WELCOME TO THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL
SHENANDOAH VALLEY TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL
AWARDS GALA

APRIL 29, 2019 | JMU FESTIVAL CENTER
THE 19TH ANNUAL
SHENANDOAH VALLEY TECH COUNCIL
AWARDS GALA

April 29, 2019
James Madison University
Festival Conference & Student Center

Keynote: David Hofert
Chief Marketing Officer and Vice President of Sales,
Perrone Robotics, Inc. (PRI)
“Winter is Coming: The Game of Autonomous Vehicles”

Reception 5:30pm - 6:45pm
Dinner and Awards Presentation 7:00pm
TechNite19
April 29, 2019

Speaker Introduction

Award Nominees

James Madison University
Festival Conference and Student Center
A key element of an impactful SVTC is your active participation

The Shenandoah Valley Technology Council offers a variety of programs designed to meet the ever-changing needs of its members and the technology community. Through networking events, educational programs, committees and informative publications, we build community relations and offer our members and the general public a variety of ways to make new contacts, network with fellow technology users and creators, and help technology businesses in the area succeed and grow.

Active participation with SVTC committees and attending events makes all the difference. Get yourself, your company, and your brand out to the local tech crowd! Joining a committee is a great way to get involved and engage with technology users and creators.

SVTC directors have assigned themselves to committees — they are great vehicles for further in-depth work and involvement. There are three committees available that anyone is welcome to join, and each committee is looking for additional energetic contributors.

- **Community Outreach** — The mission of the Community Outreach Committee is to create and coordinate outreach programs in the community that develop and highlight the Shenandoah Valley’s technology sector – as a career field for students (K16), as a destination for technology businesses, and as a place where technology innovation and entrepreneurship happens.

- **Organization and Governance** — The committee recommends to the Board the operating and governance guidelines applicable to the council; leads the board in its annual review of the board’s performance; and through —and based on the recommendations— identifies individuals qualified to become board members consistent with criteria approved by the board, and recommends to the executive committee and full board of directors a slate of candidates for election in the spring of each year.

- **Events & Programming** — This committee plans regular and special events such as 6-9 monthly luncheons over the course of the year, the annual fall tech mixer, Tech Nite, and members-only events. The committee meets approximately twice a year and gathers recommendations for luncheon speakers, location visits, and timely topics.
KEYNOTE: David Hofert, Chief Marketing Officer and Vice President of Sales, Perrone Robotics, Inc.

Dave Hofert is the Chief Marketing Officer and Vice President of Sales for Perrone Robotics, Inc. (PRI) and has been in the role since January of 2017. Dave has developed new business for PRI in automotive, industrial, military, logistics, and Forestry sectors. He previously held Software development and developer management roles as well as Marketing and Business management roles at Sun Microsystems, Fidelity Investments, Nokia, and Oracle. Prior to Sun, Dave was in the machine vision world developing non-contact measurement solutions for nuclear fuel cell grids. At Sun Dave earned a patent for a special technique to use English-based search and retrieval indexing engines on Japanese language text. Also while at Sun Dave became involved with Perrone Robotics when he organized funding for PRI to participate in two DARPA Grand Challenges and several JavaOne conference keynotes. At Nokia Dave worked on Big Data analytics for fast and slow data and at Oracle Dave was the worldwide Sr. Director of Business Development for IoT within the Java Embedded Sales organization. Dave earned a BA in English with a concentration in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Rochester and earned his Executive MBA from Boston University.

A note on judging: The line-up of nominations we received was judged this year by K-12 and high-ed reps, as well as seasoned tech users and creators alike - entrepreneurs, leaders, developers et al.
Exploring Rockingham’s Past, A collaboration between Rockingham County Circuit Court and JMU History & JMU Libraries

While many courthouses hold vast troves of important historical records related to life in the communities they serve, few have made a significant number of these records available to the public through an online digital archive. “Exploring Rockingham’s Past” (ERP) is an ongoing public history collaboration between JMU’s History department, JMU Libraries, and the Rockingham County Circuit Court Clerk’s office designed to preserve and make select historical court records publicly available. The ERP project is sharing thousands of historical legal records through a searchable and easy to use website. This resource will be important not only for scholars researching Rockingham’s past but also for citizens and genealogists interested in exploring the history of their family and other community members.

The ERP project allows the Clerk’s office to provide historical records to the community free of charge. The idea of providing historical records to our community and the world opens up many opportunities to create the narratives behind the court documents.

The JMU History department sees the ERP project as a bridge between the campus and the community and an opportunity to involve graduate-level students in real-world projects that stay in and benefit the community. In return, history graduate students gain valuable technology skills and experience impossible to provide in the classroom. JMU Libraries provides space, equipment, IT services, training, and mentorship for digitizing, describing, organizing, and publishing close to 20,000 scans of court records.

The inaugural ERP collection consists of 6,207 digitized legal documents from the 1930’s that reveal 364 stories surrounding Virginia’s condemnation of private land within Rockingham Country to create the Shenandoah National Park (SNP). The second collection is launching on April 25, 2019 and will present over 6200 court documents titled “Prohibition in Rockingham County”. The graduate students used Adobe Acrobat to combine and compress the lossless TIFF files into 364 case files and to perform text recognition in order to make the text within the scanned documents searchable. These digital documents have been released into the public domain as keyword searchable and fully-described pdf’s.
United Way of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County

For many years, United Way of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County (UWHR) and area service providers have discussed ways to more effectively connect providers to one another. The community has many resources available, but they are no good if they cannot be accessed easily and effectively.

UWHR has established a coordinated referral network called Empower Harrisonburg Rockingham (Empower HR) that provides effective ways for people to access community resources. With a mix of healthcare, human service, local government and public education organizations participating in the network, providers can more effectively refer clients to other organizations without running the risk of clients getting lost in a sea of resource directories and outdated phone numbers.

Empower HR is powered by a secure technology platform called Unite Us, founded by two veterans who struggled to access community resources for themselves after returning from military service. After several attempts to solve this problem, they developed Unite Us, initially aimed at veterans. This technology protects personal information, takes a trauma-informed approach to supporting clients by only requiring them to tell their story once at the time of intake, and collecting community-wide data that will help UWHR to identify gaps in local services.

With Empower HR, the client can efficiently be referred from one network participant to another. The initial organization does a quick intake into a web-based, secure system, obtains consent from the client to share their information, and sends the referral to the appropriate organization based on listed eligibility criteria. The system monitors that the organization successfully received the referral, tracks the progress of the client, and sees when their needs are met. The technology allows network participants to track individual clients and points out where gaps or delays in services exist. Thanks to a strategic investment from Rockingham Insurance, UWHR can provide this opportunity to local providers at no cost.
Valley Assistance Network, United Way Northern Shenandoah Valley

The mission of the Valley Assistance Network (VAN), a program of the United Way of the Northern Shenandoah Valley, is to engage community resources to move individuals and families from crisis to financial security. VAN was launched in October 2017 as a direct result of UWNSV’s Community Needs Assessment and the Virginia ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) Report, which shines a light on the number of working families who are struggling to make ends meet. In the City of Winchester, 14% of families live in poverty, while an additional 36% are considered ALICE: they work, but can barely cover the basics, including housing, child care, food, health care, and transportation.

The core service of VAN is a comprehensive Resource and Referral System. VAN provides a coordinated network of services to help people navigate resources in our community (examples: shelter, clothing, food, medical care, job training, etc.). The goal is to help people in crisis stabilize their situation, then offer the tools and resources to help them become self-sufficient and, ultimately, financially secure.

Since its launch one year ago, Valley Assistance Network (VAN), a program of United Way of Northern Shenandoah Valley, has quickly become a vital resource for our community by helping nearly 900 families connect with resources to help improve their lives. In 2018 alone, they served nearly 650 families and made 1,783 referrals to community partners. Later this year, United Way NSV plans to begin implementing a technology platform called Unite Us that will connect service providers in the community and allow agencies and churches to share information and collect community-wide outcomes.

As evidenced by these early outcomes, VAN is successfully connecting families with resources to help stabilize their situation, with 30% of their clients reporting that they are stable after receiving services. The focus now is developing phase 2 of the program to help families move for stability to self-sufficiency, and ultimately, financial security.
Innovation in Emerging Business Award

Awarded to a Shenandoah Valley start-up / emerging technology company or entrepreneur.

2017 Recipient
IMADE3D

2018 Recipient
Raincrow Studios, LLC

Checked In, LLC

Access to healthcare is a growing crisis. There are more patients than there are doctors and nurses to care for them. The average number of days a patient waits to see a doctor is twenty-four days while veterans wait an average of twenty-one days. Patients wait for hours at emergency rooms for care.

Checked In, LLC is a mobile application suite that measures and publishes patient wait times based on geolocation for emergency rooms, urgent care facilities, primary care providers, and specialists. The Checked In suite of apps was created by an emergency room nurse, Brianne Casey, who observed that the number one reason patients come to the emergency room is because they “didn’t know where else to go” or “my doctor couldn’t see me for another 3 weeks and I’m sick today.” The Checked In: Patient Wait Times app was designed to help patients get access to more immediate healthcare by helping patients identify and locate healthcare facilities with better availability than the local offices they may already know. This more evenly distributes the patient population across multiple providers, ultimately bringing down the average total time to see a doctor.

The Checked In: Measure Patient Wait Times app has benefits for medical providers as well. It establishes realistic wait time expectations for patients, improves patient satisfaction, and increases practice visibility. Providers do not have to rush through patient encounters because wait times are clearly communicated. This leads to decreased malpractice lawsuits through increased patient safety.

Checked In LLC was listed as one of the top six startups to watch in 2017 by Computer World Magazine and featured in articles in recent issues of Shenandoah University’s Shenandoah magazine and Loudoun Now.
IT Decisions

With locations in Harrisonburg and Johnson City, TN, IT Decisions is a managed information technology (IT) service provider offering a wide range of services and solutions specializing in HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) and PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) compliance, managed backup, remote monitoring, advanced networking for clients with multiple locations and server infrastructure. Their customer base includes companies in almost every major industry but focuses on those in the medical and financial realms. IT Decisions also strives to provide affordable solutions and support to non-profits and other organizations that impact their communities.

IT Decisions’ solutions and their customer base continue to grow at a steady rate in the Shenandoah Valley. Over the last twelve months, they have designed, developed and implemented a new secure backup solution that complies with PCI and HIPAA regulations, includes both onsite and offsite repositories, and adds disaster recovery, all for an affordable price. They have developed an anti-virus solution and configuration that, when coupled with a proper firewall, all but eliminates the threat of a ransomware attack for the majority of their customer base.

Many businesses have no idea how vulnerable their networks may be. Even those without compliance requirements still have a duty to protect themselves and their customers. As cybersecurity concerns continue to grow, IT Decisions' approach solves many of these problems by providing IT support the proper way, not with shortcuts and “band-aid’s.” They communicate issues clearly, document thoroughly, and operate without a sales staff. Their customers are never pressured into buying or paying for something not needed or merited. These high-level factors are only part of what will keep IT Decisions as a strategic partner for businesses and organizations in our area for decades to come.
Ryzing Technologies

Ryzing Technologies provides its customers with a unique blend of expertise in engineered textiles, inflatable structures, and mechanical systems. They employ a solid engineering approach by incorporating rapid prototyping, tensile membrane FEA software, in-house fabrication and testing, and engineering documentation.

Ryzing has received an SBIR Phase II award from the U.S. Army for the development of the Adjustable, Reusable, Platform System (ARPS) to support base camp shelters. This expeditionary product has a clear path to production and would provide a consistent revenue stream to Ryzing and bring several new jobs to Staunton. They have also developed a niche in developing inflatable components for the robotics industry, currently subcontracting with robotics companies to create components for underwater functions desired by the U.S. Navy. These products are well suited for high-risk underwater activities, such as disarming explosives.

Locally, Waynesboro Parks and Recreation asked Ryzing to design and fabricate a tensile membrane structure for a summer concert series, designed to ensure the Greenway could be used while it was deployed, and later moved to other locations with ease. The Ryzing team designed, fabricated, and delivered the structure in less than one month. For this, Ryzing Technologies received an Award of Excellence in the IFAI International Achievement Awards category of Awnings & Canopies.

Ryzing Technologies continues to add software and equipment to provide its team with the necessary tools; however, the tools are not what gives the company a competitive advantage. The team at Ryzing is small but loves overcoming challenges. Ryzing Technologies firmly believes that their employees, from bottom to top, are its competitive distinction, growth potential, and value proposition.
Tributum Tax, LLC

Tributum Tax, LLC, started in September 2017 when founders Peter Mantell and Rhett Buer were discussing the current sales tax situation for e-commerce retailers and the lack of solutions available in the market. The sales tax industry had been grossly neglected for many years. Vendors providing solutions seemingly targeted only Fortune 500-sized retailers, leaving a void for smaller retailers to find adequate and affordable solutions. Each state has its own unique set of criteria to conduct the required filings so conducting these transactions with the state can be quite complicated. The 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in South Dakota v. Wayfair re: nexus (physical presence within a state), which overturned the 1992 ruling in Quill v. North Dakota, has left many e-commerce retailers unsure about how to handle the daunting task of conducting sales tax filings in each state. Mantell and Buer wanted to assist small businesses by automating the calculation and filing of sales taxes, leaving business owners more time to focus on growing their businesses.

It took Tributum a year and a half to plan and create the software, and in January 2019 they started generating revenue by conducting Texas sales tax filings for Ampersand Accounting clients. Tributum is currently working on completing automated sales tax filings for all fifty states in paid beta mode but will be going live direct-to-consumer later in 2019.
Workplaceless

Workplaceless creates digital courses and learning programs that help professionals and teams learn the skills needed to thrive in a distributed (remote) work environment. Their learning and development programs are created by instructional designers and subject matter experts that provide the tools necessary to thrive successfully in a remote work role as a leader, worker or executive. Programs offered by Workplaceless are designed for companies who already have remote roles and companies who recognize the benefits of taking their company fully or partially remote.

The Workplaceless Remote Work Certification course, their flagship product, is an interactive, comprehensive e-Learning experience that provides adults with the foundational knowledge and skills needed to succeed in a virtual work environment: the remote workday, communication, workflow, productivity and time management, teamwork, compliance, and autonomy. The Certification program levels the digital playing field by training on the foundational concepts that individuals need to know in order to compete in the digital job market.

The Remote Work Certification program provides an educational opportunity to those who live in remote or low-income areas and access to economic opportunities that allow those same individuals to remain in those areas. In this, the program is unique to other certification programs that provide career opportunities that are primarily location-dependent. Not only is Workplaceless helping individuals, but they are also helping to rescue regions and economies that are declining due to technological isolation, brain drain, aging populations, or obsolete industrial foundations.

- In 2018, Utah’s Rural Online Initiative purchased the Remote Work Certification course to use as a critical part of their initiative to bring 25,000 jobs to rural Utah.
- The Remote Work Certification program is also being used in Grow Remote, a grassroots initiative in Ireland, to provide access to jobs to people living in rural villages.
Velma Bryant is the Career Pathways Coordinator and the Marketing, Enrollment, Student Services, and Camp Logistics Coordinator at Blue Ridge Community College. She has been working with other faculty and staff at BRCC to support young women in their pursuit of STEM education for the last four years through free, week-long STEM-related summer technology camps to local middle and high school students. The initial program was named Girls Embracing Mechatronics (GEMS2) and included twelve students when it began in 2015. It was designed to introduce middle school females to the concepts of electronics, programming, and computer aided drafting through the creation of Boe-Bots, which are programmable, rolling robots. The success of GEMS2 inspired BRCC’s Information Systems Technology faculty to create the Females in Technology (FIT) camp, which targeted high school students and included Arduino-wearable technology, computer programming, and soft skills developed through presentations.

As interest in these summer camps continued to grow, BRCC expanded them to offer students an opportunity to experience multiple STEM disciplines through the new BRCC Technology Camp. In the summer of 2018, BRCC faculty hosted forty students on campus to experience and learn about cyber security, mechatronics, drones, computer programming, and computer building. This expanded camp allows faculty from several disciplines, including Computer and Electronics, Information Systems Technology, Cyber Security, Drones, and Mechatronics, to develop lessons for students to explore each of these areas.

Each of the technology camps were specifically designed with workforce needs in mind. These camps serve as an initial introduction to a variety of STEM fields and are the beginning of a pathway of STEM studies from education to employment. To date, ninety-eight students have participated in these summer technology camps, with 86% of those being female students. BRCC has since learned that 31% of the students who participated in the summer technology camps later took at least one for-credit class at BRCC or another Virginia community college.

JMU College of Education & JMU College of Science and Mathematics’ Innovation in Education K-12 Award

Presenters: Dr. Steven Purcell, Assistant Dean, JMU College of Education
Dr. Cynthia Bauerle, Dean, JMU College of Integrated Science and Mathematics

Blue Ridge Community College’s Technology Camps

2001 Recipient
Community Applied Information Technology,
Lord Fairfax Community College

2002 Recipient
Linda Cauley,
Shenandoah Valley Governor’s School

2003 Recipient
Project TRAIN IT/SVVIB

2004 Recipient
EMHS—“Lewis and Clark 2003: Re-tracing the Trail” & Richard Ingram,
JMU College of Education

2005 Recipient
John Matherly,
Shenandoah Valley Governor’s School

Innovation in Education K-12 Award

Awarded to the educator or program in K-12 that provides exceptional technology leadership, innovative use and/or development of technology while encouraging students to pursue higher education or training in science, technology, engineering or math.

2001 Recipient

2002 Recipient

2003 Recipient

2004 Recipient

2005 Recipient
Jeff Burner, Shenandoah County Public Schools

Jeff Burner is a Business and Computer Information Systems teacher at Stonewall Jackson High School in Quicksburg, VA. His courses include Principles of Business, Computer Programming, and Design, Multimedia, and Web Technologies. He is also the head girls’ basketball coach. He has created several programs that encourage students to be authentically involved within the community. The most recent program is the development of the online Jackson Journal, where students write articles about happenings at the school and organize the content in an aesthetically pleasing way using Adobe Spark. Students also conduct their own interviews and handle their own photography.

After the creation of a Wellness Center to provide health, dental, and mental health assistance at no charge to SJHS students, Burner helped his students lead a campaign to increase the number of high school age patients and spread community awareness. His students began with a survey of their peers to learn how appointments were typically scheduled and determine a starting point for their campaign, which included a new website design, a series of YouTube videos, social media posts, and posters and written commercial announcements. Students used Adobe Spark, WeVideo, and YouTube in this project to obtain real-life, hands-on experience in marketing.

In the future, Burner plans to teach a Sports marketing class so that students can work for the athletic department by designing and maintaining a website, hosting social media accounts and developing promotional activities.

Students in Burner’s classes are held to high standards as they create solutions to real-world problems in the community and beyond. He works to keep assignments engaging, social and active to match how students learn best and keep them excited about STEM fields. He believes that learning is a lifelong endeavor and strives to instill this in his students by teaching skills over applications.
The Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center is a secure residential facility for male and female youth from ages ten to twenty serving students from the Commonwealth of Virginia as well as Central America. Because every student’s situation is unique, students can enter and leave SVJC frequently and with little notice. Many students do not speak English so bilingual teachers and staff are necessary to teach them in our education program.

SVJC offers many educational opportunities that incorporate technology to accommodate each student’s educational needs. There is wireless Internet access throughout SVJC’s educational areas and students have access to Smartboards, laptops, iPads and document cameras. SVJC is in the process of adding a brand new, state-of-the-art driving simulator this spring to offer online driving classes. In addition to students who are taught in a more traditional education model at SVJC, some students receive work from the teachers at their home school via Google Classroom. This allows the students to do the same work they would otherwise do in their classes at their home school with additional support from the teachers at SVJC.

SVJC also provides opportunities for students to take online GED preparatory classes along with taking their GED tests online. These students can obtain certifications and college courses online once they have graduated or acquired their GED’s. SVJC continues to work with the local community college to provide a tailored educational experience to help students transition back into their community.
Andrei Dacko, Valley Career and Technical Center

Andrei Dacko is a teacher in the Computer Integrated Manufacturing program at Valley Career and Technical Center in Fishersville, VA, which serves as the Career and Technical Education center for the seven high schools in Augusta County, Staunton, and Waynesboro. His primary responsibility is teaching the Introduction to Engineering class and the Computer Integrated Manufacturing class to 11th and 12th graders. Students in this program spend time in one of four functional areas of the class: Ideation and Collaboration, Design and Additive Manufacturing, Robotics and Automation, and Fabrication. Through grant money and equipment donations from industry partners, students are able to utilize computer design software, robotics, 3D printers, and CNC machines to create multiple design projects. Recently, Emerson Electronics asked students to reverse engineer, re-design, and manufacture a better gripper for one of their machines that picks up and places electronic circuit board components.

The breadth of technical competencies attained through completion of this program provides students with a strong foundation for future study, specialization, employment and even business ownership across any discipline focused on leveraging computing to design and/or manufacture. Learning experiences in the program also focus heavily on soft skills training and development critical to enabling success, including problem-solving, analysis, persistence, professionalism, and business acumen.

Last year, during the development of the program, Dacko actively pursued and forged community relationships with key stakeholders in business, industry, and community organizations, including the Staunton Innovation Hub, Cadence Manufacturing, Nibco Manufacturing, Virginia Panel Corporation, Augusta County Economic Development, and many others. He wrote grant applications requesting over $100,000 in new equipment and won just over $60,000 from organizations including Cadence, BRCC, CAPSAW, Valley Alliance, and Harbor Freight.
Angela Deitz, Augusta County Public Schools

As the Instructional Supervisor for Secondary Math, Science, STEM, and K-12 Gifted Education for Augusta County Public Schools, Angela Deitz’s primary responsibilities include initiating and implementing sound instructional practices for Secondary Math and Science teachers throughout the division. She currently has three primary instructional targets for her teachers: implementing STEM activities and practices into the curriculum, implementing project-based learning activities into the curriculum, and utilizing technology, including coding and robotics, to enhance the curriculum and incorporate computer science standards.

Deitz took what was formerly a traditional science fair and revamped it to become the Augusta County Public Schools STEM Expo, which brought new life and interest in STEM to middle school students. The inaugural STEM Expo in 2015 hosted 68 projects in three categories: Invention, Innovation, and Reverse Engineering. The STEM Expo continued to grow and categories were revised and added in an effort to continue igniting students’ passion and excitement for STEM. Students can now enter projects in six categories: Environmental/Agricultural Innovation, Reverse Engineering, Scientific Inquiry, Rube Goldberg, Computer Science/Robotics, and Scientific Innovation. This year, the STEM Expo hosted 199 projects and 330 students. Deitz invites community members to serve as judges for the STEM Expo where they also serve as role models and examples of the STEM opportunities available to students in the community.

Deitz has found that participating in the STEM Expo encourages the students’ desire to explore and learn beyond their own STEM project. Interacting with other like-minded students and engaging in collaborative conversations regarding their learning allows them to discover other areas of interest to them that they may not otherwise encounter. It is Deitz’s hope that the STEM Expo occurs at a time in middle school when students can begin a lifelong interest in science, technology, engineering and math.
Katie Horst, Stuart Hall School

Since arriving in 2015 as Stuart Hall's first Educational Technologist, Katie Horst has transformed the educational technology program for all of the students, teachers, and staff members at Stuart Hall. She created and teaches a technology curriculum for students in the Lower School that focuses on teaching students in grades pre-K through 5 the importance of digital citizenship, online safety, technology operations and concepts, and computer science. Her focus on teaching problem-solving skills and perseverance has allowed students to help solve real-world problems and fuel their interest in technology-related subjects.

Horst has helped enhance student learning by seamlessly executing a 1:1 device initiative where students in 5th through 8th grades participate in a Chromebook program, while the high school is “bring your own device.” Although she has never forced technology into the classrooms, now all of the teachers at Stuart Hall use some form of technology in their classes.

Horst is currently researching, planning, designing, and implementing Project Max, a distinctive learning environment with ground-breaking technology unlike any other of its kind to create an ongoing culture of curiosity. The outcomes from this project will include a Maker-playground, an area to help teach digital natives how to explore their world through experiential learning and to keep kids moving with an interactive gym, and a Design Suite at the Upper School with augmented and virtual reality, recording studios, and innovative technology spaces. Through this project, she has already revolutionized day-to-day technologies on both campuses through integrating drones, 3D printing, robotics, videography, and augmented and virtual reality. She is also currently piloting a middle and high school Esports team with the goal of forming a varsity-level team this fall, one of the first in the area.
Madison Lucas-Corbett, Alleghany County Public Schools

Madison Lucas-Corbett is currently the Technology Resource Teacher at Mountain View Elementary School in Alleghany County, Virginia. She is responsible for Mountain View’s STEM lab where she creates activities for the students that incorporate updated science, technology, engineering, and math activities. The STEM lab has only been in place for the last two years; prior to that, students had limited exposure to STEM activities. The STEM lab now includes multiple stations for students to create projects by collaborating with members of their group or working individually.

In addition to the STEM lab, Lucas-Corbett has introduced students to basic coding, robotics, and design. Students learn to code to navigate a robot through a series of obstacles. This year, she taught students how to design and print their own creations on a 3D printer. Most of these creations were related to literature that the students were reading in class.

Lucas-Corbett also manages Mountain View’s new Google Chromebook 1:1 deployment and conducts Chromebook training through videos in the Google classroom. She has been working with teachers to help them understand how to use Chromebooks for instructional purposes within the classroom in order to enhance students’ educational experiences.

Alleghany County is a high poverty area and most parents of Mountain View students do not have a college or even a high school education. As such, students do not have much exposure to computers and the Internet at home, so Lucas-Corbett realized that it was imperative for students to participate in STEM activities at school. She organized the first ever STEM night last year to encourage parents to participate in STEM activities with their students. Parents and students created projects together, coded with robots, flew drones, and solved problems through trial and error. The hands-on activities that Lucas-Corbett created brought families together and allowed students to become the “teachers” to their parents and built confidence in their abilities.
Heather Lupton, Warren County Public Schools

Heather Lupton is a Technology Integration Coach at E. Wilson Elementary School and Leslie Fox Keyser Elementary School in Warren County Public Schools. Her primary responsibilities include working collaboratively with individual teachers and groups of teachers to integrate technology into instruction in the following ways:

- Assisting with curriculum and content development
- Disseminating information regarding technology resources, emerging technologies, best practices using technology, and professional development opportunities
- Facilitating or conducting technology-related professional development for school staff
- Assessing levels of teacher and student technology use and skills
- Modeling effective instructional strategies using technology
- Serving as a member of the school technology committee
- Supporting implementation of the division and state technology plan
- Researching use of newer technologies in instruction
- Using data to design technology-based instructional strategies
- Recommending hardware, software, and related resources
- Identifying trends in software, curriculum, teaching strategies, and other educational areas
- Creating learning resources for teachers, staff, and students
- Serving as a strong advocate for technology integration
- Participating in software selection and use

Lupton received a grant to fund a mobile virtual reality lab to share with schools and classrooms within WCPS. Students using Virtual Reality are engaged in active learning, immersed in educational experiences not otherwise accessible, and are provided practical applications towards higher education in a STEM field. She also created a technology club for E. Wilson Morrison Elementary School during the 2015-2016 school year. Her students learned coding basics, creativity through technology, the inner workings of a computer, robotics, emerging technologies, and designing and building through the use of 3D printing.
Brittany Miller, Winchester Public Schools

John Kerr Elementary School’s Personalized and Digital Learning Teacher, Brittany Miller, piloted the Personalized Education and Digital Learning Experiences (PEDLE) program by developing personalized learning digital lab goals, structures, and logistics and creating personalized playlists for students using Google Classroom. She explores, recommends, and presents educational software to staff and students and has presented information about the program at several conferences both within and outside of the school division.

In the PEDLE program, each student is assigned a Chromebook with adaptive software. Miller has purchased applications, trained students and staff, and implemented the technology into the program. Students participate in an actual blended-learning model as Miller has created numerous content curriculum playlists for each student to “pedal” through the program by learning at their own pace. They choose from a variety of learning experiences to meet academic expectations. Miller also created and implemented a progress tracking document for students to input personal achievement data into a spreadsheet and monitor their own individual progress.

STEM projects are frequently developed by the students. Miller has created opportunities for science-based projects such as “Trout in the Classroom.” Students use 3D software, spreadsheets, and presentation software. School staff have seen significant growth in reading scores when comparing last year’s spring scores to this year’s and math scores have remained solid.

Students were invited to speak at a divisional Empowered Learning Session and shared: “This is the way I want to learn,” “I am excited when I come to school in the morning,” “I am currently finishing work on a website I developed,” “We used the web to gather basic facts about our service learning project,” and “We Skyped with a scientist from Bolivia.” One parent remarked, “This is the first year my child has wanted to come to school.”
Perry Shank, Harrisonburg City Public Schools

Perry Shank is a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Instructional Team Co-Leader at Harrisonburg High School and chairs the Computer Science program for the school district. He leads professional development opportunities for teachers throughout Virginia, is a member of the Digital Roadmap, Project Based Learning and Assessment, and Computer Science Vertical Alignment committees for HCPS, and co-hosts a sponsored podcast for teachers new to teaching computer science. He also organized a “Hack-a-thon” which brought 7th through 12th grade students to compete in ideating, designing, and building technology solutions for computer-science related challenges.

In 2016-2017, Shank was hired as a computer science teacher at HHS to develop a computer science program within the CTE department. He began with two small sections of AP Computer Science Principles with fewer than thirty students and, within three years, built a robust program with eight classes and three full-time teachers who will serve over 300 students in the upcoming school year. Shank aligned eight classes to create four pathways tuned to the needs and interests of students at HHS. Students are able to work through the learning skills in each pathway to ready them for employment, entrance into a career/technical school, and/or university enrollment in computer science or other technological fields. The four pathways are built around careers in Software Development and Programming, Cyber-Security, Web Design, and IT and Data Science. The classes that are contained within these pathways are available for enrollment as an elective for any student in grades 9th-12th. Shank is developing a computer science community at HHS that supports individuality and diversity by focusing on project-based learning opportunities within each class that supports unique student interests, initiation of a community-focused Computer Science Honor Society student organization, and developing district and regional programs (i.e., Hack-a-thons, Game Jam) geared towards inclusive themes.
Computer Science Program,
Lord Fairfax Community College

Dr. Melissa Stange is a Professor of Computer Science at Lord Fairfax Community College where she leads the Computer Science program, which was recognized as the 2018 Exemplary CTE Program in Virginia. She facilitated a cross-curricular group of nineteen LFCC students who participated in an international virtual exchange with students at Khawarizmi College in Amman, Jordan, as a part of the Global Solutions Sustainability Challenge. Fifteen of these LFCC students were in an Introduction to Computer Science course, one was a chemistry major, and three were business administration managers. Each student put in over seventy-five research hours outside of class and worked at different hours to collaborate with their Jordanian partners, seven hours ahead of LFCC. The team of Jordanian students were engineers, graphic designers, and linguists. All of these students worked together to find a global and sustainable solution within the hospitality and tourism industry. They selected to focus on single-use plastic bottle recycling and designed a small eco-friendly reverse vending machine with an incentive program known as BottleBot.

This project connected all areas of STEM and included business plan creation and global thinking. The students excelled in team work and make such an impact that Assistant Secretary of State Marie Royce visited with these students at LFCC in February 2019, the first community college she had ever visited. The students learned that they had tied to win their cohort and would continue on in the next round of competition in March 2019 in Washington, DC. At this level they would be able to meet their Jordanian partners in person, work with global experts to bring their product to life, and hopefully make a winning pitch to be declared the final winner. While students initially thought that hospitality and tourism had nothing to with computer science, they learned over the next ten weeks that it had everything to do with computer science and their future careers. The LFCC team placed 2nd at the Aspen Institute’s Global Summit in March.
E-Sports Program,
Shenandoah University

A few years ago, Dr. Joey Gawrysiak, Director of Sport Management and President of the Faculty Senate at Shenandoah University, was brainstorming with other members of the Faculty Senate about ideas for new academic programs when he “half-jokingly” suggested an Esports degree. When other faculty members replied, “Why not?” he started writing the curriculum for the program that will have an interdisciplinary Esports major and two Esports minors. Gawrysiak will serve as the Director and Associate Professor of the Esports program where he will oversee coaches, players, practices, competitions, partnerships, events, budget and facilities for the competitive team, which began August 2018, as well the new academic programs, which will start in the fall of 2019.

This program encourages students to pursue their education in applied technology by teaching them about new methods of commercialized entertainment through technology. This first-of-its-kind degree program not only gives students an opportunity to understand how the business, media, communication, and coaching aspects of the Esports industry operate but also provides them with the skills necessary to become leaders in this emerging field. Students will be encouraged to take computer science and other tech-related courses to complement their understanding of the business side of Esports to help them more fully understand the industry. Cameras and other peripheral devices will be used to allow students to stream online content through Shenandoah’s social media outlets and through Twitch and YouTube channels set up for the Esports team.

At this time, there are thirty-five students competing on the varsity rosters. The new major has ten admitted freshmen and two transfer students as well as six current students interested in the Esports major. Thanks to Gawrysiak’s leadership and innovative use of technology, Shenandoah is the only university in the U.S. that has a varsity competitive team competing as one of 130 schools in the National Association of Collegiate Esports on the varsity level as well as an academic for Esports.
Dan O’Brien is the GO Virginia Cyber Security Program Manager and Instructor at Blue Ridge Community College. The program is a partnership between the Commonwealth of Virginia, private industry, BRCC, and the cities of Harrisonburg and Waynesboro. The goal is to train fifty Tier I technicians over a two-year period, out of a pool of 142 applicants. By providing a combination of in-class learning, online learning, and job training, students should have everything they need to start their new careers in the rapidly growing field of cyber security.

As the Cyber Security Program Manager, O’Brien oversees the responsibilities related to the GO Virginia grant, prepares the curriculum for the classes, and will teach four cohorts of students over a two-year period. As of May 2019, half of those students will have passed through the instructional side of the training and will be moving on to job training and internships. Although the program started just a few months ago, most of the students have passed their on-campus training and have successfully earned their CompTIA Security+ certification, a major stepping stone to obtaining better employment. Three of those students have obtained better jobs, and they all credit their success in part to the instruction and experience received from the GO Virginia cyber security program.
BarTrack, Inc.

BarTrack’s revolutionary commercial applications are designed for bar owners, managers, and bartenders to standardize draft beer quality by maximizing the bar’s efficiency, realizing lost revenue, and improving quality of service:

- **Smart Faucet**: Managed by clicking on a touch screen instead of pulling down a tap handle to dispense the perfect pour. BarTrack’s hardware gives the bar patron the best, most consistent pour every time which encourages resale due to the highest quality pour that can be offered. Smart Faucet’s specialty is eliminating over-pours and foam-filled beers, allowing customers to realize thousands of dollars in profit every year.
- **Inventory Management System**: Comprised of sensors that are placed on the beer lines to accurately manage inventory and provide insight to managers and owners, allowing them to understand what beer is selling best in real time, how much beer is being lost, pours vs. sales, and even the conditions in which their product is served.

Bartenders interact with the system by selecting pre-configured quantities of beer from the graphical user interface and adjusting the flow rate as the precise portion of beer is being dispensed. BarTrack’s solution takes a proactive approach to improving a bar’s quality of service by tracking line cleaning schedules and actively monitoring the serving temperature, pressure, and keg freshness for each type and style of beer. If an anomaly is detected within the system, a notification is displayed on the smart-tap, and the system allows you to adjust the flow rate of the beer to attempt mitigate the effects of the anomaly. By ensuring that the beer is poured under optimal conditions and with precise quantities, shrinkage is minimized and keg efficiency is improved.

BarTrack's original goal for 2019 was to be in fifty establishments by the end of the year; however, due to customer demand that goal has now been revised upward to 150 establishments.
Many people resolve to get a handle on their finances, set up a budget and save more, but too many are running to catch up instead of staying a few steps ahead of their financial goals. Budget Referee founder and owner David Rosenberg created an easy to use system with self-adjusting predictive technology based on account balances, which eliminates the need for reporting and tracking. This makes budgets easy to understand, personalized, seamless, and effective.

This budgeting system is a way to increase savings, track income and expenditures, manage cash flow, and convert financial goals into realities. Coining this application as a “pocket financial planner,” Budget Referee is one of the only software systems emerging in the market with the idea that money management needs to have “real-time” updates. This software is intelligent enough to auto-adjust budgets based on fluctuations in income, expenses, and overall balances, as well as helping to categorize spending. Ultimately, these two features allow the user to focus on short- and long-term goals. This ability to have a budgeting software meet the user at any money intersection in life is what makes it stand apart.

Budget Referee’s user-friendly software is also meant to be used as a tool in the banking industry to help educate clients and is also available to companies as an employee benefit to increase financial education.

Rosenberg designed Budget Referee to help the average person understand their finances as life and income changes due to job changes or life demands to help consumers understand how they are spending their money. It can highlight potentially unwise money moves and assist in making good decisions. Financial understanding creates financial independence and the ability for everyone to invest in what truly makes them happy.
Chiedo Labs

Chiedo Labs launched in 2012 as a progressive website development company by visionary entrepreneur Chiedo during his last semester at James Madison University. In 2016, Chiedo Labs spawned a handful of sister companies as an attempt to bring more services to the Valley. Let's just say things didn't go as planned and Chiedo Labs is back to its roots.

Today, Chiedo Labs offers website and mobile app development, consulting, and training services for IT departments within large organizations and executives at companies nationwide. Chiedo Labs is always looking to drive innovation and improve lives within the companies and communities it serves. That's the mission. Chiedo Labs has been thriving as it drives that mission forward.

Some of the latest contributions to their mission include launching www.highgrowth.io as a state-wide resource for high growth startups, launching www.solofounder.co to give entrepreneurs a place to start when they have an app idea but no technical skills, and catalyzing the beginnings of Valley Rocket (a high-growth startup community for the Shenandoah Valley).
Dynamic Aviation’s
Innovation in Utilization Award
Presenter: Phil Douglas, Vice President, Business Development and Program Management, Dynamic Aviation

Cub Run Dairy, LC

Cub Run Dairy is a dairy and turkey growing operation in eastern Rockingham County that invests in the future by using the latest technology throughout the farm. Over the past three years, Cub Run has upgraded and implemented multiple production technology systems for its dairy and realized vast improvements in output, animal health, efficiencies, and long-term sustainability.

When a cow enters a stall to be milked, a sensor reads an RFID tag in her ear so that the data collected from each cow’s milking is automatically tracked. If a cow needs special attention or breeding, the RFID tag is used to operate gates automatically to steer her into a holding pen. In the milking parlor, the onboard computers, pedometers, and RFID tags are able to identify any changes in the cows sooner. This results in improved reproductive practices and overall cow health, which means happier cows and better milk production.

Tractors and the combine/harvester are equipped with GPS so that planting and harvesting is performed to about one inch when planting and harvesting in the hilly fields in this area. Planters are programmed for the number of seeds to be planted per acre and will warn the operator if seeds are missed. Incoming grain is dried and routed to the proper storage bin. The grain drying system’s real-time moisture measurements result in energy savings and also ensures the ability to maintain a better quality of grain during storage.

The turkey operation grows turkeys for Virginia Poultry Growers Cooperative. There are 9,000 turkeys in each of two growing houses. The temperature of the turkey houses is controlled to a curve based on the age of the turkeys. The ability to constantly maintain the interior environment of the turkey houses results in better turkey health. When comfort is maintained, there is more efficient feed conversion and better rate of weight gain.
Matchbox Realty & Management Services, Inc.

Matchbox Realty and Management Services, Inc, provides property management, leasing, community association, brokerage, and investment/development services in the Harrisonburg/Rockingham area. They are currently using an RFID Parking Management Solution developed by SmarterParking in one of their communities in the area.

SmarterParking is a start-up product and service company that eliminates congestion and the need for manual monitoring of parking areas. They implement RFID systems to locate, calculate, and identify registered and unregistered vehicles in large parking management scenarios such as universities, hospitals, vehicle rental and sales lots, parking garages, and any other parking scenario where vehicle tracking and customer satisfaction are essential.

Available parking spaces in a parking area can be updated in a remote database using SQL commands in real-time as the vehicles’ tags are scanned by an RFID reader upon entering or exiting a parking area. SmarterParking created a software system that uses SQL and API’s to connect to Rent Manager (the property management software used by Matchbox). The software then filters which residents are supposed to park in the deck based on lease information in Rent Manager and how many spots they have rented each month. The data collected will be updated on an LED display located at the site of the parking area.

The client website includes an interactive mapping feature which displays the available spaces in each parking area, identifies illegally parked cars, and gathers statistics about each individual parking area’s peak volume times. The system is capable of searching for an individual vehicle by license plate or by permit number. The client-side can also locate all illegally-parked vehicles within an individual lot or identify every vehicle within a given lot.
Angela Deitz, Augusta County Public Schools

Angela Deitz started her career as a math teacher at Wilson Memorial High School in 1999. While at WMHS, she taught algebra and science, coached the competition cheerleading team, sponsored the Student Council Association, coached boys’ tennis and girls’ basketball, chaired the Science department, and was named the 2008-09 Teacher of the Year. In 2009, she was awarded the prestigious Dawbarn Award. Deitz completed her Masters in Educational Administration in 2010 and was hired as an Assistant Principal at WMHS in 2011.

Most recently, Deitz has been serving as an Instructional Supervisor for Secondary Math, Science and STEM for Augusta County Public Schools. She is responsible for incorporating instructional and STEM initiatives for middle school and high school math and science. She has served in leadership positions with the Virginia Consortium of Gifted Education Administrators and the Valley of Virginia Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and has led a team of grant reviewers for the Valley Alliance for Education for their Creative Classroom Grants. In 2016, Augusta County Public Schools hosted their first Middle School STEM Expo under Deitz’s leadership. In four years, the Expo has grown to 199 projects with 330 students participating.

Deitz was recently awarded the Amazon Future Engineers grant for all five Augusta County high schools, which provides each school the opportunity to offer three computer science courses through the Edhesive platform, together with teaching training and support.

Together with two of her colleagues, Deitz presented at the 2018 annual Virginia Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development conference: “Building Digital Communities within Your Division,” which highlighted strategies for utilizing digital communities and digital communication within the school division.

Deitz is motivated to enhance her students’ knowledge and skills and make them successful members of the community. Her passion for enriching the lives of these students is evident through activities and events she has coordinated throughout her career.
Dr. Karrin Lukacs, Shenandoah University

Dr. Karrin Lukacs is an Associate Professor of Curriculum and Instruction at Shenandoah University in Winchester and serves as the Program Head for graduate-level programs for students pursuing initial teacher licensure in general or special K-12 education and the Program Head for the Masters of Science in Education - Individualized Focus program. In an effort to encourage her students to feel more confident in their abilities to use technology effectively with their K-12 students, she required that all students in the graduate-level initial teacher licensure programs have an iPad for their coursework. She also restructured several programs so that most of the courses are offered both in-person and online.

Lukacs has created several iTunes University courses, such as the “Diverse Learners” course and the “Working with Students in Poverty” course. These courses address the needs of K-12 student populations that are often overlooked or misunderstood, which clearly improves the education of those students who are living in the Shenandoah Valley.

Lukacs’ motivation comes from her severely autistic son. Seeing his ability to communicate grow as a result of assistive technology inspired her to learn all she could to encourage her students so that they can use technology tools to engage, monitor, and inspire their own K-12 students. She focuses on how technology can transform learning and helping her students feel “tech savvy” enough that they do not fear the unknown.

According to one of Lukacs’ former students, “…Dr. Lukacs…inspired me to be a lifelong learner in the field of education and was the main reason I found myself looking to pursue a doctoral degree in education before my master’s degree was complete. Her passion for curriculum, technology, and 21st century instructional practices sparked my drive to use these practices in my own classroom and to be an influential and positive force for change in my local public school system.”
Ian MacRae, E-N Computers

“Ian's team is vital to our success. We have achieved a far higher level of efficiency through the technology, advice, and expertise by E-N Computers. In addition to the ongoing support they provide, we have used Ian's team for training on different projects, and have been very satisfied with their knowledge, patience, and results.”
- Dixie Oil and Gas, E-N Computers customer since 2009

This statement describe the Waynesboro-based team that Ian MacRae, founder and CEO of E-N Computers, has assembled since he started the company in the spare bedroom of his parents’ house in 1997. As the company became more profitable, he continued expanding E-N Computers into a 24-member team of technical and support staff serving more than sixty companies and 2,200 users throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. Through building resilient, fault-tolerant systems that can be supported remotely, E-N Computers has also overcome the distance between their data center, located in Waynesboro VA, and markets such as Washington DC and Richmond.

Since 1997, MacRae has helped over 120 individuals continue their education through internship and employment opportunities. Six of these individuals have since founded their own technology companies. MacRae saw the value in continued education so he instituted a $4,000 training reimbursement program which has been utilized by dozens to complete their college degree or advanced certifications, including CCSP, CCSP, MCSE, and PMP. Individuals mentored by MacRae now hold senior IT leadership positions within E-N Computers, banking and aerospace organizations, and at a regional Internet service provider.

Virginia Military Institute and Crater Juvenile Detention Home and School are two examples of organizations who have benefitted from services provided by E-N Computers. Crater enjoys an IT system that is fifty times faster than before while remaining within their budget. MacRae worked with VMI to move beyond day-to-day user support into efforts to streamline their business operations through the implementation of virtualized and cloud-based business processes.
Toni Sheets, Harrisonburg City Public Schools

Prior to serving as the Executive Director of Technology in Harrisonburg City Public Schools (HCPS), Toni Sheets was an instructional technology resource teacher (ITRT) in Harrisonburg and Augusta County and an assistive technology resource teacher. In her current position, she helped establish the Central Virginia Technology Directors Collective for the region, where she advocated for better broadband and competitive Internet Service Provider pricing for school divisions. Through a collaboration with JMU, she managed the Microsoft Partnership for 21st Century Skills, assisted in designed the NETS*T certification system and worked with other ITRT’s across Virginia to establish a content repository.

Sheets oversees all three arms of educational technology in HCPS: data, instructional technology, and information technology. She is responsible for the day-to-day operations of technical, data and information technology; supervision of twenty staff members; evaluating, deciding and purchasing all network equipment; and managing the technology department budget.

Mrs. Sheets has provided her ITRT’s with emerging and exciting technology for discovery and exploration through a new program called "Tech Tubs." Staff and students move through lessons with robots, virtual reality glasses, green screen videos and recording devices. Robots and coding activities provide students opportunities to learn scientific, mathematical and programming languages starting in kindergarten. Successful lessons using video have encouraged students to express themselves through Claymation, music or other media types. Students are engaged and attentive without realizing the educational value of the lessons.

Sheets inspires those around her to work hard to create meaningful learning opportunities for all students. She is motivated to create an environment where students love learning, teachers love teaching, and the whole community benefits. As a member of the community, a parent and advocate for all children, Sheets is always learning, listening and striving to make the most of what HCPS has to offer its students and the entire region.
Nick Swayne, JMU X-Labs, 4-Virginia

Nick Swayne serves in several different yet related roles locally, regionally, and at the state level:

- **Executive Director, 4-VA**: 4-VA is a collaborative partnership between six Virginia universities to leverage each university’s strengths and improve efficiencies in higher education by advocating partnerships to generate significant, innovative solutions to educational and real-world problems. Swayne works with the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia and the Governor’s office to align 4-VA planning with state-level initiatives, conducts annual strategy and planning that aligns JMU’s strategic goals with 4-VA goals and develops and nurtures partnerships that can serve as the basis for problem-based course projects.

- **Founder and Director, JMU X Labs**: IN 2015, JMU X-Labs started as an innovative program and classroom for multidisciplinary, problem-based learning with one course, forty-three students and six faculty. Since then, it has grown to offer more than twelve courses with more than thirty faculty serving over 400 students annually. Recently, JMU X-Labs received national attention from The Chronicle of Higher Education in their recent article, “No Textbooks, No Lectures, and No Right Answers. Is This What Higher Education Needs?”

- **Executive Director, Virginia-DC FIRST LEGO League (FLL)**: In 2007, due to a leadership transition at Virginia Tech, FLL was on the brink of collapse. Swayne raised $25,000 and transferred the program to JMU. Over the years, he was able to grow the program from 230 teams to nearly 700, becoming one of the largest programs of its kind in the world, it supports 6,000 students each year with at least 24 regional qualifying tournaments around Virginia and DC as well as an annual state championship in Harrisonburg.

One member of Swayne’s staff observed that he “…empowers us to look to ourselves and each other for answers, make decisions, and creatively problem-solve for the endless barrage of challenges we face in doing something no one has done before.”

He is invited to speak nationally and internationally on topics related to creating multidisciplinary programs and innovation pipelines. He has authored and co-authored numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, serves on the Harrisonburg City School Board, JMU’s Veteran Scholars Task Force, is a faculty adviser for Stanford’s University Innovation Fellows program, and is a founding board member of the Unmanned Systems Association of Virginia. Over the past five years, he has completed the required coursework for a Ph.D. in Strategic Leadership and is finishing his dissertation.
Vote and Win Using #SVTCPC19

The Serco’s People’s Choice is an award given by the people and for the people using the technology of social media. Throughout the evening, you can vote for your favorite nominee (even yourself) — and all of the 31 nominees are eligible!

How to Vote

- ALL nominees are candidates, and ANYONE can vote their favorite. That means not only can business associates vote, but family and fans can as well!
- We will count public social media posts that use the hashtag #SVTCPC19 AND the name of the nominee (or company/organization name).
- Use the following: Twitter (set to public), or a private Facebook Messenger note to “Walter” (see details below).
- Votes will be accumulated throughout April AND during Tech Nite. We will announce the tally/winner at the end of the event.

Using “Talk to Walter”

- Anyone who doesn’t have a Twitter account or doesn’t want to change his/her account to public, can use “Walter,” the Walls.io Facebook Messenger bot.
- Using “Walter” will allow you to post directly to the wall.
- Open your Facebook Messenger, compose a ‘new message’, and type Talk to Walter into the TO line. Once that populates, type out your enthusiasm for your nominee and remember the hashtag #SVTCPC19.
- If you see the suggestion, “post to wall,” click it.
- “Walter” accepts pictures as well. Send the picture first, then follow it up with a message and the hashtag.

Sample Voting Ideas

For someone else:
- I vote for [nominee name or handle] for the Serco #SVTCPC19
- Congratulations, [@nominee name or handle] you should win #SVTCPC19

For yourself:
- We are nominated for the Serco #SVTCPC19 on April 29 and think we should win
- Our [job title] is nominated for the Serco Tech Nite award and we believe she is the best and should win the #SVTCPC19

**Use #SVTCTN19 for fun pictures or Tech Nite related posts**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company/Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Paul Ashenfelter</td>
<td>Transitionpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Blosser</td>
<td>Lord Fairfax Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Bowman</td>
<td>Rockingham Insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Cheverton</td>
<td>JMU, University Programs / Online Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Denbigh</td>
<td>Skyler Innovations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Douglas</td>
<td>Dynamic Aviation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Goertzen</td>
<td>Serco, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joey Groah</td>
<td>DIGICO Shoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chip Harvill</td>
<td>Cadence, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Matter</td>
<td>Pearl Certification / Ivy Tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsten Moore</td>
<td>The Hub Coworking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Pease</td>
<td>Blue Ridge Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Perry</td>
<td>grep Innovation, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kurt Plowman</td>
<td>City of Staunton, IT Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Quigg</td>
<td>Friendship Industries, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Shimp</td>
<td>ComSonics, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Stolle</td>
<td>Center for Innovative Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Swayne</td>
<td>JMU, 4-Virginia / JMU X-Labs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Thorne</td>
<td>F&amp;M Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Yoder</td>
<td>PBMares</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nicky Swayne, CEO | Lina Akopov, Marketing Assistant
SVTC Board of Directors
Spring 2019 Election | Class 1

Once a year, SVTC members vote on who will join its board of directors for a 2-year term in one of its two classes. On June 30, 2019, the term for our class 1 of directors expires. This May we are conducting the annual election for class 1, whose term will start on July 1, 2019. In April, SVTC members contributed suggestions to a slate of candidates. The election takes place online as well as in-person, and finishes up at the Annual Meeting on May 23, 2019 at the Wood Grill restaurant in Harrisonburg.

Short bios for each candidate will be available online at www.svtc-va.org on May 15, 2019.

Please join us:
May 23 luncheon | Annual Meeting | Wood Grill, 11:30 am

To reserve a seat, visit www.svtc-va.org
SVTC MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Recognized as a technology leader in the business community
- Listed on SVTC membership directory – another venue to promote your business with a 150 word description, includes contact info and URL
- Opportunities to network with technology leaders to find solutions to your business problems
- Opportunities to develop new business through SVTC events and contacts
- Capability to distribute company information to SVTC members using the SVTC database
- Post open jobs in SVTC newsletter and on the website
- Ability to network with legislators and government officials during SVTC’s annual legislative event
- Opportunity to further your education and business knowledge through SVTC-sponsored programs
- Up-to-date information about the Virginia technology community, state programs, and funding sources
- An abundance of sponsorship opportunities to create greater exposure for your business
- Opportunity to mentor “younger” businesses or to be mentored by seasoned professionals. Volunteer at some of our STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) activities such as FIRST Lego League (FLL) or Harrisonburg Startup Weekend in support of the next generation of techies and technology-based businesses.
- Opportunity for sponsorship and publicity in the weekly SVTC e-zine, luncheons, and SVTC website
- Opportunities to participate in a committee – get to know other members and their companies and highlight your own

SVTC Membership is defined by level of benefits, not number of employees.

- **All members:** E-newsletter, priority invitations, invitation to SVTC committees, post member news, open jobs, achievements in newsletter and website. (*)
- **Individual:** $125. Any one person. The SVTC directory description focuses on the individual (not company or employer). (*)
- **Level I:** $250 - SVTC directory description includes full mention of company or organization. (*)
- **Level II:** $625 - Includes Level 1 benefits PLUS marketing opportunities at two SVTC sponsored luncheons or field trips. (*)
- **Level III:** $1,500 - Includes Level 2 benefits PLUS: logo on SVTC website, e-newsletter, event banners at council events and trade shows. (*)

(*) excl. Tech Nite

*Active participation by each member is what makes the difference for all.*
Many thanks to our award supporters and all who were a part of TechNite19. We appreciate you!
AWARD NOMINEES 2019

JMU College of Integrated Science & Engineering’s
INNOVATION IN COMMUNITY IMPACT

- Exploring Rockingham’s Past, A collaboration between Rockingham County Circuit Court and JMU History & JMU Libraries
- United Way of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County
- Valley Assistance Network, United Way Northern Shenandoah Valley

JMU College of Business’
INNOVATION IN EMERGING BUSINESS

- Checked In, LLC
- IT Decisions
- Ryzing Technologies
- Tributum Tax, LLC
- Workplaceless

JMU College of Education’s &
JMU College of Science and Mathematics’
INNOVATION IN K - 12 EDUCATION

- Blue Ridge Community College’s Technology Camps
- Jeff Burner, Shenandoah County Public Schools
- Clay Chandler, Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center
- Andrei Dacko, Valley Career and Technical Center
- Angela Deitz, Augusta County Public Schools
- Katie Horst, Stuart Hall School
- Madison Lucas-Corbett, Alleghany County Public School
- Heather Lupton, Warren County Public Schools
- Brittany Miller, Winchester Public Schools
- Perry Shank, Harrisonburg City Public Schools

Cadence’s
INNOVATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

- Computer Science Program, Lord Fairfax Community College
- E-Sports Program, Shenandoah University
- GO Virginia Cyber Security Program, Blue Ridge Community College

Center for Innovative Technology’s
INNOVATION IN DEVELOPMENT

- BarTrack, Inc.
- Budget Referee
- Chiedo Labs

Dynamic Aviation’s
INNOVATION IN UTILIZATION

- Cub Run Dairy LC
- Matchbox Realty & Management Services, Inc.

Shentel’s
DR. JOHN NOFTSINGER LEADERSHIP

- Angela Deitz, Augusta County Public Schools
- Karrin Lukacs, Shenandoah University
- Ian MacRae, E-N Computers
- Toni Sheets, Harrisonburg City Public Schools
- Nick Swayne, JMU X-Labs, 4-Virginia
GALA SUPPORTERS 2019

AWARD SUPPORTERS
Cadence, Inc.
Center for Innovative Technology
Dynamic Aviation
JMU College of Business
JMU College of Education
& JMU College of Math and Science
JMU College of Integrated Science
and Engineering
Shentel
Serco, Inc.

DESSERT BAR SUPPORTERS
Farmers & Merchants Bank
JMU Information Systems
and Business Analytics
Staunton Innovation Hub

TABLE SUPPORTERS
Blue Ridge Community College
Center for Innovative Technology
City of Harrisonburg
GreeneHurlocker PLC
JMU Outreach and Engagement
Rockingham Circuit Court Clerk’s Office
Rockingham Insurance
Segra

MEDIA SUPPORTERS
Daily News-Record