

Winter Happenings

BEACON is proud to announce the addition of two new members. These include Springfield Technical Community College, and Electron Technologies Corp. to its Membership.

Springfield Technical Community College



Located on 35 acres of the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) is a leader, regionally and nationally in several areas including: 1) economic development with the establishment of the only Technology Park associated with a community college, as well as the Springfield Enterprise Center for the incubation and guidance of small businesses – both adult and student owned, 2) telecommunications as a National Center for Telecommunications Technologies, created through a \$3 million grant from the National Science Foundation, 3) workforce development through the college's Center for Business and Technology, which won the CompTIA 2002 Certificate of Excellence Award, 4) entrepreneurship education with a myriad of programs designed for primary grades through college, and the recent launch of the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship and, 5) now with a renewed emphasis on biotechnology, through its degree program, planned certificate programs and anticipated focus on bioscience and engineering in the STCC Technology Park. STCC's academic offerings range from the traditional transfer programs (students transfer to Smith, Mt. Holyoke, RPI, and other colleges), as well as career preparation. Thomas Goodrow, Vice President of Economic Business Development, and Stephen Keller, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs will be the BEACON Membership representatives for STCC.

For more information check out our website at:

www.beaconalliance.org

Electron Technologies



Electron Technologies Corporation, based in South Windsor, Connecticut, has operated over the last twenty years as a **contract electron beam radiation treatment provider**, serving the biotechnology, chemical, plastics and semiconductor industries. According to Richard Plank, President of Electron Technologies, "in order to fully understand radiation chemistry one needs to be part chemist, part physicist, and part engineer. Our company is dedicated to filling this void." Working closely with its customer engineering and product development departments, the radiation treatment service provided by Electron Technologies is instrumental in the development of new products, ideas and applications. The company has taken many of its customers from the R&D phase through pilot production and into full production with several product applications. The company operates two electron accelerator machines at the facility. The accelerators which are housed in concrete vaults, are designed to give the company the flexibility to quickly change product lines by changing the under beam conveyors and handling equipment. This is routinely accomplished in a matter of minutes. The companies staff has many years of experience and offers consulting and support services to aid customers in developing a product application from the R&D stages through engineering to production. The company is FDA registered and is ISO 9002 compliant. Electron Technologies President Richard Plank, will be the BEACON representative, and has been with the company since 1965.

Mission Statement:

BEACON pledges to facilitate a collaborative alliance among its academic, industrial and clinical members. Our goal is to stimulate collaborative research, promote industrial partnering within the alliance and foster the development of new companies whose primary objectives are to advance biomedical science and create innovative engineering solutions in healthcare.

BEACON, the Biomedical Engineering Alliance and Consortium Collaborative Team (2002): Trinity College, The University of Connecticut, The University of Hartford, The University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Springfield Technical Community College, Hartford Hospital, John Dempsey Hospital, Saint Francis Medical Center, Baystate Medical Center, The University of Stuttgart and University of Friburg Medical School. Corporate Sponsors include Pfizer, TYCO Kendall Health Care, GE Medical, Boston Scientific, Court Square Data Group, Pepe & Hazard, Pullman & Comley, Connecticut Light & Power, UBS Paine Webber, McCormick, Paulding & Huber, Premise, Vivax, MicroTest, Electron Technologies Corp.

Homeland Security Seminar

On Saturday, March 15, 2003, BEACON sponsored a Homeland Security Seminar at Rennselaer at Hartford in collaboration with the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT) entitled: "Public Health's Preparedness and Response to Homeland Security: Information Technology Needs" **Congressman John Larson, 1st District of Connecticut, made opening remarks.** Topics covered included "The Obtrusive Dimensions to Bioterrorism", by Swamy Laxminarayan, IEEE, "Information Technology in the Age of Public Health Response to Bioterrorism" by Mr. Mike Popovich, Scientific Technologies Corp., "Healthy Communities and Biodefense", by Dr. Mike McDonald, Global Health Initiative, "Bioterrorism and Public Health" by Ms. Karen Ingram, Asyst, Inc., and "The Homeland Security-Public Health Challenges" by Dr. Luis Kun.



Homeland Security Seminar speakers ...

The presentation was followed by a lively question and answer period during which there was an opportunity for a significant dialogue between the presenters and the audience. The overall conclusion was there is a need for standard integrated computer platforms that will facilitate the interchange of data between health care facilities.

Lieut. Gov. Jodi Rell Visits BEACON

Lieutenant Governor Jodi Rell came to BEACON headquarters on March 10, 2003. She was given a full BEACON presentation and asked probing questions regarding the operation of BEACON and its "bottoms up" approach. At the end of her visit she stated that she was very impressed in what BEACON has accomplished in such a short time, and indicated that she would give BEACON her endorsement and support.



Lieutenant Governor Jodi Rell visits BEACON offices.

NSF Visit

Continuing its goal to have its members informed regarding granting opportunities at the federal and level, BEACON had **Program Director of the NSF's Bioengineering and Aid to the Disabled Program, Dr. Carol Lucas**, address members of the BEACON Community at the Harry Gray Center at the University of Hartford on February 14, 2003. Over 30 people attended to hear Dr. Lucas talk on the range of opportunities for grant proposals related to Bioengineering and Aid to the Disabled.



Come join us!

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