

# Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities Newsletter

## TFIC Executive Director Named

The Board of Directors is excited to announce that Larry Peterson has been hired as the executive director of TFIC.

Larry is a successful entrepreneur and investor, previously building two of the largest IT companies in west Texas and New Mexico. He is currently chair of the Mayor of El Paso's economic development council, the Texas Lyceum Economic Growth Policy Advisory Council, and is a past-chair of the Texas Lyceum, a statewide political leadership organization.

Larry is a co-founder of numerous technology-related efforts in Texas and New Mexico, including the Camino Real Angels, the Software and Information

Technology Organization (SITO), and the Camino Real Venture Competition. He was also a founding advisory board member to the Sandia Lab-created Bi-National Sustainability Lab (BNSL).

Larry was an original member of the Texas Technology Working Initiatives Group (TWIG) chaired by Dr. George Kozmetsky, a founding member of the original New Mexico Technology Research Corridor (TRC) organization, encompassing \$6 billion in annual research expenditures, and co-chair of the Texas Software and Wireless Technology Cluster initiative.

Our thanks go to BJ Stanbery for his service as interim executive director.

## INNOVATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



### The TFIC Board of Directors

- Dr. BJ Stanbery, HelioVolt
- Pike Powers, Fulbright & Jaworski
- Stan Starrett, Starrett Development
- Tim Costello, Builder Homesite, Inc.
- Bill Stanberry, Stanberry Realty
- Harry Savio, Home Builders Association of Greater Austin

### TFIC Advisory Board

- David J. Anderson, Black & Veatch
- John Baker, Austin Energy
- Mike Burke, MDB Capital Ventures
- Cris Eugster, CPS Energy
- Luis de la Garza, Texen Power Company
- Paul Hudson, Hudson Consulting
- Mitch Jacobson, Austin Technology Incubator
- Brewster McCracken, Pecan Street Project
- John Rosshirt, Stanberry Realty
- Robert Shemwell, Overland Partners/Architects
- Scott Swanson, Raymond James & Associates

## Hundreds Attend TFIC's Green Jobs Conference

TFIC's Green Jobs Initiative conference was held in the Texas Capitol Auditorium on the morning of March 26. Over 300 industry leaders, workforce development professionals, educators, administrators, and other stakeholders interested in developing a green economy in Texas attended the event. Panelists included:

### Energy Efficiency Workforce

- Joe Deringer, Staff Scientist, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab
- Liz Fischer, Director, Building Commissioning Association
- Todd McAlister, Executive Director, Air Conditioning Contractors of America—Texas

### Renewable Energy Workforce

- Howard Newton, Chairman, International Ground Source Heat Pump Association's Training Committee
- Ken Whiteside, Director of Educational Program Development, Ontility
- Don Penn, President, Image Engineering Group

### Smart Grid Workforce

- Paul Hudson, Chairman, Center for the Commercialization of Electric Technologies
- Paul Hilgers, Assistant General Manager, Pedernales Electric Cooperative
- Larry Fuller, Director of Training, CenterPoint Energy

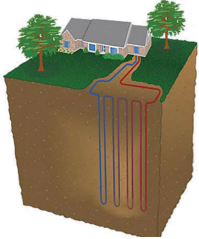
Video copies of the panels are available upon request. Our thanks go to Good Company Associates for their role in helping to organize and facilitate the event.

**GET INVOLVED WITH THE FUTURE OF TEXAS**

## Other News

### Training Forum on Geothermal Heat Pumps Held March 26th

As a follow-up to our recently released research paper on the workforce implications of the geothermal heat pump industry in Texas, a half day training forum on geothermal heat pumps was held March 26 at the Texas Capitol.



Over 80 people registered for the session, attended by community college instructors, union trainers, university professors, representatives from workforce boards, and other interested parties. The session covered best practices in GHP design, drilling, installation, and more.

Our thanks go out to representatives of the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association (IGSHPA), Bosch-Florida Heat Pump, Image Engineering Group, Earth Tech, ClimateMaster, and Trane for participating in the workshop. A copy of the presentations from the event as well as our GHP research paper is available at:

[http://www.txcleanenergypark.com/supporting\\_docs.php](http://www.txcleanenergypark.com/supporting_docs.php)

## Get Involved!

### Help "Green" Texas Curriculum

TFIC and Good Company Associates will be helping the Green Corridor Collaborative "green" the curriculum at Texas community colleges in the areas of HVAC, construction, power management systems, and electric technologies. A minimum of 10 course modules will be developed which will be deliverable as stand-alone trainings for incumbent workers and as add-ons to existing semester long courses.

If you are a subject matter expert in any of these areas and would like to participate in meetings with community college instructors or would like to otherwise provide assistance to this project, please contact Doug Lewin at [dlewin@goodcompanyassociates.com](mailto:dlewin@goodcompanyassociates.com).

### Next Industry Research Paper: Smart Energy Solutions

Based on input from our Green Jobs Business Council and members of the Green Corridor Collaborative, it was decided that our next detailed industry report will be on "smart energy" solutions.



The report will be released in May 2010. If you would like to provide input, please contact Chris Winland at [cwinland@goodcompanyassociates.com](mailto:cwinland@goodcompanyassociates.com).



## Jobs Corner

### Need a Clean Energy Graduate?

As part of our Wagner-Peyser grant activities, TFIC and Good Company Associates are helping to identify internships, apprenticeships, and other job opportunities for graduates of local clean energy programs. If you have a need for an employee in a clean energy industry, please contact either Chris or Doug.

## CentralTX@Work

Industry & Education Summit 2010

TFIC was proud to sponsor the SkillPoint Alliance's CentralTX@Work Industry and Education Summit on April 21st. Over a hundred representatives of business, education, government, and the community showed up to address the future of workforce development in the Central Texas region. If you missed the event, ongoing discussions, relevant content, and access to their social network can be reached from <http://www.skillpointalliance.org/centraltxatwork>.

## Did You Know?

WorkInTexas.com is the official online job matching (Labor Exchange) system of Texas. It is a free and comprehensive Web site created by the Texas Workforce Commission that offers job seekers and employers immediate and continuous access to job matching services. Currently over 250,000 Texas employers and 4 million job seekers are registered with the site.

