



www.MissouriVentureForum.org

Enterprise

March 2010

A St. Louis Success: Passion, Motivation, Opportunity

A presentation by Steve Smith, Chief Executive Officer, Lawrence Group

March

Forum Facts:

Speaker:

Steve Smith, CEO
Lawrence Group

When:

Friday, March 5, 2010

Time:

7:15 a.m.
Registration & Networking
7:50 a.m.
Breakfast & Program
9:00 a.m. Adjourn

Where:

MAC-West
(Missouri Athletic Club-West)
Main Dining Room
1777 Des Peres Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63131

Cost:

Members — free
Guests — \$40.00 per person

Guests Must Prepay

(Visa, MasterCard and
American Express accepted)

Register at:

www.MissouriVentureForum.org

Or call 314-241-2683

**Deadline—Noon
Wednesday,
March 3, 2010**

Please join us at the March meeting to hear how Steve Smith, a founding principal and CEO of Lawrence Group, has grown the company from inception in 1983 to its international presence today.

Lawrence Group was founded as an architectural, interior design and planning firm by four Kansas University School of Architecture students. It has grown to a staff of more than 150, including 36 registered architects, 25 interior designers and 35 LEED accredited professionals.

Founded in St. Louis, Missouri, the company now operates offices in St. Louis, Austin, Texas, the Carolinas, New York and Beijing, China. Currently, the company is engaged in development consulting on properties valued at \$120 million.

The company has developed specializations for specific building types and businesses, including media communications, corporate, historic restoration and renovation, higher education, healthcare, mixed-use, retail, multifamily, senior living, and custom private residential projects. Today its services include architecture, interior design, town planning, landscape architecture, graphic design, development and construction.

The company's mission is to

actively seek to understand the client's dreams, values and goals and to work aggressively to achieve them. It is the foundation of the firm and the focus of everything it does. Smith attributes the company's growth and good reputation to staying faithful to its mission.



Lawrence Group has received over 100 awards including: Best Places to Work by the St. Louis Business Journal; Top 40 Healthcare Giant and Top 10 Residential Design Giant by Interior Design magazine; Hot Firm by ZweigWhite; and Fastest Growing Private Company by Inc. 500.

Smith is active in the community serving on the boards of the St. Louis Regional Chamber and Growth Association, Downtown St. Louis and is on the board and treasurer of American Institute of Architects-St. Louis Chapter. He has served as the Honorary Chairman of the March of Dimes "Bikers for Babies" since 2007.

He is a guest lecturer at the Washington University School of Architecture and at Saint Louis University School of Public Health.

President's Column—Keep Up the Good Work St. Louis



Bob Calcaterra

At our last membership meeting, I recognized Chris Walsh for her outstanding efforts in organizing this year's InvestMidwest Venture Capital Forum. As many of you remember, this annual event started in 2000, presenting 20 companies—18 Technology and two in Life Science.

Since then, the event alternated between St. Louis and Kansas City and is now covering three tracks: Plant and Life Science, Technology and CleanTech/Alternative Energy with 45 companies presenting. I, as well as Chris and others, have been involved in the conference since its inception. Dick Fleming and the RCGA especially deserve substantial credit for providing resources during those years. The Danforth Foundation and Kaufman Foundation also deserve credit for substantial seed funding in its early years among other public and private organizations. It is worth mentioning that Missouri Venture Forum played a key role in getting InvestMidwest started and is a founding organization.

In my role as the chair of the InvestMidwest's life science selection committee for the last 11 years, I have seen a steady improvement of quality, breadth and geographical coverage of applicants. The attendance has also increased, bringing more venture capitalists and angel investors each year. In the early years, applicants came only from the immediate Kansas City and St. Louis regions. Later we started to see companies from states adjacent to

Missouri, and this year we evaluated applications from companies as far away as Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Colorado and Utah. We have even had applicants from Canada. In early 2000's, we evaluated investment opportunities in drug and medical services for pre A-round investments with inexperienced management. Now we see an equivalent number of medical devices, technology and clean technology companies, some of them in late stage clinical trials with prior funding in excess of \$20M, and numerous companies with serial management teams.

It is not an accident that today InvestMidwest is the premier venture capital forum in the Midwest. This success is due to Chris' hard work and the commitment of the community to support InvestMidwest not just with dollars but also with sweat equity of so many people and organizations. Volunteers help to identify and encourage companies to apply, assist them in preparing their presentations and raise capital. When I came to St. Louis 11 years ago, there were less than a handful of organizations assisting entrepreneurs. Now the list is long, with a few standing out like Nidus, CET, ITE, BioGenerator, Innovate St. Louis, ITEN, VMS, Skandalaris Center and our Missouri Venture Forum. All of these organizations, the people committed to them and their combined engagement in entrepreneurial activities is having a noticeable effect. Keep up the good work St. Louis.

Bob Calcaterra, President

P.S. I encourage MVF members and guests to attend InvestMidwest. To register, go to www.InvestMidwestForum.com.

Thank you MVF Sponsors



www.stcpa.com

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www.datotel.com

March Organization Spotlight

Bounce Back St. Louis: Partners for a Resilient Workforce

Formed in mid-2008 as the economy was just beginning to turn down, Bounce Back St. Louis brings public and private sector partners together to connect displaced professionals with new career opportunities in the St. Louis market. These opportunities include traditional employment, contract work, and connections to entrepreneurial endeavors. Since its beginning, the program has served more than 1,000 individuals, many of whom are experienced professionals with valuable science and technology skills.

Bounce Back is administered by the St. Louis RCGA with funding from the Missouri Division of Workforce Development through the City of St. Louis. The 2010 program includes five key components: Bounce Back Talent Groups, Emerging Economy Career Forums, working partnerships with state and private sector employment service agencies, a website www.bouncebackstl.net, and the St. Louis Job Angels which posts job openings through LinkedIn and Twitter.

Win A Free Registration to InvestMidwest!

At the March 5 MVF meeting, there will be a drawing for a free registration to attend InvestMidwest on March 24-25! If you are interested, drop your business card in the basket when you pick up your name tag. The drawing will be made at the meeting.

This is another good reason to attend on March 5! Note you must be present to be eligible to win.

Note the InvestMidwest early registration date deadline is on the day of our meeting, March 5. On or before that date, the cost is \$350 to attend and \$400 after March 5 and before March 24.

For more information on InvestMidwest, go to www.InvestMidwestForum.com.

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Two-Minute Forum Committee



Dan Davison

At the February meeting WorldKi co-founder Clayton Smith shared his story of a talent clearing house for computer game developers. WorldKi has built and is sharing a marketplace for game developers to share the tools and resources developers need to make and sell their games. Smith worked on his pitch with Two-Minute Committee members Nick Akers and Brian Peterson. For more information on WorldKi, contact: Clayton Smith: clayton@worldki.com.

Joining the Two-Minute Forum committee this month is entrepreneur Jay Logsdon. Jay has started and sold several manufacturing and services businesses, and has public accounting and tax advisor backgrounds as well. Currently, Jay's consulting company provides interim CFO and COO services. Jay will help Two-Minute Forum teams sharpen their business plans to better address operational challenges.

Among March Two-Minute presenters will be Ray Johnson with Clean Hands LLC. Ray's computer-networked soap dispenser monitors and records hand-washing for restaurants and hospitals, assuring compliance and avoiding the "yuck" factor. Less than 50% of restaurant workers actually wash their hands, according to Ray. Yuck!

Want to come clean? Volunteer to help entrepreneurs like Ray refine their stories and business plans for an upcoming Missouri Venture Forum meeting. Contact the Two-Minute Forum committee at info@missouriventureforum.org with a couple of lines describing your special skills and background and how you would like to help entrepreneurs. Depending on the entrepreneurs' needs, we help them tell an investable story, and mentor them—or refer them to other mentoring services. Our goal is to help entrepreneurs succeed.

Are you an MVF member or entrepreneur needing assistance? Complete the Two-Minute application at www.missouriventureforum.org. Non-members pay \$75, which gets you mentoring, coaching and two minutes on the podium. It also gets you into three monthly breakfast meetings. What a deal! Even a better deal is members can make a Two-Minute presentation for free (but still need to complete an application).

We're looking forward to hearing from you.

Dan Davison, BizManualz, Inc, the Two-Minute Forum Chair can be reached at 314-772-1185.



February Two-Minute Forum Presenters
(l-r) Nick Apperson and Clayton Smith,
WorldKi Inc.

Education Committee

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar now for the next MVF Education event on Thursday, May 20 from 4-7 pm at the Hilton Frontenac.

The program will be "Entrepreneur Essentials in This Economy." The Panel of experts will discuss and answer questions on managing, planning, financing and marketing in this economy. The cost of the event is \$40 and includes networking and refreshments.

The Education Committee is always looking for new program ideas. If you have suggestions for programs that could help you improve your business or your business skills, please forward them to Jan Hendrickson at jhendrickson@senniger.com.

Jan Hendrickson, Senniger Powers, is Chair of the Education Committee and can be reached at 314-345-7000.



Jan Hendrickson

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is a dedicated group of individuals who take tremendous amounts of time out of their busy schedules to promote the Missouri Venture Forum. In the first quarter 2010, for example, Membership Committee representatives will have a presence at the St. Louis Business Expo, InvestMidwest and will organize a free networking coffee.

The following individuals have spent countless hours making phone calls, answering questions and planning events all on behalf of MVF. They are: **Andy Bourey** of Vistage International; **Barry Gleeson** of Marketing Solutions, Inc.; **Doug Kolker** of Mueller Prost, P.C.; **Ron Lares** of Interactive Business Development; **Hal Hardin** of Administaff; **Jacque James** of Purk & Associates, P.C.; **Margaret Kenyon** of AAIM; **Millie Cain** of Aisle 411; **Nick Akers** of Akermin; **Rochelle Freeman** of New York Life; **Sorin Vaduva** of Imrel; **Steve Thomas** of The Net Impact; **Tim McFadden** of Armstrong Teasdale; and **Mark Witzling**, Citi. Kudos to them for all their hard work!



Nicole Ursch

Nicole Ursch is the Chair of Membership Committee and can be reached at 636-537-8080.

The 1st Quarter Free Networking Coffee hosted by the Membership Committee is currently being planned. Keep an eye out for emails and check the website about this event.

New Members

Cynthia Correll, Creative Director, Correll Studios

Correll Studios designs experiential events and interactive products that engage, educate and entertain your target audience!

Mark Jacobson, President, Wecit Industries

A life long entrepreneur/inventor who is introducing a new home product he designed and will be introducing to the market this coming year. The new company will be manufacturing and distributing the new home product worldwide from the St Louis area.

Lars Johnson, Owner, SwifTechs

SwifTechs is a full service IT company providing small and medium sized businesses with professional out sourced IT support. We have been in business since 2000 and serve the greater St. Louis area.

Susan Pais, Director of Operations, Nidus Center for Scientific Enterprise

Nidus is an organization dedicated to commercializing innovative technologies and creating a world class community for emerging companies. She has been with the organization since its inception 10 years ago.

Ken Rosenbaum, Investment Advisor, Buckingham Asset Management

Buckingham provides a disciplined, academically based investment experience tailored to address each client's distinct willingness, ability and need to accept market risk. It serves as a registered investment advisor offering fee-only investment.

Dan Sheffield, Executive Vice President, Integrity 1st Financial

Integrity 1st Financial is a national commercial real estate mortgage company that specializes in financing owner-occupied and investment properties in the \$500,000 to \$200,000,000 range.

Member Updates

Theanna Zika's homecare agency is now **Heavenly Helpers** and it is an independent agency owned solely by Zika which will open expansion possibilities not previously available. Her former agency, Visiting Angel's, was a franchise. Her new phone number is 314-493-9913.

Ken Bentlage is now the owner of **Marketing Confluence**, a marketing consulting firm that specialized in creating and implementing marketing strategies for small businesses and startups. His website is www.marketingconfluence.com, address is 17209 Chesterfield Airport Rd., Ste 241, Chesterfield, MO 63005, phone is 314-457-9684 and email is ken.bentlage@mrm-plus.com.

MVF members named Best Business Lawyers in St. Louis by the readers of *St. Louis Small Business Monthly* are: **Brian Behrens**, Carmody MacDonald P.C.; **Vince Garozzo**, Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, PC; **Chuck McCloskey**, Charles C. McCloskey, LLC; and **Tim McFadden**, Armstrong Teasdale LLP.

*Have news about yourself? Received an award? Moved? Changed positions? Gotten a promotion?
Send your information to:
info@MissouriVentureForum.org*

Events of Interest

February 26-28 The first **STL Innovation Camp**. This will be a dynamic three-day event. Local technology user groups, area businesses, and many in the entrepreneur support community will join forces to present a one of a kind camp designed to spur innovation in the Information Technology community, support economic recovery for displaced technicians, and most importantly spark an entrepreneurial renaissance in the Saint Louis Area. The cost is \$50 if you register by February 19. It will be held at the JC Penney Building on the University of Missouri-St. Louis campus. For more information and to register, go to www.stlinnovationcamp.com.

March 18 St. Louis Business Expo The largest business-to-business trade show in Missouri where you have the opportunity to meet with over 100 exhibitors and attend helpful workshops. It is held at the St. Charles Convention Center and there is no charge to attend. For more information, go to www.SBMon.com.

March 24-25 11th annual InvestMidwest, the Venture Conference of the Midwest, will have 45 presenting companies from throughout the Midwest in life sciences, technology and alternative energy/clean tech. There will be over 300 attendees including investors from top venture capital firms in the Midwest. The cost to attend if you register by March 5 is \$350. The opening reception on March 24 will be held at St. Louis Union Station Marriott and the breakfast and presentations will be on March 25 at Wells Fargo Advisors, 2801 Market Street. For more information and to register, go to www.investmidwestforum.com.

March 30 SIU Technology and Innovation Expo will be held from 9:30 am-5 pm at the Morris University Center on the Edwardsville campus. The event will feature presentations by SIU faculty inventors with technology to license and showcase the latest research under way on the three campuses. Registration is required and tickets are \$25 per person. Event information—including the Expo agenda, speakers, sponsorship opportunities and registration—is available online: <http://techtransfer.siu.edu/tie/s10>, or by calling (618) 650-2166.

March 30 A conference on **Web Globalization**, featuring a panel of experts on what you need to know to bring your enterprise successfully into the world community of the 21st century. The successful uses of social media, multi-cultural awareness and other skills will be explored. This conference is targeted for enterprises of all sizes, and will be held at Saint Louis University, John Cook School of Business from 3:45-6 pm. For more information, go to www.itenstl.org/events.

April 20 The Gateway to Innovation Conference is a great annual technology conference in St. Louis, sponsored by ITEN, the IT Coalition, Innovate St. Louis, and many others. Early registration is available for \$350 per attendee until March 1. This year's event will feature a new technology showcase, including many of the region's premier earlier-stage companies. It will be held at the Chase Park Plaza. For more information and to register, go to www.g2iconference.com.

April 29 The Start Up Connection. Mark your calendars now for the next instalment of this very popular event. Early-stage technology companies match with job seekers and other events provide a great networking event and opportunity to get up close and personal with some of our region's top entrepreneurs. It will be held at University of Missouri-St. Louis' IT Enterprises. Watch ITEN's webpage for more information at www.itenstl.org/events.

May 10-15 Small Business Week An annual event held each year to honor local entrepreneurs, to learn, and to network at various events throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan region. Visit www.sbwstl.org for more information.

Losing Track of Time



Steve Thomas

It's a snowy early weekend morning. I'm at my home desk-top with my cup of coffee and at least a week's worth of reading from the blogs, journals and the other constant online feeds to catch up with from the people in my industry who are a lot smarter than me. (I know, that's a long list.) Alerts appear on my

screen from Tweetdeck, my favorite Twitter tool, telling me that someone I follow has something new to talk about, but I hardly notice. I'm involved in a really insightful article. After a while, I turn to look out at the window and consider a point from this post. The author has caused me to stop and think for a second which is maybe why I subscribe to his RSS in the first place.

While considering this blogger's point of view against the background of the slowly falling snow, I pick up my coffee mug. Yuck. As usual, I've let it get cold. So, still needing caffeine and preferring it hot, I walk downstairs to the kitchen and reach out to pour myself a new cup. To my surprise, the coffee maker is off! As a matter of fact, the coffee that has been patiently waiting for my return is now about as cold as the coffee in my mug. I look at the clock and the microwave and notice that I've been upstairs reading and catching up now for over two hours. The timer on the coffee pot has done its job. I just lost track of time!

How often do we do that—get so engrossed in what we are doing or so involved in what is happening in front of us that we just lose our self in the moment and become oblivious to time? Recall for a second. What do you love doing so much that you lose track of time? When did you last experience

that feeling? Has it been a great book, a super movie, video game or the season premier of *Lost*? Was it time spent with someone you love or a family vacation? Ever watched your kids act in a play or compete in a tennis match and found that you have lost all concept of minutes and hours? Have you ever gotten so deep into a conversation with your friends or your spouse and eventually realized that your normal bedtime has long flown by? I have, and I enjoyed it.

For many MVF members, I have a feeling that, like me, they lose track of time a lot. From my experience, you usually only lose track of time if what you are doing takes possession of you! You enjoy it. You think it is important. So, with entrepreneurs you have to add to the events that cause them to lose track of time, something that many people would find unusual, their jobs.

You just don't lose track of time in short bursts by the way. People tend to lose track of time in longer cycles as well. I've talked to successful start-up people who have registered surprise along with their numerical answer to the question, "How long have you been doing this?" They sometimes stop and think before responding something like, "Oh, I've been involved in this for, uh...wow...five years now!" Then, they smile.

If you understand this, then in our harried, punctual, get-it-done-now world, would you please try to cut a little slack for a start-up team who is running late for an appointment? Especially if the excuse is, "Sorry, we just lost track of time."

Steve Thomas, The Net Impact, is a MVF Vice President. Contact him at steve.thomas@TheNetImpact.com

Scenes From The February MVF Meeting



(l-r) Dan Sheffield, Integrity 1st Financial; Jeff Lockwood, Kalypto Medical



(l-r) Nicole Ursch, Reliance Bank; Matthew Hecht, CareShare LLC; Richard Hecht, Hecht Business Architects



(l-r) Diane Moyerman, Halcyon Properties; Andy Belval, Datotel



(l-r) Mark Jacobson, Wecit Industries; Sam Simler, SCORE Association



(l-r) Bob Gatesh, Investment Advisors International; Don Barnes, PeaceFrog; Dan Dobinsky, Your Project Manager, LLC



(l-r) Dave Blankenship, Information Agent; February speaker Ellen Sherberg, St. Louis Business Journal

Editor's Pick

Clouds Mean Sunny Days for Organizations

by David Brown

Cloud computing is a top technology trend for 2010. In fact, experts say this technology is not just a trend that will fade away, but one with staying power. But what exactly is “cloud computing,” and why should business owners care about it?

Cloud computing allows organizations to gain access to online resources and virtual memory storage, such as servers and desktops, on an as-needed basis. Said another way, cloud computing consists of shared computing services accessible over the internet that can expand or contract on demand without technology infrastructure investments, personnel training or licensing of new software from the organization's end. What do these resources look like? They can be as simple as word processing programs or as complex as client databases.

The benefits of cloud computing for an organization start with scalability--computing capacity is there when it is needed. During periods of time where servers are particularly strained, such as holidays for retailers, businesses can tap into reserves that are not needed the rest of the year. There is no need to wait for the installation of physical resources before users can gain access to them. This offers organizations the chance to start using technology resources as soon as possible and not when they have reached a certain revenue stream.

Compared with a traditional in-house IT deployment model, cloud computing offers organizations a lower total cost with increased scalability and responsiveness, making the cloud an incredibly cost-efficient model. For organizations, scalability doesn't mean having large amounts of costly unused server capacity available; the average computer capacity utilization is only five to ten percent on a traditional dedicated server, but organizations still pay for 100%. With private cloud environments, the user expands/contracts the resources they need when they need them, the user also pays for them on a similar basis.

In contrast to traditional IT services, the cloud offers a higher rate of reliability due to its underlying technology. The computing is now removed from the physical hardware and the load can be spread over a number of resources in a large farm of physical servers. Here, if

one server does fail, the system is still up and running. That is not to say that failures and losses of data will not happen. Regardless of where or how the data and systems are located and stored, everyone should always make sure they understand how data and systems are backed up and what risks they are accepting and/or mitigating.

Understanding cloud computing and how it compares with a traditional in-house IT deployment model is crucial. In fact, when entering the cloud, it is important to know that organizations do not have to go with an all-or-nothing approach. Organizations should work with trusted service providers to create the best line of attack. For example, an organization can use the cloud to create a hybrid, augmenting its current infrastructure, either as its existing equipment ages out or for additional capacity. In addition, private clouds can be created to allow organizations to gain many of the benefits provided by the larger public cloud, but run on their own dedicated infrastructure.

The area of cloud computing has evolved at a tremendous pace over the past year and shows no sign of slowing down. In fact, Gartner recently announced that it believes that by 2012, 20% of all businesses will no longer own any IT assets and will be fully reliant upon cloud computing. Several large software and hardware manufacturers also have begun working together more closely, ensuring systems are seamlessly optimized when used to provide cloud-enabled services.

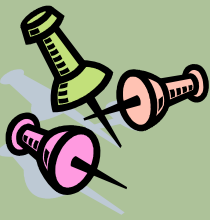
More questions will arise about the cloud as it continues to evolve. For now, know that because technology is at the heart of business operations, clouds mean sunny days for organizations.

David Brown is the president and founder of St. Louis-based Datotel and can be reached at 314-241-9101.

Editor's note: Datotel is a MVF sponsor and our website is colocated in its cloud. www.datotel.com, www.facebook.com/datotel twitter.com/datotel



*Enterprise Newsletter
Editor Sorin Vaduva
can be reached at
Sorin@imrel.com*



Members' Bulletin Board

Participate in A Member's Free Research Study

Is your company planning a significant change but you are worried that your people will resist and embrace the classic survival instincts? These are natural behaviors and must be addressed to successfully achieve lasting change. MVF member Jeff Marsh is currently conducting research in this field and is searching for organizations that will allow him to observe the undergoing change. The study is free to the participant organization and its leadership will have access to the final results as well as researcher's recommendations.

If you are interested in participating in this study or know someone that is a good candidate, please contact Jeff at Jmarsh@marshintprop.com.

2010 St. Louis Regional Business Plan Competition

Reminder, the deadline for St. Louis County Economic Council's Business Plan Competition is coming up. The Economic Council will award the three top winning companies with significant prize money, provided by Edward Jones, in addition to legal, accounting and marketing services donated by local companies.

Every for-profit industry sector is eligible and businesses have to be new or in the early stage. The deadline for submitting applications is Tuesday, March 9, 2010. For additional information about eligibility, rules, judging criteria and deadlines, visit www.slcec.com.

Do you have information of interest to other members? Please submit your announcement to info@MissouriVentureForum.org.

Missouri Venture Forum Committees

Entrepreneur Education

Purpose is to educate and guide entrepreneurs by developing and presenting educational programs.

Chair: Jan Hendrickson — Senniger Powers LLP

Patrick Clarkin — Charles L. Crane Agency

Bob Cockrell — Montgomery Bank

Bill Ellis — Conrad Ellis Group

Jacque James — Purk & Associates, P.C.

Margaret Kenyon — AAIM Employers' Association

Judy Meador — Meador Management

Pete Peters — InnovateVMS

Bill Prenatt — Simply Successful LLC

Joe Soraghan — Danna McKittrick, P.C.

Joy Ann Venverloh — Lexx Funding, Inc.

Marketing/Communications

Purpose is to promote the Missouri Venture Forum and partner organizations and write and edit the Enterprise newsletter.

Chair: David Meyer — Spoke Marketing, LLC

Newsletter Editor: Sorin Vaduva — ImRel, LLC

Barry Gleeson — Marketing Solutions, Inc.

Membership

Develop and implement programs, activities and events that will foster and support the recruitment and retention of members and also provide a benefit to the members, as well as carry out the mission of the Forum.

Chair: Nicole Ursch — Reliance Bank

Nick Akers — Akermin, Inc.

Andy Bourey — Vistage (TEC) St. Louis

Rochelle Freeman — New York Life

Barry Gleeson — Marketing Solutions, Inc.

Hal Hardin — Administaff

Margaret Kenyon — AAIM Employers' Association

Doug Kolker — Mueller Prost PC

Ron Lares — Interactive Business Development

Tim McFadden — Armstrong Teasdale LLP

Steve Thomas — The Net Impact

Sorin Vaduva — ImRel, LLC

Mark Witzling — Citi

Interested in joining a Committee?

Call the Committee Chair:

Education	Jan Hendrickson	314-345-7000
Marketing	David Meyer	314-517-8459
Membership	Nicole Ursch	636-537-8080

Missouri Venture Forum Committees

Two-Minute Forum/Mentoring

Purpose of the mentoring program is to help entrepreneurs succeed in their entrepreneurial endeavors.

Chair: Dan Davison — BizManualz, Inc.
Nick Akers — Akermin, Inc.
Jim Brasunas — IT Entrepreneur Network
Tom Frogge — BKD LLP

Jay Logsdon — The Logsdon Group
Alan Ludmer — The Voyager Group
Brian Peterson — UHY Advisors

Outreach

Purpose is to encourage collaboration between MVF and other organizations that support the region's entrepreneurial community.

Chair: Vince Garozzo — Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C.
David Butler — Heartland Innovations, LLC
Kristine Jarden — SIUE Entrepreneurship Center
Chris Walsh — InvestMidwest

Program

Identify and arrange for topics and speakers for the monthly meetings and determine other events with different meeting formats that would be of value to members.

Chair: Victoria Gonzalez — Nidus Center
Vice Chair: Anna Doyle — MarketSphere
Adam Herman — Mueller Prost PC
Susan Pais — Nidus Center

Joe Soraghan — Danna McKittrick, P.C.
Steve Thomas - The Net Impact

Technology

Purpose is to constantly improve and enhance the Forum's online networking capabilities and community.

Chair: Sorin Vaduva — ImRel, LLC
Andy Belval — Datotel
Barry Gleeson — Marketing Solutions, Inc.
David Meyer, Spoke Marketing, LLC
Steve Thomas — The Net Impact

**Interested in joining a Committee?
Call the Committee Chair:**

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Questions? Call the MVF Office at 314-241-2683 or visit www.MissouriVentureForum.org