



Date: January 31, 2015

Memo To: Town of Bluffton Town Council; Don Ryan Center for Innovation Board of Directors; Marc Orlando, Town Manager

From: David Nelems, Don Ryan Center for Innovation Executive Director

RE: JANUARY 2015 DON RYAN CENTER FOR INNOVATION STATUS REPORT

Center Operations

- Morning meetings with **Matt Green** every other Friday
- Misc. work on **Grant paperwork/reporting**
- Misc. **Town of Bluffton** meetings, operations and presentations
- Email blasts and registration process for upcoming **educational sessions**.
- Misc. **grant paper work** and calls with SC Dept. of Innovation.
- Attended Senior Staff and Department Head meetings with **Larry Face**

Outreach and Strategic Relationships

- SCAD **education session on "Introduction to Entrepreneurship"** - 22 attendees
- DRCI space used for a regional, (and monthly) **WordPress "Meet-Up."**
- **Monthly call with all Clemson Technology Village Directors** to share ideas
- Working with **Palmetto Bluff** on a **"Pitch Event"** to interested investors with three DRCI companies.
- Working with Charlie Banks to help start a **LowCountry Angels** investing group
- Working with Pam Davis from **McCracken Middle School** for a series of **sessions on 3d printing and innovation** to 4 different classes in **March**.
- Met with Greg Kelly, Executive Director of **Savannah Hilton Head Airport**
- Hosted **"Lowcountry Connections"** meeting at DRCI on January 25th
- Working with **"SC Women on the Fast Track"** organization to host meetings at DRCI
- Beginning logistics and planning on first annual **DRCI Golf Tournament**

Innovators

- **Currently** there are **9 innovators** in the Center
- Met with **every innovator at least once** (some multiple times) during the month. A lot of progress with each company in January.
- Calls/video conferences with **Clemson**

- See **Innovator Status Sheet** as of January 31st.

Press

- None this month

Social media

- **Twitter: 111 followers** *Increase of 2 followers*
- **Facebook: 167 likes.** *Increase of 8 likes.*