WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement

IMCP Task Force
MINUTES
Thursday, February 6, 2014
8:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
NCAT Building
Room S210 and S211

Members present:

Seth Albin, BirdsEye Holdings
Allen Bell, City of Wichita
Wayne Bell, SBA
Bill Bolin, South Central Kansas Economic Development District
Patricia Brasted, WTC**
Tim Chase, GWEDC
Chris Chronis, Sedgwick County
Mike Copeland, Kansas Department of Commerce **
Barbara Davis, Society of Women Engineers
Paula Downs, WSU Hugo Wall School
Mike Edwards, WATC
Mickey Fornaro-Dean, Harvey County Economic Development
Debra Franklin, WSU
Sherry Gegen, WSU
Kristen Gibbs, WSU
Bruce Goodwin, Wichita Technology Corporation
Lou Heldman, WSU CFE
Janis Hellard, Sumner County Economic Development Commission**
Jeremy Hill, WSU CEDBR
Tyler Hockenberry, WSU
Keith Lawing, Workforce Alliance of South Central KS
Jeff Longwell, Wichita City Council
Paul Masson, StarNet, LLC
Keith Meyers, KDOC **
Heather Morgan, Project 17 **
Karyn Page, Kansas Global Trade Services
Greg Panichello, Kansas Small Business Development Center**
Peter Perna, Alpine Strategy
Deb Scheibler, Kansas WorkforceONE**
Sue Schlapp, Kansas Department of Commerce
Steven Skinner, WSU CoE
Bill Smith, Spirit AeroSystems
Gary Steckline, Engineering and Business Consulting
John Tomblin, WSU, RTT and NIAR
Peggy Torrens, Kansas Department of Education **
Jeff Tucker, AMI**
Ron Weddle, Aerospace Systems and Componenets
Will Wesolowsky, AGCO Corporation**
James Wolff, WSU, CFE
Paul Wooley, CiBOR, Via Christi

** via phone

8:00 a.m. – Arrival and Coffee Reception

8:15 a.m. – Welcome and Introductions

Agenda and Meeting Guidelines

Debbie Franklin opened the meeting with facilitator and task force introduction and introductions. Paul Masson provided a summary of the meeting's agenda.

Opening: Objectives & Outcomes

Debbie Franklin reviewed the program's objectives.

1. Familiarization with IMCP structure and opportunities
2. Agreement to support the WSU coordinated initiative
3. Collaboratively provide information and inputs that will improve facilitation of innovation, development, production, and sale of products as well as corresponding workforce quality
4. Identification and prioritization of key manufacturing strategic investment(s)

IMCP Opportunity and Background

Franklin reviewed the purpose and objective of the IMCP: to accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing, creating a competitive climate for communities while developing comprehensive economic development strategies.

Manufacturing concentration data was reviewed and manufacturing sectors where Wichita has concentration levels that exceed twice the national average were identified. According to the Brookings report of the largest 100 MSAs, the Wichita MSA is the highest ranking cluster in terms of national manufacturing employment, with a concentration rate twice the national average. The Wichita MSA is ranked third in the country for very high-tech manufacturing. Questions and data requests from the previous task force meeting were addressed, and preliminary answers were provided in a handout, as well as web links for access to supplemental information.

In addition to developing a strategic plan for advanced manufacturing, potential outcomes of the IMCP Phase Two initiative were shared with task force members. With receiving one of twelve designations as a stand-out "Manufacturing Communities", the region would have elevated consideration for federal grants and assistance from 10 cabinets/departments. Additionally, the top tier of the twelve distinctions may receive large IMCP challenge grants to finance strategic investments. Potential outcomes of the IMCP are an improved manufacturing ecosystems, increased private investment, and broader-based prosperity.

Proposal Strategy

Paul Masson facilitated the second half of the meeting. The composition of the task force membership was discussed, as well as a review of strategy of prioritizing investments to create a basis for the proposal: Prioritize needs & opportunities, Gather Information, Make Decisions & Conditional Commitments, Focus on unique and internationally competitive investments.

The preliminary three part advanced manufacturing strategy, centered on materials innovation, was discussed.

The region's existing economic development investment strengths relative to industry needs, national policy and competition (domestic and international) leads to a three part "cascading" strategy for advanced manufacturing:

- ***Advanced materials*** *(composites, metals and polymers)*
- ***Advanced design permitted by materials*** *including lean design, new product features, cost savings (suppliers key)*
- ***Advanced production permitted by design and materials advanced*** *(design to build order, lean production*

Review: Supplier Networks & Workforce

Paul Masson facilitated a review of the strategic supplier network investments identified in the initial task force meeting (1/24). Preliminary consensus was reached on the three supplier network investment priorities:

SN1. Integrated capability for parts and systems fabrication starting with materials formulation and moving through to full fabrication to standards & certification guidelines
SN2. Advanced materials knowledge to feed integrated parts design and fabrication capacity
SN3. Advanced materials preparation to international market specifications and standards

The task force also reviewed group discussion for workforce investments that were identified in the initial task force meeting (1/24). Preliminary consensus was reached on the three workforce investment priorities:

WF1. Education of manufacturing organization managers (re the work ready certification)
WF2. Coordination with manufacturing organization to align specific work ready skill sets and certifications (e.g. machining, welding, robotics)
WF2. Creation of industry collaboration workforce development of students including co-ops, internships and incubators/accelerators

Topic: Research & Innovation

Masson led discussion on the importance of innovation (includes process and production improvements). Top research and innovation investments were identified.

RI1. Prototyping facilities with equipment and supporting services (Note: Prototyping discussed as development, testing, evaluation and certification)
RI2. Materials based development, testing, evaluation to support prototyping
RI3. Process improvements at both prototyping and manufacturing levels

Implementation suggestions for the research and innovation investment priorities included:

- Prototyping capabilities that integrates, among other items…
  - Design optimization software
  - Cutting technology
  - Marching
- Rapid prototyping that utilizes CFD
- Third party prototyping design capabilities
- Independent center with equipment for prototyping
- Flexible automation
- Process modeling
- Tooling for composite structures
- Design and tooling for integrated materials structures: composites and metals
- Testing and certification facilities for
  - Materials
  - New products (to certification requirements)
- Rapid innovation processes to permit reduced cycle time from concept to prototype formulation
  - Expertise and facilities to reduce time (therefore cost) of prototyping
  - Expertise to reduce processes of both prototyping and production
- Reduced cost of certification
- Center of excellence for: flight controls and avionics
- Rapid prototyping supported by a) advanced/lean design and b) rapid tooling
- Polymers development

Topic: Infrastructure / Site Development

Task force members discussed priority investments for infrastructure (road, rail, pipelines, water, waste water, power, datacom) and site development. Priority infrastructure and site investments identified include:

IS1. Water supply capacity for both a) raw water and b) waste water
IS2. Rail access primarily by re-activating lines, switches and spurs
IS3. Energy cost as measured by weighted average cost per unit of energy (kwh or BTU) delivered to manufacturer
IS4 Road building, upgrade and maintenance regionally coordinated at regional level (versus current county level)
IS5. Broadband datacom for manufacturers outside the immediate MSA areas to permit receipt and transmission out of product design specifications, tests, evaluations and standards/certification documentation

Implementation suggestions for the infrastructure and site investment priorities included:

- (4) Improved rail access, with targeted investment to re-activate lines, switches and spurs
- (2) Increased investment broadband capacity
- Improved connections by road (roadbed) and rail (spurs) as "last mile" to industrial parks and concentrations of manufacturing facilities, example issue is reversing rail crossing closings
- (7) Developing water capacity as both
  - Raw water
  - Gray water systems, including permitting for gray water
  - Coordinating with state water strategy due out in 2014
- Reduced cost and high reliability (measured as up time, e.g. 99%) for electricity by addressing
  - Policy on portfolio of required energy
  - Policy drives: Currently have above average weighted cost of kwh
  - Investments in sources of electricity based on policy of cost
- Investments in water supply coordinated with 50 year water supply program, e.g. aquifer recharge that has completed Ph 1 and Ph 2 but requires investment of $250 million for Ph 3 and Ph 4
- Natural gas supply as an input to manufacturing to reduce cost
- Coordination of road building investment plans / allocation with economic development needs (currently on a county by county level)
- Sites with access close to airports for air shipment in and out
- Coordination within the region for infrastructure investment

Next Steps

Masson addressed action item questions, marking them for further discussion. Time was given for any further questions or clarification. Notes from the meeting will be available for review at the February 27 meeting.

11:35 a.m. – Adjourned – Thank you

Debbie Franklin adjourned the meeting and thanked the group for attending.