watertown area with her husband, and children.

JASON JOLLEY, PH.D., Assistant Professor/MPA Director Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Dr. Jolley is an Assistant Professor of Economic Development and MPA Director at the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University. At Ohio University, he also serves as a Research Fellow in the Center for Entrepreneurship and directs Ohio University’s portion of the U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center (joint with Bowling Green State University). Dr. Jolley previously worked at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as Senior Research Director for the Center for Competitive Economies, an applied economic development research center in the Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise and as an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Kenan-Flagler Business School. His research has been published in Business Strategy and the Environment, Economic Development Quarterly, State and Local Government Review, Review of Policy Research, Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, & Financial Management, and Economic Development Journal, among other scholarly outlets.
Presenters • Panelists • Moderators

ROGER JOYCE, Executive Vice President, Bilco

Roger F. Joyce is Executive Vice President of The Bilco Company, the industry leader in the design and manufacture of specialty access products for construction markets around the world. A grandson of the Company founder, Mr. Joyce joined Bilco in 1979 as Plant Manager, and later served as Vice President, Manufacturing and Vice President, Engineering. He is responsible for Research and Development, product engineering, architectural products manufacturing and business development. He has been awarded five patents by the USPTO. Active in both professional and community activities, Roger is past Chair of the Connecticut Business and Industry Association. He was Chairman of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and the President of the Manufacturers Association of New Haven County. In Washington, he has served as a spokesman for the National Association of Manufacturers on Product Liability Reform before the House Judiciary Committee and on Employment and Training before the House Small Business Committee. In the community, Roger served as a member the Transportation Strategy Board of the State of Connecticut as well as Chairman of the Tweed-New Haven Airport Authority. He currently is Chairman of the Regional Leadership Council and the co-Chair of the South Central Connecticut team that developed the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy that led to Economic Development Entity status by EDA. He was named Citizen of the Year by Business New Haven Magazine and received the Torch of Liberty Award from the Anti-Defamation League.

MICHAEL KAMINSKI, Senior Business Growth & Innovation Advisor, MAGNET

Mr. Kaminski brings over 25 years of manufacturing experience in a variety of industries and capacities including Innovation, Product Development, Business Development, Sales & Marketing, and Manufacturing Operations. Mike joined MAGNET in 2006 and has held positions as a Senior Business Consultant, Director of Business Consulting Sales and currently Senior Growth and Innovation Advisor. Mike regularly consults with manufacturing companies on business growth opportunities focusing on New Product Innovation and Operation Excellence. Mike was instrumental in developing MAGNET’s Idea Engineering Process and has facilitated over 50 Workshops with manufacturing companies. Mike also took the lead in co-developing MAGNET’s ecoSMART Manufacturing program and consults on environmental performance projects related to operations and products. Mike has an extensive background in plastics manufacturing, in such areas as injection molding, blow molding, rotational molding, plastics extrusion, vacuum forming, fabrication and automation. Most of his on the job experience comes from the following notable companies, Cincinnati Milacron, HPM, GI Plastek, Automated Assemblies, Newell Rubbermaid and Little Tikes. Mike started and managed a contract manufacturing business within Little Tikes titled HF Manufacturing. Mike holds a BS in Electronics Engineering Technology from Franklin University, a Certificate in Sustainable Value from Case Western Reserve University-Weatherhead School of Management and is a certified trainer of Purdue University’s Green Enterprise Development Program. Mike often lectures on the topics of Sustainable Manufacturing and Product Innovation at local Universities and Events. He was also a member of the Baldwin Wallace Advisory Board for the Institute for Sustainable Business Practices and a committee member of the Sustainable Cleveland 2019 Planning Committee for Design, Materials, and Manufacturing.
Presenters • Panelists • Moderators

CINDI KERSCHBAUMER, Communications Specialist/Project Manager, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

OMEGA is a collaborative body of member governments that serves as a facilitator between state and federal government agencies and local entities to provide opportunities in economic and community development through networking, education, planning, research, and allocation of resources. OMEGA serves the following ten counties: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, and Tuscarawas and is a Local Development District (LDD) for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and an Economic Development District (EDD) for the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). Cindi is a 1989 graduate of Capital University with Bachelors of Science Degrees in Economics and Political Science. She has been involved in public sector work for 22 years.

TONYA KOHLER, Human Capital Manager, Miba Bearings U.S., LLC

Miba is one of the leading strategic partners of the international engine and automotive industry. Their product portfolio includes sintered components, engine bearings, friction materials, power electronics components and coatings. Miba products make motor vehicles, trains, ships, aircraft and power plants more efficient, more reliable and more environmentally friendly.

MARTY LONEY, Chairman, Ohio State Training Director’s Association

Marty Loney is from Boardman, Ohio and has been the Chairman of the Ohio State Training Director’s Association since 2012. He is currently a member of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters and served on the Local Union 87’s and Local Union 396’s Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee for 17 years. Mike is also the State and National Delegate for Local Union 396 and has initiated multiple training programs including, Medical Gas, Backflow, Residential and MES Programs. Mr. Loney is a graduate of the United Association Training Director and Instructor Training Programs as well as a graduate of the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Five-Year Program. He is currently a member of Leadership Mahoning Valley, a Boardman Community Baseball Manager and a United Way volunteer.

DR. RODERICK MCDAVIS, President, Ohio University

Dr. Roderick J. McDavis became Ohio University’s 20th president on July 1, 2004. As the university’s first African American president and only the second alumnus to lead the university in the institution’s 210-year history, he has been a tireless ambassador for Ohio University’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Dr. McDavis’ contributions to higher education include assisting the development of Ohio’s technology commercialization implementation plan, the state’s first guaranteed tuition plan, and one of the first of its kind performance-based funding models in the nation. As president, he developed and implemented Ohio University’s comprehensive strategic plan and has been instrumental in the success of The Promise Lives Campaign, which recently surpassed its $450 million fundraising goal. The Urban Scholar and Appalachian Scholar programs, The Interlink Alliance partnership, and Ohio University’s commitment to climate neutrality are among the many initiatives that have come about as a result of his leadership. Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. McDavis has been the recipient of numerous prestigious honors and awards. (continued on following page)
(continued) This includes the University of Arkansas’ Silas Hunt Legacy Award, which recognizes African Americans for significant achievements or contributions to the community, the state, and the nation. His commitment to tomorrow’s leaders has greatly advanced Ohio University’s vision to be the nation’s best transformative learning community.

JOHN MOLINARO, President/CEO, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth

John Molinaro, President and CEO of the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG), has 35 years of experience working with communities, organizations and leaders to improve the prosperity of communities and regions and the economic success of families – especially in rural areas. APEG is a recently formed business-led partnership focused on regional economic development in 25 counties in southeast Ohio. In partnership with JobsOhio and a wide range of communities and organizations, APEG works to build the prosperity of southeast Ohio’s businesses, communities and people. Mr. Molinaro has consulted with numerous communities and organizations about how to rebuild local and regional economies and how to create locally-controlled philanthropic assets. He has developed sessions and presented at many national and regional events on topics such as rural wealth creation and retention, community and economic development, workforce development, community philanthropy and family economic success. He has developed curriculum and training in these topical areas, and has regularly worked with groups to develop Theories of Change to help them plan and evaluate complex initiatives. Mr. Molinaro has served as a policy fellow at the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, and as a multi-term appointee to the Minnesota Governor’s Workforce Development Council. He holds certifications in Economic Development Finance and Housing Development Finance from the National Development Council and a Master’s Degree in Community and Regional Planning. John has also participated in advanced studies in theology, leadership and policy.

JESUS PAGAN, PH.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Engineering Technology and Management, Russ College of Engineering, Ohio University

Mr. Pagan is an Assistant Professor for the Department of Engineering Technology and Management in the Russ College of Engineering at Ohio University. While at Ohio University, he has also worked with the Mechanical Engineering Department, the Institute for Sustainable Energy and the Environment, and the Manufacturing Extension Partnership. Mr. Pagan has two invention disclosures to his credit and has product development experience in the private sector from commercializing research innovations.

ANGIE PETERS, The Business Resource Network

Angie Peters serves as Manager of The Business Resource Network (Area 16), which covers Belmont, Carroll, Harrison and Jefferson Counties in Ohio. Peters is recognized as a Certified Workforce Development Professional by the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals, Washington, D.C. She is also Vice President and contributing member of Legion Auxiliary Post 557 in Wintersville, OH. Prior to joining The Business Resource Network Angie worked extensively in both for-profit and non-profit entities with great success. Angie has been recognized as a leader and a long-time supporter of regional business expansion and retention.
GLEN RICHARDSON, Managing Director for Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace & Aviation, JobsOhio

Glenn Richardson is the Managing Director for Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace & Aviation at JobsOhio, the privatized economic development organization responsible for helping create jobs and attract new capital investment in Ohio. Glenn brings a wealth of experience in operations and engineering and has worked in the Aerospace, Automotive and Energy industries. He comes to JobsOhio from Rolls-Royce Energy Systems, Inc. in Mount Vernon, Ohio where he held the position of Vice President of the Packaging and Driven Equipment Supply Chain Unit. Before joining Rolls-Royce, Glenn was the Vice-President and General Manager, Americas and China for Dana Holdings in their Off-Highway Products Division. And prior to that, he worked for Honeywell in a variety of roles and across several business units, including Customer Business Manager, Engineering Director, and Program Manager. Glenn has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University, as well as a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering and an MBA from the University of Notre Dame.

CHRISTOPHER SLAGLE, J.D., Partner, Bricker & Eckler LLP, Marietta, OH

Partner In Charge of the firm's Marietta office, Chris Slagle is chair of Bricker & Eckler's Government Relations group and a partner in the Regulated Industries group. He practices in the areas of government relations; real estate, including land use, development and zoning; banking law and financial services; transportation and logistics; consumer finance and mortgage banking. Chris is also a member of the Firm's Shale, Oil and Gas practice as well as the Southeast Ohio Initiative. His government relations work includes representation of political parties, candidates, statewide ballot committees, corporations and businesses, and political action committees in all aspects of election law issues and campaign finance compliance and as an advocate for them before the Ohio Election Commission, boards of elections, and in litigation in state and federal courts. Chris also represents and acts as a lobbyist for various trade associations, businesses, and corporate entities before the Ohio General Assembly. In the real estate area, Chris represents businesses, developers, and political subdivisions in complex zoning, land use, annexation, and land development issues and appears before planning, development, and zoning commissions in zoning, variance, annexation, and related public service matters. He also represents wireless communications carriers in zoning matters and public hearings, including negotiations with law directors, city attorneys, and county prosecutors and other public officials. Chris provides representation to banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions in various regulatory and compliance matters and to mortgage banks, lenders, and consumer finance organizations in licensure, regulatory, and compliance issues. He also provides representation to transportation and trucking companies and logistics operators in regulatory and compliance issues. Chris is a former spokesman, speechwriter, and federal policy liaison for the former Ohio Attorney General and Ohio Auditor of State Betty D. Montgomery; a senior staff member and Director of Communications for Ohio Congressman Paul E. Gillmor; a legislative aide for former Ohio State Senator Karen L. Gillmor; and a district representative for former Ohio Congressman Frank A. Cremeans.
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ALICIA SNIDER, Human Capital Operations Manager, Miba Bearings U.S., LLC

Miba is one of the leading strategic partners of the international engine and automotive industry. Their product portfolio includes sintered components, engine bearings, friction materials, power electronics components and coatings. Miba products make motor vehicles, trains, ships, aircraft and power plants more efficient, more reliable and more environmentally friendly.

ZACK SPACE, J.D., Principal, Vorys Advisors LLC

Former Congressman Zachary T. Space (D-OH) is a principal for Vorys Advisors LLC, a wholly owned affiliate of the law firm, Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP. He provides business and strategic counsel to the law firm’s clients and other businesses and organizations. Zack served as a member of Congress from 2007 until 2011. During his tenure representing Ohio’s 18th Congressional District, he served on the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Agriculture, and Veterans’ Affairs. Zack’s work in Congress focused on growing the manufacturing, technology and energy sectors of the southeastern and central Ohio economies. His work helped generate hundreds of millions of dollars in both public and private investments throughout the region commonly referred to as Appalachian Ohio. Prior to being elected to Congress, Zack served as the law director for Dover, Ohio and as a board member of the Tuscarawas County Board of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. He now sits on several non-profit boards. His past business experience includes managing a Dover, Ohio-based law firm for nearly twenty years, and engaging in private real estate development in eastern Ohio. Zack has also worked as a public defender, and served as special counsel to former Ohio Attorneys General Anthony Celebrezze and Lee Fisher. Zack received his J.D. from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. He received his B.A. in political science from Kenyon College, where he was awarded All-American honors while playing football for the Kenyon Lords. He and his wife Mary currently share their time between Columbus and Dover. They have two adult children, Gina and Nicholas.

KIM STEWART, PHR, H.R. Business Partner, Kraton Polymers

Kim Stewart has been in the Human Resources field for 29 years with senior level HR experience in employee relations, benefit and compensation, staffing, training and strategic project management. She is currently the Human Resources Business Partner at Kraton Polymers, a leading global producer of engineered polymers in the mid-Ohio valley. A creative thinker, problem solver and decision maker, Kim effectively balances the needs of employees with the mission of the organization. Kim is a versatile professional that provides sound advice and counsel to ensure compliance with company policies and procedures, as well as all federal, state and local labor laws. Kim graduated from Ohio Valley University where she obtained her Business Administration degree with a concentration in Human Resources. She is also a certified Professional in Human Resources (PHR) through the Society of Human Resources Managers.
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SUSAN M. BREHM, J.D., Regional Counsel, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration

Susan M. Brehm is Regional Counsel for the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration (EDA) in the Chicago region. She is responsible for evaluating the legal sufficiency of EDA grants and for advising the Regional Director and program staff on legal and policy issues that arise in the six-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Susan previously worked as an associate attorney at Sidley Austin, an international law firm based in Chicago, where she advised large institutional nonprofit organizations on real property matters and litigated complex class actions. Deeply committed to ensuring that quality legal services be available to everyone, regardless of ability to pay, Susan has devoted many hours to pro bono clients, including through Sidley’s Africa-Asia Agricultural Enterprise Program. Susan earned her bachelor’s degree in English literature from Loras College, in Dubuque, Iowa, and her law degree from the University of California at Berkeley. She holds a certificate in environmental law and has published on issues at the intersection of agriculture and environmental law. Susan grew up on a small diversified farm in northeastern Iowa and currently lives in Chicago. These divergent life experiences give her a balanced perspective on the rural and urban economic development challenges that EDA seeks to address.

KARA VALZ, Executive Vice President, Marketing and Center for Small Manufacturers, TechSolve

Kara has a passion for marketing, which is evident in her work across all TechSolve business units. With over fourteen years of experience in consumer understanding, strategic positioning, and idea generation, she has helped build many consumer and business-to-business brands. She has pioneered ideation practices that have resulted in breakthrough strategies for many well-known brands. Throughout her career, Kara has worked with a wide variety of companies and brands to develop brand positioning, advertising, in-store, and packaging. These brands include: Yogos, Go-Tarts, Smart Start, Special K, Tampax, Olay, Ivory, Safeguard, Zest, Noxema, P&G Beauty Care Market Development Organization, Dawn, Bounce, Redox Brands Inc. (Oxydol and Biz), Givaudan, Mondavi, Sara Lee, Humana, and others. Kara earned a Master’s of Business Administration in Marketing from Xavier University and is a graduate of Miami University, Ohio, where she obtained a Bachelor’s of Arts in Business Psychology.

LARRELL WALTERS, University of Dayton Research Institute; Director of the Institute for the Development and Commercialization of Advanced Sensor Technology

Larrell Walters is the Head of the 75 person Sensor Systems Division of the University of Dayton Research Institute, a 58 year old, nationally ranked organization with over 800 people engaged in externally sponsored applied and basic research. Walters also serves as Director of the Institute for the Development and Commercialization of Advanced Sensor Technology (IDCAST), a $28 million Ohio Third Frontier Wright Center of Innovation led by the University of Dayton that has helped create 335 jobs and had a $300 million impact on Ohio. Walters also has responsibility for FastLane (www.fastlane-mep.com), an Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partner (MEP) for West-Central Ohio. By utilizing the collective resources of the Ohio MEP network, UDRI, and other organizations, FastLane focuses on helping manufacturing companies with technical problems that are hindering their growth, product development, and job creation. Before coming to the University of Dayton, Walters was Vice President of Product Development for the Ohio Edison Center, EMTEC, President of Gem City Engineering, President of Lytton Electronics, and a General Manager for Goodrich. (continued on following page)
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(continued) In three out of four of the leadership positions, Walters had the privilege of leading teams that were able to double sales in less than three years. Walters was also the President of the Tool Valley Network for 3 years, an organization representing over 500 tooling, machining, and manufacturing companies, focused on improving the competitiveness of manufacturing companies through collaboration, better methods, and the sensible use of technology.

MARK WEINBERG, PH.D., Director, Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, Ohio University

Mark Weinberg is a Professor of Leadership and Public Affairs at Ohio University specializing in the areas of organizational strategy and public sector value creation. He is the founding and current Director of Ohio University’s George V. Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs. In 2002, he was named the Appalachian Regional Commission’s Whisman Scholar and served in that capacity for three years. Professor Weinberg received his undergraduate and master’s degrees from the University of Maryland and his doctorate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has taught a range of management courses including the capstone seminar in Public Administration, Public Budgeting, Financial Management, and Public Policy Analysis and published in these areas.

MICHAEL WORKMAN, Founder, Contraxx Furniture; Foundation for Appalachian Ohio Board Member

Mike Workman has served on the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio Board since 2009 and was Board Chair from 2012-2012. In 1996 Mike founded Contraxx Furniture, located in McConnelsville, Ohio. The company specializes in customer contract furniture for the hospitality industry. Mike helped create the Appalachian Furniture Partnership that networks more than 300 small family-owned factories in a horizontally-integrated hub-and-spoke manufacturing system. Mr. Workman is also Executive Director of the Morgan County Improvement Corporation, a founding member of the Morgan Community Foundation as well as the Morgan County Junior Golf League. Mike is a graduate of Ohio University and Wharton School of Business.

KATHY M. ZOOK, Program Manager of Special Projects, Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

Kathy Zook is the Eastgate Regional Council of Governments ARC Program Manager of five years. As a Council of Governments, representing three counties - Ashtabula, Mahoning, and Trumbull in Youngstown, Ohio, Eastgate serves as a regional forum to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern, and to develop recommendations and plans to address those issues. Eastgate is committed to promoting cooperative regional efforts in the planning, programming, and implementation of public sector activities. Eastgate serves its member communities through its many state and federal designations such as being an, Economic Development District, ARC Local Development District, Ohio Public Works Commission District, Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Water Quality Planning agency. Kathy is a graduate of the University of Akron and has worked in public service for 16 years managing various programs such as the Eastgate ARC program, 5310 Specialized Transportation Program and OhioRideshare.
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State of the Region

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To reach the EDA University Center please contact:

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