Happy New Year. I hope your 2019 is off to a strong start.

In this first issue of IMPACT for 2019, I would like to share just a few of our economic development initiatives already underway. Our Georgia Manufacturing Extension Program (GaMEP) has been tapped to implement a Food Safety Program in four states (Georgia, Iowa, Idaho and Oregon) to help small manufacturers comply with the Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements. Additionally this year, GaMEP is offering a yearlong cohort program for Georgia manufacturers implementing the Energy Management Standard ISO 50001.

Through our Economic Development Lab program, we have also initiated a pilot practicum for MBA students in the Scheller College of Business to work with alumni owned international companies that are exploring U.S. expansion. This is part of our Georgia Tech Soft Landings initiative.

This coming year will also see continued expansion of our ATDC incubator and entrepreneurship services across the state of Georgia. Learn more about several new ATDC staff leading this effort below.

From helping technology startups succeed to working with communities and industry for sustainable growth, I look forward to sharing our efforts in innovation-led economic development throughout the year.

Chris Downing, P.E.
Vice President and Director

**Economic Development Updates**

**ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER (ATDC)**

- **Ben Andrews named ATDC Statewide program manager:** In this role, Andrews will oversee the ATDC @ initiative, which takes the incubator’s education, resources, and programming to various cities across the state. He will work with ATDC’s catalysts in current ATDC @ cities, which include Athens, Augusta, Peachtree Corners, and Savannah. [FULL STORY]
• **Chris Hamilton to lead ATDC's Athens efforts:** Serial entrepreneur Chris Hamilton has joined the Advanced Technology Development Center and will manage the ATDC @ Athens programming and work with entrepreneurs looking to build technology companies and product-based startups in the greater Athens region. [FULL STORY]

• **Brad Schweizer named ATDC investor relations manager:** At ATDC, Schweizer will advise companies on financing strategies, investor relations, and how to facilitate connections between entrepreneurs and investors. [FULL STORY]
GEORGIA MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

- **GaMEP recruiting companies to participate in new energy management improvement program**: The GaMEP) at Georgia Tech has launched a new program to help manufacturers boost their competitiveness by implementing energy management best practices in ISO 50001. A 12-month effort, the Southeast MEP Energy Management Program is being funded with a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP). [FULL STORY]

GEORGIA TECH PROCUREMENT ASSISTANCE CENTER

- **GTPAC to host Defense Innovation Conference in January**: GTPAC will host a day-long event designed to benefit innovative small businesses – with priority given to small technology companies that have the potential to directly enhance achievement of DoD’s mission. Advance registration is required for this event; on-site registration will not be allowed. The registration fee is $50. [REGISTER HERE]
EI² Programs In The News/Client Successes

- **ATDC:** [Q&A with BIP Capital: What We Learned in 2018, What's Ahead in 2019](#)
  [Atlanta Inno](#)
- **ATDC and ENGAGE:** [Devcon raises $4.5M to beef up adtech security](#)
  [Tech Crunch](#)
- **ENGAGE:** [The Mom Project, a job site for moms returning to work, nabs $8 million from Initialized](#)
  [Tech Crunch](#)
- **GaMEP:** [Product Design Assistance Helps Bring New Product to Market](#)