30th Annual Emerging Issues Forum: *Innovation Reconstructed*
Feb. 9–10, 2015, Raleigh Convention Center

**POST-FORUM REPORT: “WHAT’S THE ONE THING YOU PLAN TO DO WHEN YOU LEAVE THIS CONFERENCE?”**

As the Forum was wrapping up, we asked our participants to answer the following question via the Live Polling function on our Forum app. Here’s what they told us (just as they submitted).

**Q: What is one thing you plan to do when you leave this conference?**

- I plan to become more informed of the educational and economic realities facing my local and county organizations and become a better advocate for the under.
- Partner w/our community economic development group to establish a young people’s innovation/entrepreneurial hub for middle & high school students
- Follow up on the connections made here
- Share what K 12 education can do to foster stem and innovation by calling on business partners
- Connect with a young person to mentor them to reach their full potential. Thanks to FIRST Robotics lead for the inspiration!
- Support crowd funding for small businesses
- Share the takeaways with key stakeholders and as many students as possible
- Take the knowledge gained here to impact high school entrepreneurs
- As a young entrepreneur being forced to pursue funding and my ventures out in California. My plan is to take my expertise and learnings from this experience and bring them back to engage others locally throughout North Carolina. Through mentorship, sweat/capital investments, and the fostering of innovation and creativity; I will help grow North Carolina’s international relevance and contribution to the world.
- Engage the schools in NCEast region with innovation & business entrepreneurship opportunities.
• Partner with local university system through internships that foster innovative design and application projects.
• Help build collaborative relationships with UNC schools across the state, & facilitate technology transfer of our research activities.
• Revisit the program and all the speakers to draw some big picture lessons about innovation and how I can apply it in my own life.
• Encourage trans sector applications of technologies
• Capture the most innovative ideas in grant proposals to fund the work that will have meaningful impacts for North Carolinians.
• Work with top employers in the state to identify the biggest problems they’d pay to have solved, together with innovators to focus their solutions.
• I will give back to the community by volunteering at the schools to educate the importance of biotech.
• Work to connect areas of North Carolina through education. I want to get students, businesspeople, government workers, and more collaborating.
• Find a way to get entire state excited and rallied around our existing global leadership in clean energy innovation, manufacturing and delivery
• Establish an Innovation Fund to support student entrepreneurs in the College of Textiles at NC State
• Work in my local community to create a greater sense of trust between organizations that will better foster the community to flourish.
• Share the priorities chosen across our network and determine how we can support achieving these goals.
• Moore County's entrepreneurship hub called Moore Forward
• Try to make sure every child has a meaningful chance to succeed.
• Form ultimate community partnership between NC State and a NC community plant the seeds of a rainforest in our own backyard!
• Take the Innovation to health care and improving population health.
• Bring the innovation ideas to my regional government staff. Density is integral to innovation.
• Study how to create a culture of high expectations that fosters innovation.
• Create a mailing list for people who are interested in learning more about the strengths, challenges, and opportunities present in Eastern North Carolina. There are thousands of great people in ENC doing important work who need to know one another!
• Continue to foster partnerships with other attendees
• Explore the potential of coordinating a rural model for impact funding
• Reflect how innovation and technology can be incorporated more in the life of faith based organizations and churches.
• work to help build a community of stakeholders across diverse lines to feel innovation over a variety of social issues.
• Speak with my churches about partnerships in our school system to focus on 3rd grade literacy.
• Discuss with my colleagues at my organization steps we can take to create and modify programs to increase innovation, and then follow through with those steps.
• make sur to connect the rest of the wold with NC
• 1. Share the information I have learned with other students. 2. Speak to my chancellor about creating an environment in our university that promotes innovation.
• I will look into the entrepreneurship village @ NC State and continue to be involved in my community.
• Renew relationships with colleagues involved in research to discuss possible collaborations.
• Connect with a number of the entrepreneurs highlighted as potential speakers to students at NC State University interested in entrepreneurship.
• Work to connect ask areas of North Carolina through education. I want to get us all collaborating.
• Focus on getting broadband access to every student in a disenfranchised community in Cabarrus County.
• Tell more stories about innovation and the great work happening across the state.
• Embed innovation activities into stem project for esl kids.
• Ensure that all events our organization is involved in includes diverse representation and strengthens inclusiveness.
• explore ways to better integrate STEM and humanities/social sciences in an interdisciplinary fashion to more fully address complex issues
• Investigate and learn more about all the fascinating innovation projects that are underway as a springboard for future action. Also spread the gospel
• help my students innovate
• encourage traditional workers and content experts to experiment with working in non-traditional work environments
• I plan to become more active as a future entrepreneur and innovator by becoming more involved in my university to ensure that I play a significant role in making change in the community that extends beyond my campus.
• Work to create some demonstration towns for green initiatives in North Carolina
• Connect with colleagues to implement the I2j recommendations.
• Stimulate activities that foster NC's innovation ecosystem
• Revisit all I heard and learned and think deeply about it and how I and the people I have business and political relationships drive change and create new opportunities
• Focus on changing the community college structure so it can become more nimble, efficient and innovative
• Connect with western NC leaders to collaborate on new projects and rebranding our area
• Really start the business I've been tinkering with over the past year.
• Propose a plan for space and culture that embraces innovation at my office space.
• Follow up on the connections I made with other innovators
• Share insights from the forum with my staff.
• Continue conversations started here
• Focus on what I do best; collaborate on the rest
• Stay better connected to the amazing people we have here to push these initiatives forward
• implement an innovation idea
• Develop a community leadership council that will inject these ideas into my community.
• I hope to continue to reach out to surrounding schools and work towards collaboration of minds to start innovating together!
• Spread the word to all who will listen that our county has to get on board.
• help our local governments identify the hidden capacity to enable innovation
• I plan to begin thinking about my undergraduate degree in the frame of entrepreneurship to become part of North Carolina's innovative future.
• Investigate the issue of financing among small businesses and startups.
• I hope to take some of these concepts back to my folks in rural eastern nc.
• Cooperate and form networks with other innovators and organizations in an effort to tackle issues better than I could individually
• teach
• Innovation at our office- new culture
• Take action next time an issue comes up that doesn't just solve that one problem, but rather prevents it from occurring in the future
• Take these learnings back to Moore County's innovation hub called
• Contribute some part of my career to making sure North Carolina becomes the next vertex in the Triangle of Innovation
• Fosters connections between higher ed, business, k-12, the public sector, informal ed, and federal government.
• Approach challenges in my schooling with a more holistic viewpoint, doing my best to succeed through creative thinking.
• Create positive turbulence in my organization by being curious
• Look over my notes, summarize a report on the forum and present to the Dean of Business School at the illustrious Fayetteville State University in hopes that we can assist the state and tomorrow's youth have a better, brighter future.
• Mentor a student entrepreneur
• Follow up with some of the individuals I met to discuss ways my organization can partner with theirs
• investigate business models
• Leverage our corporate path of innovation to build stronger external relationships, especially with local Universities.
• Send a team to Centennial Campus to see innovation and innovative environments in action.
• Make an investment with a potential social impact return.
• Contact antita brown about EIF, community broad
• work to connect entrepreneurs and community development practitioners to capital through innovative mechanisms
• Start seeing innovation as something that reaches across majors/fields of study. I hope to start bringing this mindset into the classroom
• Explore opportunities to use Rainforst Innovation approaches in my daily work
• To learn more about the issues so I can start participating in the processes
• Become actively involved in the Innovate Raleigh effort
• Integrate education and workforce development partners into several projects
• Discuss with my colleagues who attended
• Engage in Ag biotech in my area
• Introduce an open data resolution at a future county meeting.
• Discuss information learned at emerging issues Conference with colleagues and teacher that help support our outreach endeavors
• Connect with school administrators and local government leaders to help implement the next steps to innovate the ecosystem of North Carolina
• Start to volunteer more in my community
• Commit myself to a greater dedication to true innovation in my everyday professional life.
• Learn more about impact investing and build it into the work I do with universities across the country.
• Increased engagement in human capital and retention in NC tech space
• Brainstorm ways to bring innovation and technology into my career goals
• Secure a new position in state government which supports workforce training
• Innovate!
• I will consider the principles of innovation and how best to promote them within my organization.
• Mentor and invest in high potential entrepreneurs.
• Share knowledge with colleagues
• Continue mentoring students from traditionally under-represented backgrounds
• Engage more with students at NC State who are planning & pursuing innovative ideas to encourage and mentor them.
• Carry ideas back to my workplace.
• Trust in partnerships so that I can reach my goals!
• Connect people I've met or heard from at Forum with others, accelerate innovation
• Make an assertive effort to enter connect with NC State
• Promote NCSU Innovation program
• To go inspire and encourage the youth to be as creative as possible.
• Continue to reach out to and engage more partners to bring FIRST robotics programs to more K-12 students in all 100 counties in the state.
• Continue to make volunteering a priority.
• Visit Packard Place in Charlotte to see an innovation space
• Connect the right people together for collaboration.
• Launch my business Renewable Recreation
• Provide more information to leaders
• Call and/or email a few folks on the stage to share ideas and see if we can innovate together.
• connect with colleagues regarding an innovative incubator concept for a rural community
• Keep connecting people within our communities strategically and authentically.
• Work on the security of my web business.
• Make more connections
• email professional contacts that i made during breaks
• Work to develop community partnerships with deep reaching goals.
• I plan to learn Ruby so I can take part in the amazing tech innovation happening in my town (Durham)
• Go through college with my mind wide open.
• Work towards creating a civic engagement initiative that addresses one of the top priorities
• Create connectivity
• Connect a student innovator to regional resources.
• share my notes on all the speakers with my entire team!
• Encourage teacher innovation by creating a bigger stage for individual teachers to talk from.
• Continue to positively promote a culture of innovation within my company
• Work on the public and built community elements of establishing a healthy and complete ecosystem for innovation
• Find solutions to increase innovation in the biomedical sciences
• Connect with school
• Network