

the voice of technology

The Voice of Technology is a bi-monthly publication of the Northern Virginia Technology Council. www.nvtc.org



Training the Technology  
Workforce of Tomorrow



September/October 2007

**NVTC**

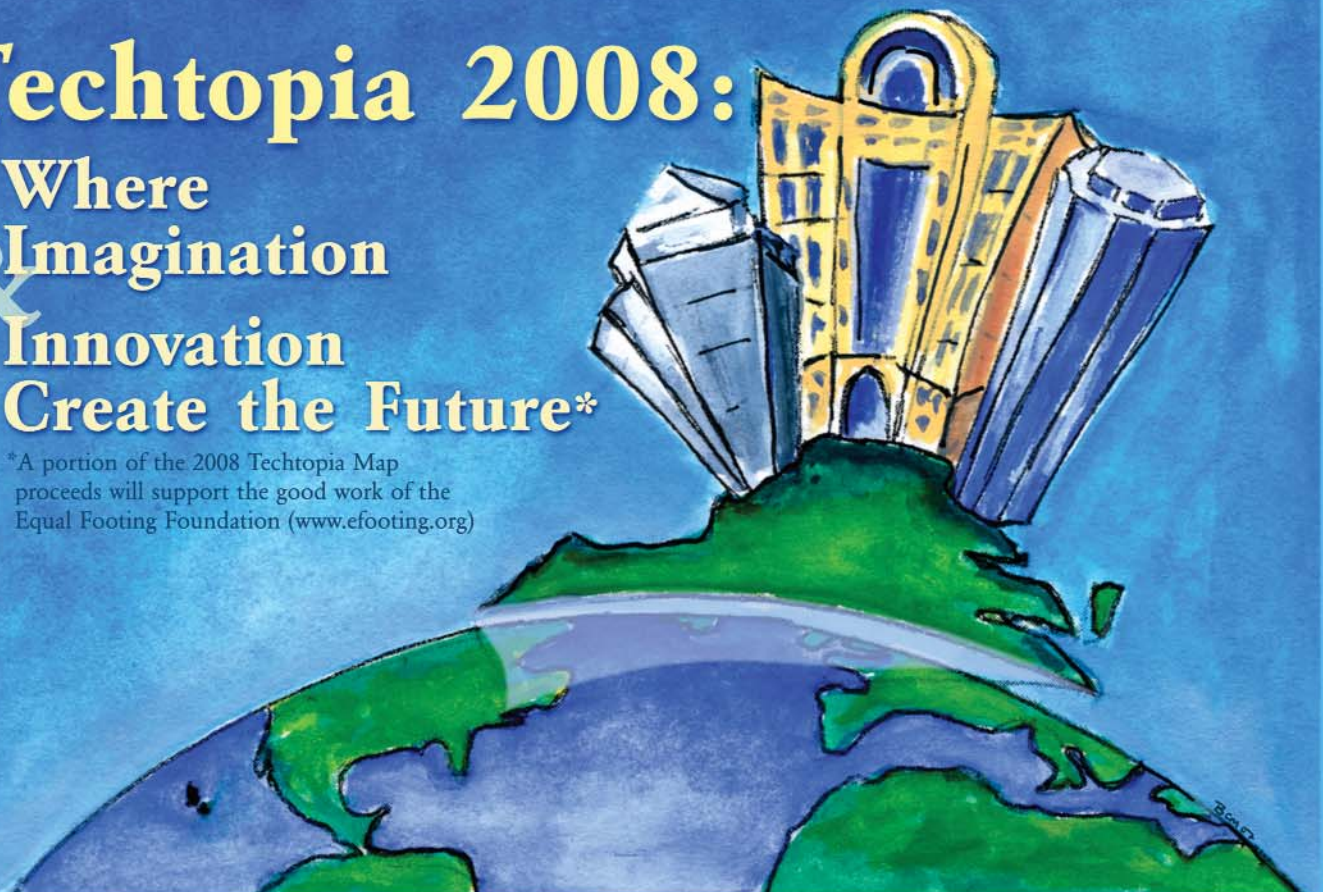
northern virginia technology council magazine

Inside:  
Equal Footing  
Foundation  
2006 – 2007 Annual Report

# Techtopia 2008:

## Where & Imagination & Innovation Create the Future\*

\*A portion of the 2008 Techtopia Map proceeds will support the good work of the Equal Footing Foundation ([www.efooting.org](http://www.efooting.org))



For the past eight years, the NVTC Techtopia Map has celebrated tech innovation in Northern Virginia.

In 2008, we're taking that concept one step further by supporting the future of tech innovation in our region by donating a portion of the map proceeds to NVTC's philanthropic arm, the Equal Footing Foundation, which serves 1,500 children ages 8-18 a week through its Computer Clubhouse programs.

*Is your company on the map yet?*

Industry-exclusive major sponsorships are available for \$4,000 and logo sponsorships are available for just \$1,000. For the first time, in 2008 we will publish a separate calendar version of the poster-sized map, and have a limited number of calendar page sponsorships available.

**Deadline for logo and map sponsorships is October 15, 2007.**

Show your support of the technology community of today and tomorrow in Northern Virginia! E-mail Michelle Senglaub at [MSenglaub@nvtc.org](mailto:MSenglaub@nvtc.org) to reserve your spot on the 2008 NVTC Techtopia Map or to learn more about the benefits of sponsorship.

## features

- Strengthen STEM Education for the Workforce of Tomorrow p. 8  
*NVTC Speaks with Delegate David Poisson*
- The Equal Footing Foundation Annual Report p. 11
- another voice* p. 33  
*LEAD VA: Building Connectivity through Technology and Relationships*
- Koелеmay's Kosmos p. 34

## council business

- Message from the Board p. 5
- Bits & Bytes p. 7
- NVTC September/October Events p. 28
- New and Renewing Members p. 32

### Northern Virginia Technology Council

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#### Mission

The Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC) is the membership and trade association for the technology community in Northern Virginia and is the largest technology council in the nation. NVTC has about 1,100 member companies representing more than 200,000 employees. Its membership includes companies from all sectors of the technology industry and the service providers that support those companies as well as universities, foreign embassies, non-profit organizations and governmental agencies. NVTC is recognized as the nation's leader in providing its technology community with networking and educational events, specialized services and benefits, public policy advocacy, branding of its region as a major global technology center, initiatives in targeted business sectors and in the international, entrepreneurship, workforce and education arenas, the Equal Footing Foundation that focuses on venture philanthropy and public/private partnerships and The Entrepreneur Center @NVTC to mentor new technology entrepreneurs.

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## NVTC Business Partners



# Don't Miss These Upcoming NVTC Events

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October 4, 2007  
Reston Town Center



October 17, 2007  
Featuring **David Zaslav**  
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November 5, 2007  
with Special Keynote Address by:  
**David Rubenstein**  
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The Carlyle Group



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To register and learn about sponsorships  
visit [www.nvtc.org](http://www.nvtc.org)

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

**A**s a technology company executive, I am continuously immersed in devising effective and innovative solutions to deal with the day-to-day challenges of my business, TranTech. I know that my employees are the “human factor” behind these solutions—and for my business to grow in an evolving business and technology environment, they must have the ability to grow professionally through education and training.

At TranTech, we believe strongly in furthering capabilities through education and training because it separates and raises our employees from the competition. Taking advantage of the gift of education shapes your mind, your heart and your soul for the rest of your life. It creates opportunities and brings you wealth and security, both intellectually and materially.

The growth in information technology (IT) over the years has contributed exponentially to our nation’s economy and improved quality of life. Technologies are spurring new products and services, as well as fostering new businesses. IT jobs are most often complex, specialized and competitive. Education and training opportunities must be offered to employees in the sector for companies to maintain a competitive edge over the competition—both domestically and internationally.

To assure U.S. competitiveness in the future, we also need to consider the technology workforce of the future. Therefore, in addition to being a proponent of continuing education for today’s workforce, I am also a supporter of providing proper education, training and mentoring to youth who will constitute the technology workforce of tomorrow—in particular, providing greater emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education from a child’s earliest years. In the first of a two-part series, in this issue of *The Voice of Technology*, Virginia Delegate David Poisson, an outspoken and prominent advocate of STEM, provides his perspectives on what the Commonwealth of Virginia needs to do remain a leading 21st century knowledge economy.

I am thrilled that NVTC has realized the incredible importance of providing technology-oriented educational opportunities and mentorship to assure a strong workforce of the future. Through NVTC’s philanthropic arm, the Equal Footing Foundation, thousands of underserved youth in our region can take advantage of these opportunities, which they cannot receive elsewhere. I encourage you to take the time to read the Foundation’s annual report—a special supplement to this edition of *The Voice*—to learn more about its signature program, the Computer Clubhouses, and the positive impact of participation in Clubhouse activities through the voices of the youth served. Maybe you will be inspired to get involved in the Foundation as a financial contributor or volunteer?



Investing in the Equal Footing Foundation today is an investment in the technology workforce of our region of tomorrow.

*TiTi McNeill*  
President and CEO, TranTech, Inc.  
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\* **NVTC Board of Directors nominees for  
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# bits & bytes

**CACI International Inc.**, which provides IT and network solutions to defense, intelligence and government clients, announced that **Dr. J.P. (Jack) London**, Chairman, President and CEO, has transitioned from his day-to-day management role in the company effective July 1, 2007. The company has appointed **Paul M. Cofoni** as President and CEO beginning July 1. London continues his service as Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board. Cofoni also serves on CACI's Board, having been elected in 2006. London is an NVTC Board Member and Cofoni is a former NVTC Board Member. [www.caci.com](http://www.caci.com). ■ **ENSCO**, a provider of engineering, science and advanced technology solutions for the defense, security, transportation, environment and aerospace industries, announced it has been awarded a new multi-year transportation contract to provide track inspection services for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA). WMATA awarded ENSCO's rail group a multi-year contract to provide track geometry and rail profile testing services for Metro's mainline, yard and third rail track. The ENSCO Track Geometry Measurement System (TGMS) has been used on railways throughout the world, including the systems ENSCO currently provides and operates for the U.S. Federal Railroad Administration on their vehicles for monitoring compliance with federal track safety standards. The system makes use of non-contact measurement techniques to evaluate all track geometry parameters as well as rail profile measurements. The system can collect, store and evaluate all required data on any required test vehicle operating at speeds up to the maximum allowable track/vehicle speed. Evaluation is made by comparing measured geometry conditions with applicable standards for non-compliance as provided by the customer. [www.ensco.com](http://www.ensco.com) ■ **JB Cubed**, a facilitator of IT innovation to the federal marketplace, announced that the company has merged with Government Strategy Advisors (GSA), a provider of federal contract and business development consulting services. The combined company, operating under the new name **FedResults**, delivers comprehensive strategic consulting, sales and business development services, marketing and government affairs services, and contract support services to companies of all types seeking to do business with the federal government. The firm's business and consulting services will be delivered through FedResults; customer product resales will continue through JB Cubed. **Jim Beaupre**, CEO of JB Cubed, will continue as CEO of the combined company. NVTC Board Member **Bob Dinkel** will continue his role of Executive Vice President, now with FedResults. [www.jbcubed.com](http://www.jbcubed.com) [www.gsagsa.com](http://www.gsagsa.com). ■ Researchers at **George Mason University's National Center for Biodefense and Infectious Diseases** and its **Center for Applied Proteomics and Molecular Medicine (CAPMM)** are merging their expertise in host-pathogen biology, proteomics and nanotechnology to discover tissue and blood borne markers that could be used for the early detection of exposure to infectious diseases. Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, these efforts may help save the lives of civilians and military forces exposed to biological weapons or other emerging infectious diseases, such as influenza and SARS. A major goal of the program, which initially focuses on anthrax and tularemia, is to discover protein biomarkers that could be used to identify the onset of an infectious disease before a patient exhibits symptoms. Using cutting-edge proteomic technologies and nanotechnology-based devices invented by CAPMM scientists, the research will concentrate on the discovery, collection and analysis of potential infectious diseases biomarkers found in the blood. <http://ncbid.gmu.edu>. ■ **Luna Technologies**, a manufacturer and marketer of test and measurement equipment and integrated sensing solutions, announced that its Optical Backscatter Reflectometer (OBR (TM)) with distributed sensing has received a 2007 "R&D 100 Award" from the editors of *R&D Magazine* as one of the 100 most technologically significant new products introduced into the marketplace in the last year. The R&D 100 Awards were

established in 1963 and entries are judged by a large panel of technical experts that look for breakthrough products or processes that can change or improve people's lives or standard of living, promote good health, or a clean up the environment. Often referred to as the "Oscars of Invention," past R&D 100 Awards acknowledgements have included the automated teller machine (ATM), the fax machine, the Nicoderm antismoking patch and high definition television (HDTV). Luna's OBR has been recognized because it offers "unmatched diagnostic capabilities for fiber optic networks and systems." The OBR gives end users a very high resolution view that is similar to an X-Ray into the inner workings of a fiber optic network. The OBR also has a feature that allows users to turn standard optical fiber into a continuous thermometer that could be used in a variety of applications including power generation, civil structure monitoring and industrial process control. Luna Technologies is a division of Luna Innovations Incorporated. Luna Innovation's Founder and CEO, **Kent Murphy**, serves on the NVTC Board of Directors. [www.lunainnovations.com](http://www.lunainnovations.com). ■ **Northrop Grumman Corporation**, a \$30 billion global defense and technology company, has been awarded a contract by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) to deploy, enhance and maintain the Clinical and Health Data Repository initiative to help the Defense Department and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) seamlessly share patient information. Under the terms of the contract, Northrop Grumman's IT sector will provide systems engineering and integration, information assurance and security, configuration management, technical support, and system enhancement and maintenance. The contract is valued at \$10.3 million over one base year with two one-year options. Work on the contract will be conducted in Chantilly, Virginia; South Jordan, Utah; and various DOD and VA medical facilities nationwide. [www.ngc.com](http://www.ngc.com). ■ **Sourcefire**, which offers network intrusion prevention, announced the appointment of **Douglas McNitt** as General Counsel. He has more than 14 years of experience in providing business law services, serving as an in-house member and advisor to executive management teams at enterprise software companies for the past decade. McNitt joins Sourcefire after acting as General Counsel, Secretary and Executive Vice President at webMethods, Inc. Previously, he was an Associate General Counsel at AOL. [www.sourcefire.com](http://www.sourcefire.com). ■ **SRA International, Inc.**, a provider of technology and strategic consulting services and solutions to federal government organizations, announced the promotion of three senior executives. **David F. Keffer** has been promoted to Vice President, Investor Relations; **John M. Luongo** has been promoted to Vice President and Director, Capture Strategy; and **Gregory A. Roman** has been promoted to Vice President and Director, Remote Sensing Programs. Keffer will continue to serve as a liaison between SRA and the investment community. Luongo leads the capture management and solution architecture team in the company's marketing and sales organization. Roman directs the company's remote sensing programs work in the intelligence and space strategic business unit and serves as a site manager for SRA operations in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Omaha, Nebraska. [www.sra.com](http://www.sra.com). ■ **StatPoint, Inc.**, developer of the STATGRAPHICS® line of statistical analysis software products, announced the release of STATGRAPHICS Centurion XV MultiLingual Edition. This software allows users to communicate the results of statistical analyses interchangeably in English, Spanish, French or German, with Italian slated for inclusion by year's end. With this product, the full statistical power of STATGRAPHICS Centurion XV Professional Edition has been coupled with the linguistic power vital in today's global marketplace. STATGRAPHICS Centurion XV is available in both professional and standard editions for single and multiple users in any of the single language choices. The professional edition is also offered in a bilingual format with English combined with any of the other available languages (Spanish, French or German). [www.statgraphics.com](http://www.statgraphics.com). ■

Whatever your news, we want to hear about it!  
Send YOUR bits & bytes to [bits@nvtc.org](mailto:bits@nvtc.org).

# SCIENCE + TECHNOLOGY + ENGINEERING + MATH = THE STRENGTH OF THE FUTURE IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

**G**rowing Virginia's highly skilled, highly educated technology workforce is a long-standing NVTC priority. On both the state and federal levels, NVTC has strongly advocated for education funding, initiatives and program activity to bolster the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) talent pipeline; expand our capacity to produce a world-class technology workforce; to grow, attract and retain the best and brightest science and technology teachers; and bolster the number and quality of students graduating in technology-related fields. The future of Northern Virginia's technology economy relies on the continuing ability and willingness of the public sector and our K-12 educational institutions, colleges and universities to respond to business demand for a smart, highly educated workforce ready to respond to rapidly changing business models, technologies, products and services.

In December 2005, NVTC joined AeA, the Business Roundtable, the Council on Competitiveness, George Mason University and the National Association of Manufacturers in co-hosting the "National Summit on Competitiveness: Investing in U.S. Innovation," which was initiated by U.S. Representatives Frank Wolf (R-VA), Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) and Vernon Ehlers (R-MI). Participants in the summit, including 16 members of the NVTC Board of Directors, urged the Bush Administration to focus on greater federal investment in research, stronger policies that make science and mathematics education a higher priority and immigration reform to keep highly skilled workers in the United States.

In this two-part series, NVTC has asked two education policy thought leaders in the Virginia House of Delegates to each share their ideas, proposals and strategies as they relate to educating Virginia's technology workforce of the future. In this month's interview, Delegate David Poisson (D-Sterling), who recently shared some ideas before a joint meeting of NVTC's Public Policy Steering Committee and Workforce Committee, reflects on technology education in Virginia.



**David E. Poisson**

Delegate, (D)-32nd House District  
Virginia General Assembly  
Representing Northeastern Loudoun County

Delegate David E. Poisson, a Democrat, was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in November 2005, and is a member of the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee and the House Militia, Police and Public Safety Committee. He also serves on the Substance Abuse Services Council and the Manufacturing Development Commission.

There is no issue to which Delegate Poisson is more deeply committed than education. The oldest of four, he grew up in Fall River, a once-active mill town in southeastern Massachusetts. He put himself through college, earning in less than 10 years bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Ph.D. and law degree from the University of Arizona.

Delegate Poisson is currently of counsel to the law firm of Howe, Anderson & Steyer in Washington, D.C. He represents northeastern Loudoun County, an area that encompasses the communities of Lowes Island, Cascades, Countryside, Sugarland Run, Ashburn, Ashburn Farm, Lansdowne and Broadlands.



*The depth and breadth of northern Virginia's technology industry is widely acknowledged as one of the Commonwealth's shining stars. And while the outlook for continued growth in Virginia's technology sector appears rosy, a heightened awareness of the health of the foundation of this industry is a front-burner issue. Will the Virginia of the future continue to have access to its most precious commodities: a talented and well-educated workforce and an ample and ongoing supply of scientists, engineers, mathematicians and technologists? Realizing what's at stake, public and private interests are focusing on the strengthening of fundamentals for Virginia students in the critical subject areas of science, technology, engineering and math.*

NVTC: What initiatives or legislation will you be involved with during the upcoming session of the General Assembly to help Virginia compete nationally and internationally in technology and innovation?

One of the initiatives with which I've spoken to members of NVTC is to create "charter" math and science programs. Schools districts across the country have looked to charter schools as a way to foster innovation and permit schools to operate less bureaucratically. However, operating an entire school as a "charter" can pose Herculean challenges, which is why what I'm advocating is more of a hybrid.

The math and science programs and the teachers who teach in them would still be part of the same public school systems under which they've always operated, but the state would afford the "charter" math and science departments in approved school districts wider latitude in terms of teacher certification requirements and compensation.

Teachers will never be paid as much as they deserve—nor as much as they could command elsewhere doing other kinds of work. That's why one of the things I'd also like to use this model to explore is job-sharing arrangements between math and science teachers and technology employers in Virginia so that those with a love of math and science can both teach and have the opportunity

to use their science and engineering skills in jobs in the technology industry.

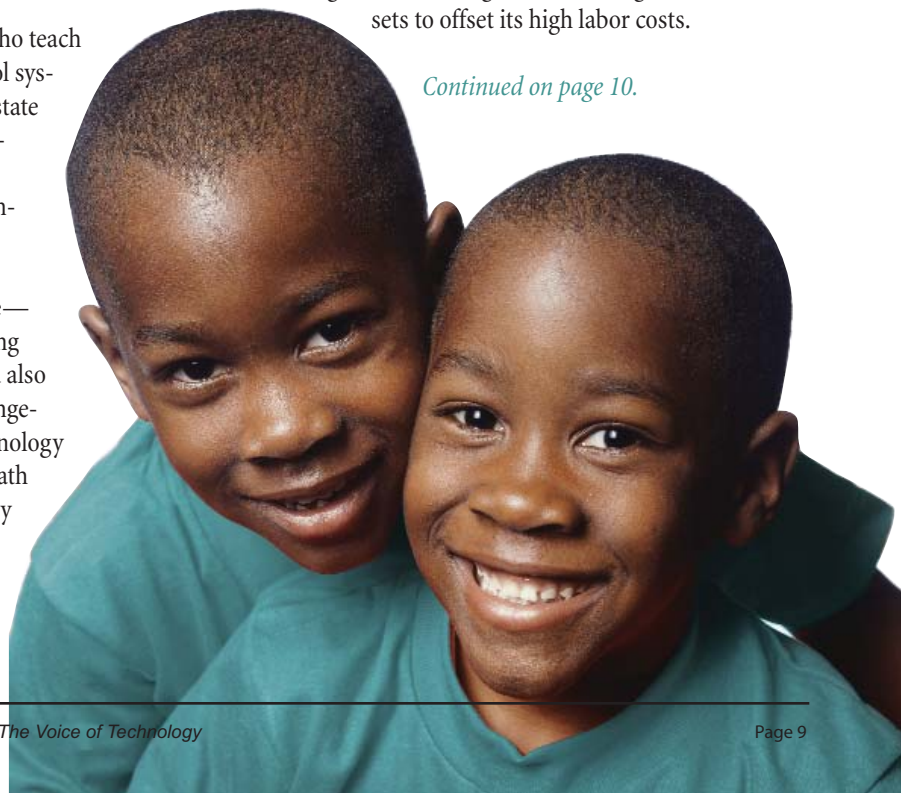
NVTC: We live in a "knowledge economy." What specific changes—statewide and/or in your locality—will Virginia need to undergo to keep up with the times?

We do indeed live in a "knowledge economy." Unfortunately, however, we are not doing nearly enough to take advantage of the opportunities available in that economy. In Loudoun County, for example, we have the benefit of having HHMI, AOL, Verizon and Orbital Sciences—to name just a few of the well-known technology players here. We have branch campuses of Old Dominion, George Mason, Shenandoah, George Washington, Strayer and Northern Virginia Community College. Besides these assets, we have Dulles Airport directly to our south and soon we will have One Loudoun and with it, the World Trade Center Dulles Airport.

In my view, the Commonwealth needs to be investigating and supporting ways to bring these organizations together in order to create a Northern Virginia research park modeled after Research Triangle Park (RTP) in North Carolina. RTP has been a huge boon to North Carolina's economy, creating thousands of new high-paying jobs and nearly tripling the number of biosciences firms in the state in just the last 10 years.

We clearly have the wherewithal to compete not just with North Carolina, but globally. We've just got to focus, as North Carolina has, on producing high-value products that leverage Northern Virginia's technological assets to offset its high labor costs.

*Continued on page 10.*



**NVTC:** With greater and greater emphasis on the importance of technology, what do you think Virginia must do to attract and retain math and science talent to teach in the public schools?

Talent, like capital, will go where it is welcome—and stay where it is rewarded. The problem is, no sooner do college students pursuing teaching careers begin taking courses in math and science, they are told they must declare their major in education, with education—not math and science—courses soon taking up the lion's share of their academic load. Likewise, once they become certified, their opportunities to advance career-wise will be far greater if they take coursework in education than they will if they take math and science courses. This needs to be corrected.

I introduced legislation in my first term that would have made teachers eligible for any position of greater responsibility in a school district, such as supervisor, principal or even superintendent, whether or not they completed coursework in education or in their teaching specialty. If we want teachers to become more proficient in their teaching fields, particularly in math and science, our policies must reward them for doing so—and certainly should not in any way impede the advancement of their careers.

More information on STEM initiatives, including summaries of STEM Education related bills in the 110th Congress, can be found at the STEM Education Coalition Web site at [www.stemedcoalition.org](http://www.stemedcoalition.org).

**ABOUT 90 PERCENT OF THE FASTEST-GROWING JOBS OF THE FUTURE WILL REQUIRE SOME POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION OR TRAINING (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR).**



Among all ninth-graders, approximately **three in 10** do not graduate high school on time; for African American and Hispanic students the figure is about **five in 10** (Manhattan Institute).

**NEARLY 30 PERCENT OF ALL UNDERGRADUATES MUST TAKE REMEDIAL COURSEWORK DURING THEIR COLLEGE CAREER (NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS).**

College graduates in the U.S. earn nearly **twice as much** as workers with just a high school diploma (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development).

Fewer than half of our high school graduates are ready for college-level math and science (ACT).

The graduation rate for 4-year colleges and universities is only **56 percent**. For 2-year colleges, it's just **33 percent** (National Center for Education Statistics).



**MENTOR**



**VOLUNTEER**



**INNOVATE**



**EDUCATE**



**EQUAL FOOTING**  
FOUNDATION

# ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007

# Message from ...

## The Chairman



2006 – 2007 has been a stellar year for the Equal Footing Foundation. As the charitable arm of the Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC), we have reaffirmed our position as the best way for technology company members to concentrate their charitable giving. This year, we established our “Beyond-the-Clubhouse” scholarship to ensure that Computer Clubhouse participants

can continue their education post-high school. Through the generous support of the NVTC Board of Directors and member companies, we have doubled our donor base to help expand our programs in rocketry, robotics and graphic arts. The annual NVTC Golf Tournament also raised \$52,000 in sponsorships and donations to benefit the Foundation and to help increase our impact in the community

Thirteen of our Computer Clubhouse members received Leadership Awards from Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Gerry Connolly. Eighteen students who were active in Computer Clubhouses graduated from high schools in Fairfax County this year. These youth used our facilities to complete their homework and experience other learning opportunities—and are now more technologically savvy and better prepared to enter the next stage of their lives. Plans are in place to expand the Computer Clubhouses beyond Fairfax County. We donated \$100,000 from the DuPont Foundation’s gift to the Equal Footing Foundation to open our first Clubhouse in Fauquier County (in Marshall, Virginia, to be exact).

But for me, personally, the greatest moment in 2007 as Foundation Chairman was awarding our first Clubhouse Scholarship to a wonderful, bright and deserving student from inside our Clubhouse program. Irene Morrison-Moncore is a young woman with exceptional grades and a great passion for service work who advanced her technology skills through involvement in the Computer Clubhouse system. In fact, because Irene was about to head to college without a computer, we bought her one! Next year, we hope to expand our scholarship program so more deserving students like Irene can have the opportunity to attend college and achieve their dreams of academic and professional success.

I encourage you to learn more about the mission of the Equal Footing Foundation and consider a corporate or individual donation so we can continue our work to improve the future of underserved youth in Fairfax County and beyond. Thank you.



Dan Gonzalez  
Chairman, Equal Footing Foundation  
Managing Partner, Appian Realty Advisors

## The President & Executive Director



In the year and half I have been President & Executive Director of the Equal Footing Foundation, I am proud to say that we have seen a real impact in the lives of the children and communities we serve. Through our close partnerships with Fairfax County and local businesses, we are able to

create an “equal opportunity environment” where youth can access the tools and mentors they need to compete in a skilled and educated workforce. The educational programs and activities developed in the Clubhouse focus on youth development and education.

Last September, we expanded the Botball Robotics program into a year-long Robotics and Rocketry club that meets three times a week. In addition, we purchased film cameras for each individual Clubhouse so our younger members could learn more about the visual arts. Last spring, the J. Craig Venter Institute’s Genomics Bus provided a wet-lab experience for all six of our Clubhouses. And finally, the highlight of the year had to be the launch of the Computer Clubhouse Scholarship to help our student participants continue their education and garner new skills for the workforce of today and tomorrow. Exposing our youth to new and exciting opportunities, either through education, mentoring by example or individual student exploration, is critical in creating a strong business and civic leadership for tomorrow.

I think that there is no better way to hear how the Foundation is impacting our community and the lives of children than to hear it through the words and pictures of the Clubhouse members, mentors and managers. As you read through each experience, remember we are serving 1,500 students through our programs—a multitude of experiences!

Finally, without the support of our financial contributors, volunteer efforts and excitement of our students and other members of our community, the Foundation could not have achieved the successes of this past year. Thank you. We look forward to surpassing these successes in 2007 – 2008.



Colleen Hahn  
President & Executive Director, Equal Footing Foundation



# Faces of the Board

## OFFICERS:

**Chairman: Dan Gonzalez, Managing Partner, Appian Realty Advisors**

**Vice Chairman: John Love, Principal, AH&T Insurance**

**Secretary: Michael J. Smith, Principal, MSBD, Inc.**

**Treasurer: Ellen Harrison, Partner, KPMG**

**General Counsel: Robbie S. Pitt, Assistant General Counsel, Verizon Business**

**Chairman Emeritus: Dan Bannister, Bannister Enterprises**

**President & Executive Director: Colleen M. Hahn**

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**Mimi Abel-Smith, Chichester duPont Foundation**

**Holly Asher Beveridge, SENTEL Corporation**

**Michael Cardaci, President & CEO, Global Network Services**

**Bobbie Kilberg, President & CEO, Northern Virginia Technology Council**

**Duffy Mazan**

**Matt Megary, Director Branch Manager, Deutsche Bank Alex Brown**

**John Muscarella, Director Sales & Distribution, Sprint Nextel**

**Mary Jane Rosenbaum, Director of Research, Leapfrog Solutions**



## Equal Footing Equal Access

The Equal Footing Foundation (formerly called The NVTC Foundation) was founded by Northern Virginia Technology Council members in 1998 to provide a means for the region's technology companies to contribute positively to local communities. As a 501(c)(3) foundation, our goal is to provide an equal opportunity environment where youth access the tools needed to successfully compete in a skilled and educated workforce. We accomplish this by funding, launching and sustaining Computer Clubhouses in partnership with local governments, businesses and other nonprofit entities.

The Computer Clubhouses we support are centrally located within established community centers in close proximity to schools and bus routes for easy after-school access. The result is an innovative and safe after-school learning center where children ages 8-18, many of whom do not have access to technology at home, work with adult mentors to learn, develop and explore their potential. The Computer Clubhouse program is part of an internationally recognized organization developed through a joint effort between the Boston Museum of Science, MIT's Med Lab and Intel. As a result of this relationship, each Clubhouse employs a project-based learning model and is connected to a child-safe global network.

The Computer Clubhouse environment gives participants the opportunity to become designers and creators, not just passive consumers of technology. This educational approach emphasizes the importance of interpersonal relationships and community in the learning process. In our Clubhouses, youth interact with adults and other young people who are enthusiastic about learning and are interested and invested in their work. As a result, Clubhouse members become part of the community that values and respects hard work and the pursuit of sharing ideas and knowledge.

### CLUBHOUSE LOCATIONS

**James Lee Community Center - Falls Church**  
**Willston Multicultural Center - Falls Church**  
**Gum Springs Community Center - Alexandria**  
**Mott Community Center - Fairfax**  
**Reston Teen Center - Reston**  
**Bailey's Community Center - Falls Church**

### FUTURE CLUBHOUSES

**Fauquier County - Marshall (2008)**

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Clubhouse Volunteer – Homework Help

- Qualifications – Proficient with tutoring in reading and math (algebra a plus)
- Responsibilities – Help with homework projects and tutor in math and reading
- Hours – Two hours any weekday between the hours of 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm
- Number of volunteers needed – Four every weekday at each Clubhouse

### Clubhouse Volunteer – Music Studio

- Qualifications – Interest in digital music making. The Clubhouses are all outfitted with small music studios equipped with a 12- or 16-channel mixer, a keyboard, pro quality studio monitors and microphones. Volunteers who work in or own a music studio are a plus
- Responsibilities – Work with youth on digital music making
- Hours – Two hours any weekday between the hours of 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm
- Number of volunteers needed – One every weekday at each Clubhouse

### Clubhouse Volunteer – Graphic Projects

- Qualifications – Proficiency or willingness to learn Adobe, Photoshop, Illustrator, In-design, Flash and Dreamweaver
- Responsibilities – Work with youth on personal- and school-related graphic projects
- Hours – Two hours any weekday between the hours of 2:30 pm and 8:00 pm
- Number of volunteers needed – Four every weekday at each Clubhouse

### Botball Volunteer (seasonal)

- Qualifications – Proficiency in programming C and C++ languages
- Responsibilities – Assist Clubhouse youth members in building robots from LEGO® blocks using the LEGO® Mind Storms programmable module and/or a specially designed programmable module designed by the KISS Institute as the robot's brain. Participate in the Botball competition in mid-May at the University of Maryland
- Hours – Two hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm from mid-March until mid-May
- Number of volunteers needed – Four per Clubhouse per week

# Program Overview

The Equal Footing Foundation's Computer Clubhouse program is dedicated to offering resources and educational opportunities to students who would not otherwise have access to them. Each Computer Clubhouse environment maintains a consistent format with a structure that enables creativity and learning. In addition, each Clubhouse provides mentors and volunteers on a daily basis. From local business leaders and government officials to university volunteers and teen peers, these individuals connect education with life experiences. In the process, students become excited about learning and fluent with new technologies, and develop skills and experiences that will help them succeed in their future careers. The six Computer Clubhouses the Foundation supports serve more than 1,500 youth a week and more than 30,000 adults and children visit the centers each year.

## Computer Clubhouse Core Programs:

- "Homework First!"
- Botball Robotics Tournament
- Virginia Space Flight Academy Camp
- Computer Literacy Skills
- Graphic Art and Web Programming and Design
- Music and Film Production
- Computer Gaming—"Design, Build, Develop, Program"
- Computer Simulations
- "Shoot for Education"
- "Girls' Nite Out"

The Foundation also provides events throughout the year to broaden Clubhouse members understanding of the world around them. In 2006, the Equal Footing Foundation added two new programs specifically targeted to cultivate youth-to-adult interaction:

**Computer Clubhouse Speaker Series** – Designed for local leaders, educators and business professionals to spend an evening with Clubhouse youth speaking about work, life and the path to professional and personal success.

**Computer Clubhouse Adoption Program** – Created to foster a corporation-to-Clubhouse connection through youth mentoring and financial contributions.

In the fall of 2007 Equal Footing Foundation Sponsored "Listening to Democracy," an interactive pro-

gram linking Fairfax County High School students with local and state government officials. The program was developed through a collaboration with Virginia Delegate Kristen Amundsen (D-44), the Fairfax County Public Schools and WestEd—a leading educational nonprofit specializing in Web-based learning.

**Beyond-the-Clubhouse Scholarship** – In 2007 the Foundation launched a new scholarship award to help our students get from "Clubhouse to College to Career." The scholarship is designed to help talented and deserving Computer Clubhouse students who would like to further their education but lack the financial support to do so. Clubhouse students are required to meet specific criteria defined in the application process to be considered for this scholarship.

**Bannister Scholarship Fund** – The Equal Footing Foundation also supports the Bannister Scholarship Fund, established by technology executive and NVTC Chairman Emeritus Dan Bannister in 1997 to award tuition to selected students enrolled in the George Mason University School of Information Technology and Engineering. To date, 26 scholarships have been awarded.

## The Computer Clubhouse Program Goals:

- Strengthen academic achievement especially in the areas of math, science and technology
- Promote improved communication skills
- Encourage youth to work on projects related to their own interests
- Connect the path of education to real world applications
- Foster a sense of community where young people work together with support and inspiration from adults mentors
- Cultivate an environment to encourage young people to work as designers, inventors and creators



# Botball

## Computer Clubhouses Excel Among the Competition!

*Learn ... Develop ... Explore ...*

For the second year in a row, the Equal Footing Foundation's Computer Clubhouse robotics teams proved they excel among the competition! Thanks to the generous support of **Sprint Nextel** and **Northrop Grumman**, we were able to have all six Clubhouses participate in the 2007 Botball Robotics competition. Pitted against 72 teams from local area schools and robotics clubs, three of our robots made it into the elimination rounds and the Reston Clubhouse team won fifth place overall!

Sponsored by NASA and the KISS Robotics Institute, Botball Robotics is a high-energy, high-tech approach to education. Through hands-on experience, students build robots to compete on a well-designed game board. The robots must overcome obstacles and perform certain tasks to score points. By integrating science, technology, math and engineering with robotics, students learn cutting-edge technology skills. Teams compete in a double elimination competition; the teams' Web sites, project documentations and presentations also play a large part in the judges' overall scoring.

Each team is required to create a project plan, and perform analysis and design of its robot and the robot software. Three checkpoints during the competition allow each team to submit drawings, pictures, detailed designs, the project plan and, ultimately, the code for grading. These rigorous requirements encourage students to think through their robots from concept, through design and build, and then testing.

The Equal Footing Foundation would like to extend special thanks to the volunteers and mentors who devoted time and energy to teach our Clubhouse participants that learning can be fun!

## Thank You to Our Botball Volunteers

**Lashuan Desemew, Domino's Pizza**

**Bear Elfstrom**

**Franco Hinojosa**

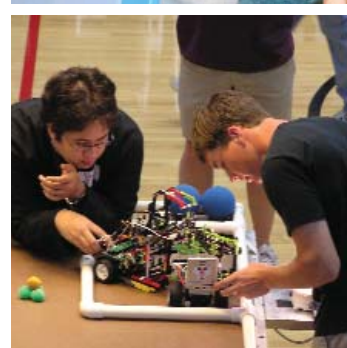
**Ron Hulen, Command Information**

**Sal Hundal, SoltecOne, Inc.**

**Alex Kennedy, CACI**

**Puru Komaravolu**

**John T. (JT) Taylor, iWeb Software**







## Botball for Me

By Carlos Lefler

“Botball is a really cool robotics program that lets you experience building and programming of a Robot built with LEGO®s. I think Botball is the best thing to sign up for in the Clubhouse because when you first start it’s new and you think it’s hard. But once you get to know all the team members and the mentors it’s a totally different story. If you stick around with Botball you learn a lot of stuff, like working well with others. In Botball that’s important because if you can’t work well with others, winning is almost impossible. Another thing you learn is respect. You want your team members to respect you, and you have to show them respect as well. My best times in Botball are when I go into the Clubhouse and crack a joke or two. A lot of times I can even get the mentors cracking up too. I really like all the friends I’ve made. My new friends and the mentors are really cool.”

## Are You Ready for Some Botball?

By Irene Morrison-Moncure

“On May 12, 2007, I competed in the 2007 Botball Tournament held at the University of Maryland. Botball is a robotics program in which the computer language C-plus is used to instruct LEGO®-built robots to do various tasks. The theme for this year was ‘Volcano Rescue,’ so our robot had to place protective umbrella roofs on cylindrical houses. I was surprised at how well our robot worked and how far we progressed in the competition despite several malfunctions along the way. I was especially taken by the professionalism of the entire competition. Every group took great pride in its robot and several groups showed their dedication by wearing formal wear or personalizing their robots with names. Every team had a story behind its robot. Ours included many weeks of planning, building and programming. My first time at the competition table, I was so nervous I ran through all our previous Botball meetings in my head to reassure myself that our robot was sound. I felt accomplished as I carried the robot back to the pit area after our round. We had done well. Our 2007 season ended in the double elimination rounds, but I was pleased at how well we did and I am confident that our team will remember and be confident of total victory next year.”

## By Ron Hulen Command Information

“The 2007 Botball competition was my first time helping students in a volunteer role. When I was asked by the Equal Footing Foundation to solicit volunteers from Command Information, my immediate reaction was that I had a lot to offer these kids, especially in terms of computer programming and project management, two key areas needed for the competition.

Since Command Information practices Agile Software development, I wanted to apply those practices to our team, the Reston Computer Clubhouse. Our team decided to implement the simplest design first that would give us the most points with the least amount of robot movement. Once this was done and tested, we would then add a second robot to the competition hopefully to score additional points.

Together, we created the robot design, the project plan, the software algorithms, and the testing plan. Through this experience, the students learned the Microsoft Office tools but more importantly were able to think through the problem and document the project’s progress. Each week, we decided as a team what we were going to accomplish, very similar to Agile stories and a one-week iteration. Team members signed up for tasks and we completed them at the end of the week.

When we finally tested Robot A (formally known as “Three Can Sam”), we found that it worked well, but over time, it did not produce consistent results. We tested the robot many times and ended up adding components like a cattle catcher in both the front and the rear to remove obstacles from the wheels. Finally, after repeated

tweaks to the software and the robot structure, we had a robot that would consistently score a good set of points—not the most, but a number that would put us in the running.

Unfortunately, we ran out of time to finish Robot B and we went to the competition with Three Can Sam. At the competition, there were some very sophisticated robots. However, most of them did not produce consistent results. Our single robot which performed a simple, consistent program, won us fifth place out of 40 entries and 72 teams.

I learned much from the students in the Botball competition. They asked many questions and provided great input during robot construction and programming. They approached the problem from a different perspective and often provided solutions I never would have imagined. I feel they learned more about how to break a large problem such as building a robot into small, achievable tasks and then manage those tasks with a project plan.

I encourage anyone in technology today to volunteer for next year’s Botball competition. There are so many ways to help: building the robot, helping with the presentation, creating the software, creating the team Web site, and documentation. The work is fun and it’s a break from your day job. The students want to build a great robot and take pride in their work, mentoring them through the process is all that is needed. Also, it’s exciting to see the students’ faces light up during the competition as they see their hard work put to the test.”



# Space Camp

## Igniting Young Minds ... Discovering New Stars ...

For two weeks in the summer of 2007, Equal Footing Foundation sponsored 18 students with an interest in astronomy, metrology and rocketry, along with six of our Clubhouse managers, to the Virginia Space Camp Academy located at Wallops Island, Virginia. The Space Flight Adventure (Space Camp) is a week-long residential summer camp sponsored by the Virginia Space Flight Academy in conjunction with the U.S. Navy and NASA. The program focuses on youth ages 11-15 with an interest in learning about the science and engineering of rockets, robotics and space flight. Campers participate in actual rocket building, robot design and flight simulation. In addition to the technical aspects, the program highlights the more personal aspects of space travel, as students don astronaut suits and sampled "space food."



**By Zewde Heywot**

"My week at Space Camp was both educational and fun. I met plenty of other kids from other states that were so excited to learn about space. We learned a lot about aerodynamics and space exploration. Every day, we learned something new and went on field trips. We went on educational field trips, such as one to NOAA, and one to the naval base where the Navy tracks incoming and outgoing traffic both by air and sea.

After we learned how to build rockets from stage one to stage three, we were privileged enough to set the rockets off at NASA's visiting center. Stage-three rockets went higher than any rockets I have ever seen get shot off, due to the fact that campers put engines in them.

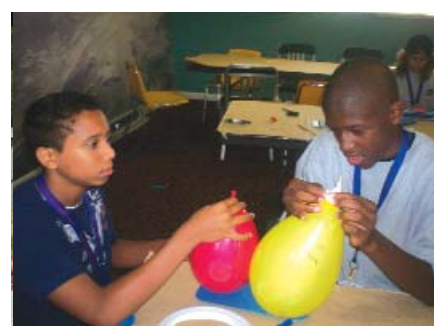
So after one engine shut off the other one started and it kept going higher. They also had educational movies that we watched about the first people in space, space cadets wearing space uniforms, eating in space, etc. They also had a class where we learned more on program-

ming the NXTs, the same ones we use and take to the Botball tournament, which I think was very helpful for the space campers and me. We went on recreational field trips as well, such as the one we took to the Island Creamery and to the Go-kart track on Chincoteague Island. When it was breakfast and lunch time we got to eat our meals in the "Eagles Nest" where the Navy workers ate alongside us.



The Space Campers slept in the dorms, very comfortable and cozy, and campers were having a lot of fun with their roommates. After the field trips, we had "classes" where we helped make bottle rockets and three-stage rockets. The last day of camp, the Space Campers had their graduation, which was held at NASA's Visitor Center. The Space Campers looked like they loved it

when they got to simulate a space mission to Mars and explore the Martian terrain. I would definitely recommend Space Camp to Clubhouse managers and members so they can get the same experience that we did."



### Space Camp 2007 By Alice Morrison-Moncure

“Even though this was my second year at Space Camp, I met a lot of different people and had a very different, unique experience. Being a second-time camper, I was excited to get a slightly better cut

t-shirt than I did the first year, one of the few perks of seniority, but I soon realized that other things had changed.

This year, we were given more time to experiment on the flight simulators and robotics equipment. On the third day when we constructed two-stage rockets, another returning camper and I got to try our hand at building a three-stage that flew very high when we launched it. Also, on the fourth day, we got instruction from an amateur astronomer about the many stars of our solar system and the making of telescopes. That night, we used a very powerful telescope to get a close look at both Jupiter and Venus in the evening sky. If I get the opportunity, I hope to be able to go to space camp a third time next year.”



### My Experience at Space Camp By Paris Mone Williams

“For me, Space Camp was an awesome experience because I have always been interested in the universe. In addition, to the opportunity to attend Space Camp, this

was my first time away from home. At first, I was worried but meeting new people made it easier for me to adjust because many of the campers were new to this experience too!

I learned how to build rockets, went on interesting field trips and had an opportunity to launch our rockets at NASA's Visitor Center. We also saw movies regarding the first astronauts in space—we were able to see them eating and preparing to go to bed. One interesting field trip was about weather satellites and the dishes that track them. One staff member explained how they tracked Hurricane Katrina that destroyed New Orleans, Mississippi, and some other southern states.

It was a great experience for me and I am looking forward to going back next year.”

## Thank You to Our Dedicated Staff



- Paula Bailey**
- Willa Dumas**
- Alvaro Luna**
- Ron Moses**
- Erin Muessen**
- Margaret Plenty**



# Scholarships

## From Clubhouse to Beyond ...

In the spring of 2007, Equal Footing Foundation established the "Beyond the Clubhouse" Scholarship to provide resources to qualified Computer Clubhouse participants to support their transition to post-high school education. To be eligible for consideration, applicants must demonstrate exceptional qualities in the areas of leadership, academics and peer-to-peer counsel, and be an active participant in the Clubhouse for at least one year. All applicants must show a commitment to the ideals and activities that take place in the Computer Clubhouse environment and have demonstrated that commitment during the past year.

### Scholarship Goals:

- The Equal Footing Foundation is committed to supporting young people as they transition from their Clubhouse membership to post-high school education.
- A key component of the Beyond the Clubhouse Scholarship is to encourage Clubhouse members to pursue studies or trades beyond high school. Scholarship awards range in increments from \$1,000 to \$15,000.
- The number of scholarships awarded depends on the number of qualified candidates. Students have four years to spend the scholarship total or the money will revert back into the program.

### Eligibility and Requirements:

- Computer Clubhouse members who are eligible are those enrolled in an accredited undergraduate college, university or trade school.
- Applicants must demonstrate and describe a connection to the Computer Clubhouse, having been an active participant in the Clubhouse for at least one year. (If the Clubhouse has not been operating for one year, the applicant must have been active in the community-based organization that hosts the Clubhouse for at least one year.)
- Applicants must have completed or must be currently working toward their high school diploma, G.E.D. or other equivalency exam to fulfill their state's education requirements.
- Applicants must be a citizen of the United States.
- As a condition of receiving the award, scholarship recipients must provide documentation of their acceptance to, and enrollment in, an accredited undergraduate college, university or trade school.

## 2007 Graduating Seniors

**Equal Footing Foundation supports educational and youth development programs through six Fairfax County Computer Clubhouses serving 1,500 students a week.**



**John Brownlee**

**Janaya Cannon**

**John Cherry**

**George Hamlett**

**Codero Holt**

**Chaya Jones**

**Irene Morrison-Moncure**

**Luis A. Oliva**

**Cornell Redfern**

**Courtney Rhodes**

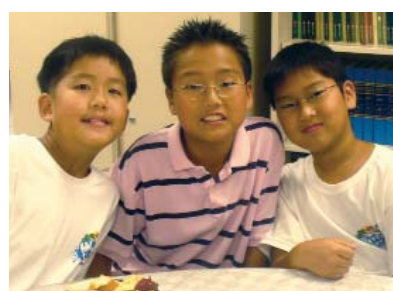
**Andrew Shepperd**

**Johnetta Vaughn**

**Marcus Wade**

**Melinda Wright**

**These students, from eight area high schools in Northern Virginia have regularly participated in the Computer Clubhouse program.**



# Clubhouse Adoption Program

## Connecting with the Workforce of the Future

Equal Footing Foundation created the “Adopt-a-Computer-Clubhouse” program to directly connect local corporations with youth in Northern Virginia. The program is designed to help foster an environment of innovation and education while providing students access to technology, mentors and role models. The program ensures long-term club stability through youth mentoring, technical innovation and corporate giving. In addition, the corporate-to-Foundation relationship helps promote our goal to provide an equal opportunity environment for students to access the technology they need to compete in a skilled and educated workforce, while working alongside adults. This combined program of direct financial contribution and employee volunteer initiatives provides the platform for local area companies and their professionals to have hands-on involvement with children ages 8-18. The sponsorship levels begin at \$20,000 with additional volunteer requirements. Sponsors are expected to continue their commitment for at least three years.



Sprint Nextel Foundation has generously adopted the Reston Computer Clubhouse for a second year in a row. The Sprint Nextel Foundation, established in 1989, has provided \$85 million in grants to community organizations across the country. Because of its generous support from the first year, Reston was able to take fifth place in the 2007 Botball Robotics competition. In addition, the Sprint Nextel Foundation agreed to further the Robotics program and awarded additional funds for the six Clubhouses in Fairfax County.

# Clubhouse Speaker Series

## Path to Success

Equal Footing Foundation launched the Computer Clubhouse Speaker Series in 2006 to offer a way for corporations and individuals to directly connect the path of education to real world applications. Through informative, engaging presentations, youth hear first hand how education opens doors and creates opportunities. From “Clubhouse to College to Career” speakers help spark enthusiasm and generate momentum through example.



## Volunteers

### Everyday Generosity

#### INDIVIDUAL

Dillon Bussert

Leah Bussert

John Carney

Daniel Chavez

Bear Elfstrom

Theresa Jenkyins

Alex Kennedy

Jin Le

Jody Manor

#### CORPORATE

AH&T Insurance

Bittersweet Catering

Booz Allen Hamilton

CACI

Carney Interactive

Northrop Grumman

Scheer Partners

Todos Supermarket

## A Good Year at the Clubhouse

By Alice Morrison-Moncure

“This May was, more-or-less, the one-year anniversary of my Clubhouse membership. I sure have come a long way. Starting out, I was a nervous, shy seventh grader who would much rather be spending time after school in the school library than in a room full of odd things and people I didn't really know. But I came to the Clubhouse every Tuesday and Thursday with my sister because, somewhere in the back of my mind, I actually found myself interested in the things that were going on: the robotics team that was trying to start up and stay strong, the intriguing application programs, and the many new people I met and talked to while I was there.

My sister got in robotics before I did. She is older and more confident than me. However, when she was unable to go to the competition I stood in for her, learned all of the robotics basics and saw the excitement of the competition. Of course, being the beginners that we were, our robot didn't go very far that day, but thereafter I had incentive to continue with the program, if for no other reason than to go back to the exciting competition the next year. By the time of the competition, our team had tripled from two members to six, and our robot was much better built and programmed. Granted, some of the other teams were really in it to win and still had more members than we did, but we got farther in the competition than we had the year before. That was accomplishment enough for us.

Of course, I had a bit of a break between the two robotics competitions. In June after the first competition, I went to Space Camp with some kids from other Clubhouses on Wallops Island, Virginia (near Chincoteague Island which is famous for the wild ponies that live there). My first Space Camp was a very interesting experience so I can't wait to go again this July. At Space Camp last year I learned the art of grafting bottle rockets, just how far away to stand from a rocket launcher to avoid being fried, to always be armed with bug spray in case of a sudden mosquito ambush and not to bring digital cameras on certain field trips (like Space Camp) to avoid prolonged jail time. (These guys have real secrets at this place.)”



## My Computer Clubhouse Experience

By Irene Morrison-Moncure

“One should never say that girls and technology do not mix because I would be able to shatter that speculation in seconds. One afternoon, two summers ago, my mother introduced me to the local community center. She claimed that she had found a solution to the summer boredom that creeps around in the last few weeks of August before school reopens. The community center was a different one than I had remembered. Many blistering summer days had been spent at this center as a child in elementary school summer camp. Now it was magically transformed: the center included a new theater, a pristine new gym and an Intel Computer Clubhouse. It was to this Clubhouse that my mother had to drag me, as I was skeptical that I would find anything remotely interesting in a room full of untouched computers. There was no MySpace or Instant Messaging allowed in the Clubhouse, so all other forms of teenage life had long abandoned the surrounding area. Their laughter could be heard down the hall along with the sound of bouncing balls on the new gym floor. Intel Computer Clubhouses are a chain of centers around the world that are sponsored by Intel, the first location at

the Museum of Science in Boston, and in cooperation with MIT. Computers are donated for the kids in the community to use, along with the latest and most advanced technologies. It was a rare treat to be all alone with the Clubhouse advisor as he showed me every gadget and program that I was allowed to use. Nowadays, there is no need to drag me to the Computer Clubhouse as I usually have an unfinished project ready to be completed, whether a Scratch animation, a robot ready to be programmed with C+, or a new chapter addition on RPG maker.

So far, the best part about the Computer Clubhouse community has been attending the Computer Clubhouse Teen Summit summer 2006 in Boston. It felt like going to college—being surrounded by others with the same passions as you have. In fact, I will be attending college this fall and I hope that a computer will not be something I will have to worry about. Some colleges, such as Virginia Tech (I've been accepted!), require that you bring your own computer to campus. This is among other expenses besides tuition, such as books, fees and board. Receiving a computer of my own would mean less time spent on procuring one and more time meeting new friends and enjoying the “freshman fall.” Also, I hope to study economics, a growing field that has now reached out to computers to process the data used to predict the economy. A computer would be a valuable asset. And of course, I want to continue the work I have begun at my Computer Clubhouse in college, so it would be handy to have all my favorite programs just a click away.”

*\*\*The Foundation was able to donate a laptop computer to Irene as part of her scholarship.*



## Willston Computer Clubhouse

By Luis A. Oliva

“The Computer Clubhouse means a whole lot to me. The Computer Clubhouse is not only a place that I can get a computer with many programs and Internet that help me with my schoolwork, but it is a place in which I can spend most of the after-

noons surrounded by kind and caring staff and by kids and teens of all ages and different ideas. I was introduced to the Computer Clubhouse by my mother’s friend. At the beginning I was only a member of the RecQuest program, but as the summer of 2003 continued, I decided to enroll in the afternoon programs, which is the Computer Clubhouse. I was so amazed when I saw new and very fast computers available for kids of the community. I was also astonished at the fact that the program was completely free. My parents were ecstatic because the Computer Clubhouse was a safe, recreational and academic place I can spend my afternoons at no cost. When I mentioned kind and caring staff, I was referring to Mrs. Willa, the Computer Clubhouse Manager—she is one of the main reasons I go to the Computer Clubhouse. Mrs. Willa is a dedicated former teacher. She helps me in so many different ways like: she helps me with my homework, she edits my essays, she helps me find the perfect college, and she helps me with my vocabulary and improving my English. I have known Mrs. Willa for four years and she has positively affected my life tremendously and she is the person that has assisted me the most in adapting to the rigorous life in this country. My parents speak very limited English and this detriment has made it very difficult for them to assist me in selecting the right college and career. This is where Mr. Alvaro Luna has helped a lot with his words of advice and real life experiences.

Another reason the Computer Clubhouse means a lot to me is because it expands my knowledge and it introduces me to the real life. In spring of 2003, Mr. Erick Primmer, former Clubhouse manager, recommended and chose me to go to the Teen Summit, since I was an excellent and active member of the Clubhouse. At first, I was overjoyed and very ecstatic because it was the first time I was traveling in the United States. I became very sad and frightened to be away from my family in another state. Thanks to Mrs. Willa’s encouragement and words of advice I was convinced in going to Boston, Massachusetts. Once I arrived in Boston, I discovered a new me. I learned to make friends with out the help of my parents and I learned that I was capable of making the right decisions. I learned many computer skills while in Boston and above all I had tons of fun. When I came back, I was no longer a shy boy; I was a young man ready to face his bright future. I would have not been able to cope under this stress without the help of the Computer Clubhouse.

I believe the Computer Clubhouse has helped me tremendously in my life and I believe it is still helping me in so many various ways. The Computer Clubhouse is not only a place I can get school work done, but it is also a second home that I am very proud to be a member of.”

## Genomics Bus Visits Clubhouse

On July 13, the GENOMICS bus from the J. Craig Venter Institute visited the James Lee Computer Clubhouse. The “GENOME Bus” as they call it, is a modified motor coach outfitted with advance laboratory equipment. The laboratory accommodates up to 30 students. On the bus, the students participated in hands-on DNA profiling—they extracted and visualize DNA from different types of tissue. They also used gel electrophoresis to distinguish between normal and sickle cell hemoglobin proteins.



## My Genome Experience

By Carlos Lefler

“Hello, my name is Carlos Lefler, I am writing this article to describe to our readers the GENOME bus and how amazing it was. First, when you walk in you meet the wonderful staff onboard the bus. It was Mr. Darryl, the driver, and Ms. Jennifer and Ms. Crystal, the instructors. Well, in the bus you see some infected blood cells by the virus Sicosoleminia that instead of keeping your blood cells round, it turns them into a crescent shaped moons. Then after we learned what the virus does to you, we did some lab testing to see if your patient is cured or is very sick. My patient was very sick. Well I like to thank the Clubhouse for bringing the GENOME bus to James Lee. It was good to have a little science in the summer.”



# NVTC Golf Tournament

## to benefit the Equal Footing Foundation

It was a great day for golf and a great day for the Equal Footing Foundation when the NVTC Spring Golf tournament got underway with 110 players hitting the links at the Belle Haven Country Club. After 18 holes under bright blue skies, the players gathered for the dinner, awards program, silent auction and raffle. The tournament raised nearly \$52,000 for the Equal Footing Foundation's youth education programs.



### Congratulations to the winners of the 2007 NVTC Golf Tournament!

#### First Place

Steve Breisth, Inscope Solutions  
Caulley Deringer, Transwestern General Agency  
Betty Hartmann, M3Com  
Sean Stone, Silicon Valley Bank

#### Second Place (tie)

John Daley, Sprint Nextel  
Andy Greig, Sprint Nextel  
Rick Hausman, Sprint Nextel  
John Muscarella, Sprint Nextel

Doug Jackson, Technology Finance Specialists, Inc.  
John Kraft, ServerVault  
Arick Levine, Sun Financial Services  
Jamie Walton, Computer Sciences Corporation

#### Third Place

Tom Kennedy, GTSI Corp.  
Jim Leto, GTSI Corp.  
Bob Mitchell, GTSI Corp.  
Mark Smith, GTSI Corp.

Closest to the Pin Men  
Mark Walsh

Longest Drive Men  
Tom Kennedy, GTSI Corp.

Longest Drive Women  
Alissa Curry, First Horizon Bank

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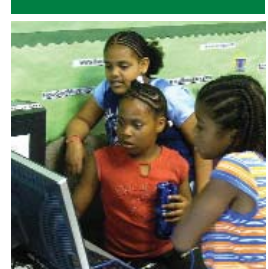
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NORTHERN VIRGINIA  
TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

# NVTC EVENTS: September - October

## Northern Virginia's Premier Events for the Technology Community

### SEPTEMBER 2007

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#### September 6: Meet the Capital Players

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##### Meet the Venture Capitalists You Might Not Know But Should

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
Patton Boggs, 8484 Westpark Drive, Ninth Floor, McLean, VA  
No Charge for Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** Chessicap, Inc.; Comerica Bank; DLA Piper US LLP; Holland & Knight LLP; Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C.

**Location Sponsor:** Patton Boggs.

*Presented by the NVTC Capital Formation Committee*

#### September 12: Executive Forum CXO Dinner

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##### Hosted by Tom Patterson, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Command Information

6:00-6:45 Registration and Networking; 6:45-8:00 PM Dinner & Program  
Command Information, 13655 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 190, Herndon, VA

\$100 Members / \$150 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** AH&T Insurance; PA Consulting. **Location Sponsor:** Command Information.

*Presented by the NVTC Executive Forum Committee*

#### September 14: Emerging Business & Entrepreneur

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##### Outsourcing: An Effective and Efficient Strategy for Emerging and Entrepreneurial Businesses

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
2070 Chain Bridge Road, Conference Center, Lower Level, Vienna, VA  
No Charge for Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Location Sponsor:** Rainfield Group.

*Presented by the NVTC Emerging Business & Entrepreneur Committee*

#### September 21: NVTC Presidential Series

---

##### Featuring Keynote Speaker Rudolph Giuliani, A Republican Presidential Candidate and Former Mayor, City of New York

7:00 am Registration and Networking; 8:00 - 9:15 am Program  
Hyatt Regency Reston, 1800 Presidents Street, Reston, VA  
\$75 Members / \$750 Member Table of 10

\$105 Non-Members / \$1050 Non-Member Table of 10

**Platinum Sponsor:** PNC Bank. **Gold Sponsors:** AH&T Insurance; Consumer Electronics Association, Deltek Inc.; Northrop Grumman; Patton Boggs LLP; SI International.

#### September 26: General Counsel

---

##### Digital Media and Emerging Legal Challenges

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
The Ritz-Carlton, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**General Counsel Platinum Sponsors:** AH&T Insurance; Corporation Service Company. **Gold Sponsors:** Albo & Oblon, LLP; Baker & McKenzie LLP; Hogan & Hartson; McGuireWoods LLP; Morrison & Foerster LLP; Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman; Venable LLP. **Silver Sponsors:** Information Technology Placements-Division of Legal Placements; Scheer Partners; Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC. **New Media Committee Silver Sponsor:** Scheer Partners.

*Presented by the NVTC General Counsel and New Media committees & the Federal Communications Bar Association*

#### September 27: Business Development, Marketing and Sales Workshop

---

##### 3rd Annual Professional Sales Workshop

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 11:30 am Program  
Ernst & Young, 8484 Westpark Drive, 2nd Floor, McLean, VA  
\$75 Members / \$110 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** DC Rainmakers; Kolbrener USA; Learning Tree International; QlikTech Inc.; Rainfield Group. **Silver Sponsors:** Hinge; LeapFrog Solutions Incorporated. **Location Sponsor:** Ernst & Young.

*Presented by the NVTC Business Development, Marketing and Sales Committee*

#### September 28: Tech Emergence

---

##### The Fantastic Five - How Five Super Tech Trends Will Affect You and Your Business

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
Oracle, 1910 Oracle Way, Reston, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Silver Sponsor:** Information Technology Placements - Division of Legal Placements. **Location Sponsor:** Oracle.

*Presented by the NVTC Tech Emergence Committee*

# NVTC EVENTS: September - October

## Northern Virginia's Premier Events for the Technology Community

### OCTOBER 2007

#### October 3: Private Equity

##### State of the VC Market: What's New; Who's New?

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
PricewaterhouseCoopers, 1800 Tysons Boulevard, 9th Floor, McLean, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** Chessicap, Inc.; Comerica Bank; DLA Piper US LLP; Holland & Knight LLP; Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C.

**Location Sponsor:** PricewaterhouseCoopers.

*Presented by the NVTC Capital Formation Committee*

#### October 4: FUSION Fest

##### OktoberFest!

5:30 - 8:00 pm Registration & Networking  
Reston Town Center Pavilion, 11900 Market Street, Reston, VA  
\$55 Members / \$80 Non-Members

**Event Sponsor:** Apptix. **Name Badge Sponsor:** Cernium. **Gift Sponsor:** Invest in Germany. **Beverage Fest Sponsors:** SAIC; Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. **Door Prize Sponsor:** American Airlines. **Big Pretzel Sponsor:** AH&T Insurance. **Bratwurst Sponsor:** Digital Now, Inc. **Media Sponsors:** TechJournal South; Washington Business Journal.

*An NVTC Signature Event*

#### October 10: Health Technology

##### Regional Health Information Organizations: An Introduction

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
Sheraton at Tysons, 8661 Leesburg Pike, Pavilion 23, Vienna, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** The George Washington Virginia Campus; IBM Global Business Services; Inova Health System; Noblis; Northern Virginia Community College; PricewaterhouseCoopers; SRA International. **Silver Sponsors:** George Mason University College of Health & Human Services; VMD Systems Integrators.

*Presented by the NVTC Health Technology Committee*

#### October 11: Business to Government (B2G)

##### The New GSA - Impact of Restructuring, Alliant and Small Business Goals on Federal IT Acquisition

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
Patton Boggs, 8484 Westpark Drive, Ninth Floor, McLean, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Gold Sponsor:** Wiley Rein LLP. **Silver Sponsors:** AH&T Insurance; Goodman & Company; LeapFrog Solutions Incorporated; Scheer Partners; Unanet Technologies; Vistrionix, Inc. **Location Sponsor:** Patton Boggs.

*Presented by the NVTC Business to Government Committee*

#### October 16: Emerging Business & Entrepreneur

##### Winning the War for Talent

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
2070 Chain Bridge Road, Conference Center, Lower Level, Vienna, VA  
No Charge for Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Location Sponsor:** Rainfield Group.

*Presented by the NVTC Emerging Business & Entrepreneur Committee*

#### October 17: Titans Breakfast Series

##### Featuring Keynote Speaker David Zaslav, President & CEO, Discovery Communications

7:00 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:15 am Program  
Hilton McLean, 7920 Jones Branch Drive, McLean, VA  
\$65 Members / \$85 Non-Members

\$650 Member Table of 10 / \$850 Non-Member Table of 10

**Gold Sponsors:** Accenture; George Mason University School of Management; Jefferson Wells; Transformation Systems, Inc. **Silver Sponsors:** DC Rainmakers; Leclat Group LLC; Stonesoft; The Travelers Insurance Company.

*An NVTC Signature Event*

#### October 18: Security

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
Deloitte, 1750 Tysons Blvd., Lower Level Conference Center, McLean, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsor:** Defywire; Northrop Grumman. **Location Sponsor:** Deloitte.

*Presented by the NVTC Security Committee*

#### October 25: Business Development, Marketing and Sales

7:30 am Registration & Networking; 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
2070 Chain Bridge Road, Conference Center, Lower Level, Vienna, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** DC Rainmakers; Kolbrener USA; Learning Tree International; QlikTech Inc.; Rainfield Group. **Silver Sponsors:** Hinge; LeapFrog Solutions Incorporated. **Location Sponsor:** Rainfield Group.

*Presented by the NVTC Business Development, Marketing and Sales Committee*

#### October 30: CFO Series

7:15 am Registration & Networking, 8:00 - 9:30 am Program  
The Ritz-Carlton, 1700 Tysons Boulevard, McLean, VA  
\$45 Members / \$75 Non-Members

**Platinum Sponsors:** Ernst & Young LLP; Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP. **Gold Sponsor:** Marsh. **Silver Sponsor:** UGL Equis.

*Presented by the NVTC CFO Series Committee*

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*The Big Switch: Our New Digital Destiny.*



## TOUR DATES:

### PISCATAWAY, N.J.

Thursday, October 11, 2007  
5:30 – 7:30pm

### SANTA CLARA, CA

Thursday, October 18, 2007  
5:30 – 7:30pm

### STERLING, VA

Tuesday, October 23, 2007  
5:30 – 7:30pm

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### Committee Events

On June 19, the NVTC Emerging Business and Entrepreneur Committee presented "Software/Hardware Foundation for Building Your Company," featuring panelists **Brian Choate**, Co-Founder and CEO, Timberlake Publishing; **Nancy Fleeter**, Chief Financial Officer, AeroAstro, Inc.; **Neil D. Kossler**, Managing Member, Kossler Jones & Company; **Naseem Saab**, President & Founder, Results Software; and **Dorsey Wittig**, CFO, Drivestream, who answered questions about how to buy or lease software and hardware and from whom, leasing software through the Web, paying for software accessed through the Web on a lease or subscription basis or paying on a per-transaction basis and what kind of security is available for Web software.

Also on June 19, the NVTC Business to Government and General Counsel committees co-hosted a free luncheon seminar for government contractors where attendees learned about a new specialized insurance program for government contractors, offered through a partnership with the Chubb Group of Insurance Companies.

On June 14, NVTC hosted a book party for former NVTC Board Member **Dr. Robert Beyster**, author of the book *The SAIC Solution*.

## Interested in New B2B and B2G Business?

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Update your company's NVTC profile on [www.nvtc.org](http://www.nvtc.org) to take advantage of this new member benefit. Make sure to complete the government contractor section of your profile.

### Questions?

E-mail [techconnect@nvtc.org](mailto:techconnect@nvtc.org).

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## Building Connectivity Through Technology and Relationships

by Susan Horne, President & CEO, LEAD VIRGINIA

Not too many years ago, Virginia's leaders knew one another by name. A handshake at a civic function, a letter here and there or a telephone call was the beginning of a relationship built on trust. And for a time, the leaders who were driving the important conversations about decisions made for Virginia's citizens were largely government and elected officials. As the Commonwealth has grown, so have its number and variety of leaders and influencers and the reach they have.

Technology facilitates quick and easy communication, but occasionally eliminates opportunities to develop the meaningful face-to-face relationships of the past. As dynamics shift, building social capital among colleagues statewide and creating a coherent dialogue aimed at finding positive and realistic solutions has become more challenging. Technology has facilitated improved communication among those leaders, but it cannot address the complexity of the state's challenges in a vacuum.

A statewide organization launched in 2005, LEAD VIRGINIA, addresses these challenges by gathering proven leaders from across Virginia to gain a deeper understanding about the issues, challenges and potential solutions affecting the state's future prosperity. LEAD VIRGINIA is an educational program featuring a series of visits to seven regions of the state. Incorporated as a charitable and educational organization, LEAD VIRGINIA is patterned after similar programs offered in many other states, and offers an opportunity for leaders to build social and professional connectivity statewide; to discuss with peers the opportunities and challenges the Commonwealth faces in the future; and to develop the relationships among business, government, education and community leaders

statewide that will result in meaningful change.

LEAD VIRGINIA uses a proven model for developing a statewide network of leaders by engaging academic, business, civic and government advisers to educate members of each LEAD VIRGINIA "class" on the wide range of key issues in Virginia. LEAD VIRGINIA's annual educational forum, held April through November, brings approximately 40



***Technology facilitates quick and easy communication, but occasionally eliminates opportunities to develop the meaningful face-to-face relationships of the past***

statewide business, government and non-profit leaders together to experience first hand how local and regional economies, education/workforce development and health issues impact different areas of the state, and how those regions fit into the bigger picture of the Commonwealth today and in the future. The regions that the LEAD VIRGINIA class participants visit each year include Williamsburg, Southern Virginia, Shenandoah Valley, Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, Southwest Virginia and Richmond.

The technology sector will play a large role in the transformation of Virginia as economic opportunity, workforce development and education evolve to meet the needs of a dynamic world economy. It is critical that leaders and innovators in technology become more connected through relationships with

key influencers and constituents throughout the Commonwealth. The many diverse regions of our state call for different solutions to their individual challenges, and LEAD VIRGINIA participants are well equipped to contribute to and craft those solutions. Virginia's strong national reputation for using information technology to benefit its citizens makes it imperative that the sector's leaders be engaged in an active dialogue with leaders and citizens throughout the state, not just in Northern Virginia.

Through its educational sessions, LEAD VIRGINIA participants have gained insight from such technology sector leaders as Virginia's Secretary of Technology Aneesh Chopra, NVTC President & CEO Bobbie Kilberg, OMNIPLEX President & CEO Julien Patterson, XO Communications CEO Carl Grivner, Virginia BioTechnology Research Park President & CEO Robert Skunda, CIT's Vice President for Entrepreneurship and Investment Services Tom Weithman, Criticon CEO

William Russell, and many others. Many LEAD VIRGINIA alumni are now serving on statewide boards and commissions, possessing an advanced level of knowledge and awareness gained from their LEAD VIRGINIA experiences.

I encourage you to consider participation in the next LEAD VIRGINIA class. Participation requires a completed application available at [www.leadvirginia.org](http://www.leadvirginia.org), and due by January 15, 2008. For more information, contact [shorne@leadva.org](mailto:shorne@leadva.org).

*Susan Horne has been President & CEO of LEAD VIRGINIA since March 2007. Prior to heading LEAD VIRGINIA, she served as President & CEO of Leadership Fairfax Inc. (LFI), the largest community leadership organization in the Northern Virginia region.*

## VITA'S STRONG VITAL SIGNS

*Virginia's IT agency continues to accelerate the transformation of state government*

A lot has changed for the Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA) since its birth in 2003, most for the better. And as it passes along a list of 31 "Recommended Technology Investment Projects" worth \$335 million to Governor Timothy M. Kaine in September, VITA has never looked so vital. Information technology is now a stronger service and management tool in every state agency and department, from education and health to public safety and transportation.

Many in the Northern Virginia technology community remember the early battles surrounding the creation of VITA. Then-Governor Mark Warner and Secretary of Technology George Newstrom conceptualized the plan to consolidate and upgrade the state's IT and communications infrastructure. The objectives were obvious to technology experts: Standardize and modernize approximately 67,000 computers over the next three years in more than 80 state agencies; consolidate 100 data centers; fold 40 email systems into one; move to digital telephone systems; etc. But it also was the most ambitious plan of its kind any state had undertaken. Skeptics had a field day, particularly in a time of budget problems.

Legislators and business executives, including many from NVTC, struggled to translate those plans into legislation that could command General Assembly approval. Provisions of the legislation were complex: abolish the Department of Information Technology, the Department of Technology Planning, the Virginia Information Providers Network Authority and the Chief Information Officer Advisory Board; create an Information Technology Investment Board; hire a CIO; consolidate the procurement and operational functions of information technology for state agencies. For a fairly traditional legislative body, VITA proved to be a bold step.

Then VITA started its slow climb up the sheer face of a mountain of organizational issues. The initial Information Technology Investment Board, which included Northern Virginians John Lee (Lee Technologies), Jimmy Hazel (Angler Companies) and James McGuirk (former Seibel Systems and Unisys executive) established itself as strong and independent. McGuirk, who was just re-elected as ITIB Chairman in July and continues to provide continuity, has now been joined by Northern Virginians Len Pomata (former PRC executive) and attorney Alexander (Sandy) Thomas on the 10-member board. The board hired Lem Stewart as the first CIO of the Commonwealth and Stewart got down to work, first by forming his own "coalition of the willing" agencies and government IT professionals.

System improvements have rolled out steadily since then, including standardized infrastructure, improved security, consolidated contracts, cost savings for local governments, public schools and libraries and improved service delivery to both citizens and businesses in Virginia. The improvements have transcended changes in state government administration and individual legislators.

And physical results are finally on display this year. VITA just moved more than 600 VITA and Northrup Grumman employees into a new 192,000 square-foot operations center in Chesterfield County south of Richmond. The move and the transition of Virginia state government IT professionals to Northrup Grumman are part of a ground-breaking 10-year, \$2 billion public-private partnership between VITA and Northrup Grumman. Northrup Grumman provides the \$270 million in working capital. VITA provides the oversight. Northrup Grumman delivers modern IT infrastructure, services and security. Soon to open is Northrup Grumman's 101,000 square-foot help desk and backup data facility in Russell County. That's 400 new jobs for the southwest Virginia region.

A second major public-private partnership, this one the enterprise applications track, is with CGI. The Northern Virginia firm is redesigning, updating, and integrating business processes and systems for state government. It is an innovative approach that combines General Assembly appropriations with increased revenues the financial management system improvements generate. The estimate is \$125 million in staffing and license and maintenance fee efficiencies over the life of the seven-year agreement. Beyond this first phase, to be completed in 2009, CGI will move to implement human resource, supply chain and administrative management system improvements.

And with its knowledge of Virginia government and comfort with other regions, CGI opened a \$6 million state-of-the-art software development and systems integration facility at the Russell Regional Business Technology Park to support both public and private sector clients.

VITA is alive and kicking in its fifth year. Improved online tax filing, statewide agency radio, university information, electronic toll violation enforcement, campaign finance management and improved forest resources management systems are just some of the things immediately ahead.



*Douglas Koelemay is a Senior Advisor to NVTC and Managing Director at Qorvis Communications, LLC*

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