

Subject: NIU EIGERlab | You're invited! 11/10-Good Morning Rockford, News Conference, Innovation Tuesday - Internet of Things



Northern Illinois
University

October 8, 2015

NIU EIGERlab is a state-of-the-art mixed-use accelerator serving the region with leading edge business and engineering support services. Whether you're a new or existing entrepreneur, inventor, a start-up or an existing company interested in expansion, EIGERlab is our regions resource for business support and growth.

Land Here . Launch Here . Learn Here . Grow Here

www.EIGERlab.org

You're invited! Good Morning Rockford! Event | News Conference

Please join us to celebrate 20 years of education, partnerships and innovation at NIU-Rockford | Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 a.m., 8500 East State Street

Stay with us until 9 a.m. for a news conference revealing exciting updates about NIU EIGERlab.

- **Rockford Chamber of Commerce Good Morning Rockford! Event**
- **Grand opening and tours of NIU EIGERlab Coworking space**

- Highlights of 20 years of NIU engagement in the Rockford area
- Remarks by NIU President Douglas Baker
- Networking and refreshments

RSVP to apetta@niu.edu to let us know you'll be there!



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

EIGERlab Innovation Network

Innovation, Acceleration and Product Development

Introducing *Innovation Tuesdays*

Starting on November 10th, NIU EIGERlab will host a monthly *Innovation Tuesday* meetup. November's Internet of Things related topic is "Creating Apps in the Cloud" presented in collaboration with IBM.



Innovation Tuesday!

The goals are to bring together innovative, like-minded entrepreneurs and business owners from the region and provide them with an outlet to meet, learn and network. The ideal environment within which sharing and learning can flourish and complement the knowledge base for all.

Please join us at the **NIU-Rockford campus** where we'll connect with NIU DeKalb (video conferencing) for an evening of learning and coding in the cloud with Umang Shah walking us through creating apps in the cloud. Umang Shah is an IBM Cloud Technical Architect with several years of experience as a software developer and architect. He has a strong history in the financial and insurance industry working with some of the nation's top corporations. He lives in Chicago and supports several clients in the Midwest.

When: Tuesday, November 10, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Location: NIU EIGERlab's CoWorking Space located at NIU-Rockford, 8500 E. State St.

This presentation will be co-presented simultaneously at NIU-Rockford and on NIU's main campus in DeKalb. **No cost. Please RSVP by phoning 815.316.6357 or SPritz@eigerlab.org**

**NIU EIGERlab's new spaces: CoWorking Space, NIU-Rockford
Center for Product Development, Zenith Parkway**

Innovate | Accelerate | Commercialize



NIU EIGERlab has moved to its two new locations:

NIU EIGERlab, CoWorking Space, 8500 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61108

NIU EIGERlab, 5299 Zenith Parkway, Loves Park, IL 61111

NIU EIGERlab's CoWorking Space

The purpose and focus of this space is to promote an energetic ecosystem for solopreneurs and early stage, product-based growth companies. Instead of toiling alone in your garage, basement or Starbucks, join NIU EIGERlab's CoWorking Program where entrepreneurs can access business coaching, mentors, investor networks, product-based project management, CAD design and 3D printing to accelerate the commercialization of your business ideas-inspiring inventiveness and imagination.



NIU EIGERlab's Center for Product Development

The purpose and focus of this space is to serve the region with leading edge business, engineering and project management support services. Manufacturing, art, engineering, urban design...you name it, we can be of assistance. Our functional additive manufacturing or 3D printing capabilities encompass the technology to first, transform your thoughts into computer models and second, covert those models to physical objects. In addition, we'll be introducing certification courses for 3D printer technicians this fall.



If you are in search of a space for your business, NIU EIGERlab can assist with two convenient locations. Membership levels include a choice of: common CoWorking space, dedicated cubicles or semiprivate accommodations. All memberships include a discount on business support coaching and business and product development programming. In addition, both locations have conference rooms which can accommodate client meetings. For pricing, please visit our [website](#). We welcome you to visit either location to determine which one may suit your needs.



To learn more about **NIU EIGERlab's CoWorking Space**, call Sherry Pritz at 815.316.6357. To learn more about **NIU EIGERlab's Center for Product Development**, call Tina Leombruni at 815.965.3522.

Land | Launch | Learn | Grow

Welcome to our new NIU EIGERlab CoWorking Space Member's

Dar Allen | Vascular Support Solutions | [Website](#)

Tim Benedict | Fire Chariot | website-in development

Dick Johnson | Rockwind Venture Partners | [Website](#)

Brad Marshall & Paul Fowler | AdsOrTails | [Online advertising platform](#)

Daniel Orto | Air Technology Solutions | [Website](#)

Nicole Sdao | NonProfitThrive.com

| [Website](#)

Richard Werneth | Computer Aided Technology, Inc. (CATI) | [Website](#)

Small Business Development Center



New location:

1111 S. Alpine Rd., Suite 203, Rockford, IL 61108

The Illinois Small Business Development Center (SBDC) of Rock Valley College (RVC) is Winnebago, Ogle, Stephenson, and Boone counties' central resource for business development and creation.

The SBDC leverages a large network of resources to ensure the success of existing and start-up businesses that create jobs and grow our region's economy.

Starting A Business In Illinois Workshop | 10/28/2015 | 6 - 8 p.m. | Rock Valley College, 3301 N. Mulford Rd. WTC Room 117, Rockford

Ever Considered Your Own Business? Do you dream of being your own boss? This informative 2-hr session helps future entrepreneurs understand many of the steps and requirements of starting a small business. [Register](#).

Questions? Call 815.921.2081 or c.fuller@rockvalleycollege.edu

Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration, Illinois Dept. of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and Rock Valley College

Procurement Technical Assistance Center



New location:

1111 S. Alpine Rd., Suite 203, Rockford, IL 61108

Our mission is to provide guidance for business growth. The Illinois Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) at Rock Valley College provides no-cost services to businesses in Winnebago, Boone, Stephenson, and Ogle counties. The PTAC can help determine suitability for government contracting. The government marketplace poses unique challenges that can overwhelm a small business that does not have the proper resources. Let us help you determine if your company is ready for government prime or subcontracting.

The PTAC also has linkages with the federal, state, and local levels through the Illinois Small Business Development Center Network. We work closely with other business assistance programs to provide such services as trade/export assistance through international trade centers, access to financial and energy management assistance, and job training help.

Workshops

October 13, ISO 9001:2015 - Learn about the upcoming changes | 8 - 10 AM | Rock Valley College

October 13, ISO 14001:2015 - Learn about the upcoming changes | 10 AM - 12 PM | Rock Valley College

October 19, Estimating I: Plans & Specs for construction | 10 AM - 1 PM | Rockford University, Puri Business Bldg

October 26, Estimating II: Take Off & Crew Productions | 10 AM - 1 PM | RMTD Community Room, 725 Lyford Road, Rockford

November 9, Estimating III: Bid Assembly | 10 AM - 1 PM | RMTD Community Room, 725 Lyford Road, Rockford

November 16, Project Management I: Managing Pre- & Mid-Construction | 10 AM - 1 PM | RMTD Community Room, 725 Lyford Road, Rockford

December 7, Project Management II: Managing Multiple Projects | 10 AM - 1 PM | Rockford University, Puri Business Bldg

December 14, Project Management III: Managing Project Closeout | 10 AM - 1 PM | Rockford University, Puri Business Bldg

Questions? Call 815.921.2090 or ptac@rockvalleycollege.edu

Entrepreneurial Events

Business Women's Council | Overcoming Business Obstacles | Oct 6, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Join us as we discuss business obstacles from two prominent women business owners Linda Campos, Secretary/Treasurer, Campos Construction and Patti Thayer, President, Thayer Lighting. [Register.](#)



Tech Thursday Chicago | October 8 - October 29, 8:30 AM - 12 PM

Join WBDC clients and fellow business owners as TECH THURSDAYS returns for its third year. TECH THURSDAYS CHICAGO will present practical, affordable and easy to understand technology solutions to help business owners advertise, accelerate and manage their business growth. [Register.](#)

Uncubed Chicago | Oct 9

Uncubed connects forward thinking folks with a new generation of companies, their fulfilling jobs, and the digital skills they're built on. [Learn more.](#)

What You Need to Know About Exporting to Cuba | Conference Call | Oct 13, 1 p.m.

The Bureau of Industry (BIS) under the U.S. Department of Commerce has scheduled monthly call-in programs to field questions from the exporting community concerning the Cuba rule published on January 16, 2015. The calls are scheduled at 2:00 pm ET on the following days: October 13 | November 10 | December 8

Toll Free Number: 1-888-889-0538 | Participant passcode: CUBA. [Learn more.](#)

Rev3 Think Tank: Peer Roundtable | October 13 | Rev3 Innovation Center, Naperville

Have a problem? Let's get together and talk about it.

We're going to discuss our problems as entrepreneurs together as a group; think of this as one big think tank, hack-a-thon or whatever you want to call it. We'll be presenting our solutions at a follow-up meeting. [Register.](#)

What Small Businesses Need to Know About the Switch to Chip Card Technology Webinar | Oct 14, 1 p.m.

SBA and Square have teamed up to offer a free webinar to help small businesses across the country navigate the upcoming transition to EMV chip card technology. Topics covered include what the transition to EMV chip card technology means for small businesses; what EMV chip card technology is and why it's more secure; and how to prepare for new fraud liability rules impacting merchants beginning October 1, 2015. Registration is free but required. [Register.](#)

Elements for Success | October 21, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm, WUTP Innovation Center

On Wednesday, October 21, 2015 Melissa Versnik from The Payroll Company will present on "HR 101: What You Need to Know Before Hiring Your First Employee." [Learn more.](#)

RAEDC workshop | The Talent Tap Dance | Making the Right Moves for Workforce Development | Oct 28 | Radisson Hotel & Conference Center, 200 S. Bell School Rd. - Rockford, IL

This workshop puts a new spin on that nifty two-step of doing business: INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY and SOARING PROFIT. A can't-miss event for company leaders passionate about accelerating business growth by ATTRACTING, RETAINING and DEVELOPING WORKFORCE. To register: Bea Miller, bmiller@rockfordil.com, 815.969.4255.

Fireside Chat Happy Hour: Equity Crowdfunding Law with Senator Connelly | Nov 2 | Rev3 Innovation Center, Naperville

Join us as we host a happy hour and Fireside chat with Naperville Senator Mike Connelly to discuss the newly passed Illinois equity crowdfunding legislation. [Register.](#)

Big Data TechCon Chicago | November 2-4

The Big Data is coming to Chicago for three days. Last year more than 600 people attended the event, allowing for excellent networking on top of intensive classes and tutorials that were offered. [Learn more.](#)

Elements for Success | November 11, 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm, WUTP Innovation Center

On Wednesday, November 11, Jeremy Udovich from HiQo Solutions will discuss "The Possibilities and Pitfalls of Offshore Software IT Outsourcing." [Learn more.](#)

ITA Internet of Things Summit | Chicago | November 16-17

In its third year, the ITA Internet of Things Summit brings together thought leaders and industry experts to cover the ever expanding IoT space. [Register.](#)

**InnovateHER 2016 Competition | Round I - December 3, 2015 | Finals - March 16-17, 2016
Top Three cash prizes totaling \$70,000**

Building on the success of the SBA's inaugural 2015 InnovateHER Business Challenge, which the SBA piloted in early 2015, Administrator Contreras-Sweet and the Office of Women's Business Ownership are pleased to announce the launch of the their InnovateHER 2016: Innovating for Women Business Challenge in partnership with Microsoft. The InnovateHER Challenge is a national prize competition aimed at unearthing products and services that impact and empower the lives of women and families through local business competitions that culminate in a live pitch Final Round. Up to 10 Finalists compete for the Top Three cash prizes totaling \$70,000 provided by Microsoft. [Learn more.](#)

IMEC Manufacturing Industry News | Manufacturing Improvement Specialists

[Learn more.](#)

Entrepreneurial Information



Superior Joining Technologies and Edge Factor Present: The Edge Factor Show

Edge Factor is proud to announce that The Edge Factor Show is now airing throughout the Rockford DMA on WTVO Channel 17 (ABC) Sundays at 9AM CT, WQRF FOX 39 Fridays at 11PM CT and Rockford's My Network TV Mondays at 6:30PM CT. This is a 52-week commitment, with episodes from seasons one and two. The Edge Factor Show tells stories of innovative manufacturing teams working together to design and build incredible products. In each episode, Host Jeremy Bout meets the people who are using cutting edge technology to redefine what is possible, change lives and build our world. With a special focus on careers and technology, viewers

will get an inside look at what happens behind closed doors in manufacturing shops across North America. Special thanks to Superior Joining Technologies, Mastercam, Sandvik Coromant, the Gene Haas Foundation and many other partners for helping to make this series possible.

[Learn more.](#)

New Census Web Tool Helps Business Owners Make Data Driven Decisions

The U.S. Census Bureau today released Census Business Builder: Small Business Edition, a new Web tool that allows business owners and entrepreneurs to easily navigate and use key demographic and economic data to help guide their research into opening a new business or adding to an existing one. [Learn more.](#)

Lessons From the Top 50 Rewards-Based Crowdfunding Campaigns

This year has been dubbed "the year of crowdfunding" because of the exponential growth and rapid changes occurring in that market. And, until now, donation-based and rewards-based crowdfunding (offering products and merchandise in return for donations) have been the two most popular vehicles for entrepreneurs using this concept to fund their startups and other projects. [Learn more.](#)

'Give Away Your Legos' and Other Commandments for Scaling Startups

Molly Graham has seen a lot. Her team at Google leapt from 25 to 125 in just 9 months. During her 4+ years at Facebook, the company exploded from 500 employees serving 80 million users to 5,500 employees and over 1.1 billion users. [Learn more.](#)

Six Ideal Team Members For Any Entrepreneurial Venture

In my years of advising startups and occasional investing, I've seen many great ideas start and fail, but the right team always seems to make good things happen, even without the ultimate idea. That's why investors say they invest in people (bet on the jockey, not the horse), rather than the idea. [Learn more.](#)

How Much Does Human Capital Cost An Entrepreneur?

Many entrepreneurs begin a business by brainstorming an idea with their spouse or a professional colleague. In the idea stage, it is easy for the entrepreneur to continue working at a salaried job while developing the idea. [Learn more.](#)

SBA Learning Center | Taking Your High-Tech Product to Market

Your product or service is on the cutting edge of technology, a game changer. Now you need to find the best way to get your breakthrough to market. This course will introduce you to the product life cycle of high-tech products and help you find the best way to enter the market and sell your product or service. Duration: 30 minutes. [Learn more.](#)

Six Steps to Assess Your Small Business' Readiness to Export

Between 2009 and 2011, U.S. exports grew by 40 percent and the federal government is pressing to provide programs and resources that help U.S. companies succeed internationally. [Learn more.](#)

On Time.com: Here's How Startups Actually Start Up

There's a sucker born every day - or so they say. But the way startup fever has been spreading across the land, it almost feels more like there's a Zuckerberg being born every day. And that feeling is real. According to data from the Kauffman Foundation, 2015 has marked the first year startup activity has been on the rise since the Great Recession. [Learn more.](#)

Blog | 10 Quick Tips on Business Plan Summaries

In this instant-update world we live in, life in 140-character bursts, it's just a fact of modern life: you have to communicate faster. The whole world has attention deficit syndrome. So that's as true for business planning as for most other things in business. Here are 10 lessons I've learned about business plan summaries. [Learn more.](#)

75 of the biggest mobile innovations of 2015

Global mobile trade body, Mobile Ecosystem Forum, has revealed the finalists for the 12th annual Meffys - the international awards for recognizing commercial success and rewarding innovation across the mobile ecosystem. [Learn more.](#)

12 free email marketing templates for small businesses

[Click here.](#)

NIU EIGERlab in the news

In case you missed any of our recent media coverage.

Sep 9 | [NIU EIGERlab announces new locations](#) | RR Star

Sep 9 | [New NIU EIGERlab Facilities](#) | WREX

Dan Cataldi, Executive Director

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