



FAME e-News – Summer 2014

- **From the Chair, Mike Mandina** (FAME Chair; President of Optimax Systems, Inc.)

FAME Members,

Since FAME's last newsletter, I have attended no less than 20 different regional meetings held by a wide range of organizations where workforce skills and jobs were key agenda items. A cross section of the meetings I'm referring to include: weekly meetings with the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council's Workforce Group, an East High School forum, a Vertus Charter School Board Meeting, MCC Mobil Labs, and most recently hosting 17 science teachers from the Wayne County School District. Along the way many of our FAME industry partners are represented and play a significant role. Of course this is critical, since closing the skills gap requires a community effort.

It is important, in fact vital, that all of the FAME employers understand that after all of the hours that I spend at these meetings, listening to all the problems and proposed solutions, I come away re-affirmed that FAME is on the right track and the single most impactful thing that FAME industry firms can do to positively impact the skills gap is to hire youth into summer and part-time jobs. These jobs benefit youth and employers.

This summer Optimax hired 20 college and high school kids. One never showed up for work, and two left after a week or so. Right now we have 17 remaining, and of those we would gladly hire more than half. We intend on hiring 4 or 5 into permanent employment at some time in the future. If the 1,500 manufacturing firms in our region, responsible for about 60,000 employees, would increase their workforce by an average of 5% during the summer by employing youth, we would generate 3,000 experiences for our future workforce. Think about it...

By the way, the majority of these kids are doing excellent work. This has been a real help to Optimax as a means to remediate issues stemming from our regular employees' summer vacations. If you hired youth for summer jobs this season, THANK YOU. You are making a difference! Think about upping the count next year.

My very best!

Mike Mandina

Thoughts to consider for 2015:

At Tuesday's (8/12/14) FLREDC Middle Skills Workforce Workgroup meeting. A new concept was floated that was well received by all the stakeholders in attendance. Here are the essential elements:

1. Select teachers will work in FAME firms during the summer.

2. Besides learning and doing advanced manufacturing work, they will embellish or develop curriculum that will integrate the work experience into their coursework. Essentially building relevance into the coursework that will help explain the “Why do I need to learn this?” question.
3. Additionally, the educator will provide training to the employer’s workforce as requested in their field of expertise, tying in the relevance to the work going on in the firm.
4. May be possible to get this at least partially funded.
5. Could start with the Rochester City School District, but not limited to that district.
6. Priority to connect local firms with local educators.
7. Enhanced relationships with educators and local schools could create opportunities to have more summer jobs for youth in manufacturing.

More to come on this, I hope!

- **2014 Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) continues to shine!**
On July 25, 2014 fifteen 10th and 11th graders (pictured below, with a photo of their completed projects) graduated from the third class of the Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience at MCC’s Applied Technologies Center. The Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) is funded by Monroe County and designed to create a hands-on experience for students in the precision manufacturing career field. The students each received three credit hours toward an A.A.S. degree or certificate in Precision Machining or Optical Systems Technology at MCC. SAME is the result of a collaborative partnership between Monroe County, MCC, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES and FAME.





- **MCC P-TECH Mentoring Opportunity**
Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) is a unique 9-14 early college model brought to Rochester through a partnership between Monroe Community College and the Rochester City School District. P-TECH connects high school, college, and the world of work through deep, meaningful partnerships. This new vision of college and career-readiness will help meet a growing demand for skilled workers who can successfully contribute to the 21st-century world of work. MCC currently has 92 freshman signed up to start the program in the fall, and some of these students might make good future interns/co-ops/employees. Any company with an IT department or technology focus is welcome to participate in the mentoring program. For complete information, please contact Bill Rotenberg, Director of P-TECH at MCC, at email: wrotenberg@monroecc.edu or visit the following weblink: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/PTECHMentorRecruitmentFlyerFall2014.pdf>
- **New FLCC Program offering – *Mechatronic Technology Training***
FLCC will offer a new 12-week mechatronic technology training program this Fall that will provide introductory skills and knowledge for positions like advanced manufacturing and machine operator, fabricator and assembler. Classes will begin September 15th at the Technical Career and Training Institute, 7424 Victor Mendon Road, Victor. The recently opened business is a FAME member that provides skilled trades training and has partnered with FLCC's Professional Development and Continuing Education Office on the endeavor. Program participants must be at least 18, have a valid New York state driver's license and possess a high school diploma or GED. The program costs \$4,000 and includes all course materials. To inquire about the program, please contact Andréa Badger at FLCC: ph# (585) 785-1906 or email: Andrea.Badger@flcc.edu. For more information, visit: <http://fingerlakescommunitycollege.blogspot.com/2014/06/what-is-mechatronic-technology-flccs.html>
- **News from FAME's Pipeline Committee**
FAME's Pipeline Committee recently met on Friday, August 8th at MCC's Applied Technologies Center (2485 W. Henrietta Rd, Rochester). The next meeting will be in

September on 9/19/14 at Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES, Big Ridge Road, Spencerport. To attend, please contact Eileen Rucinski (email: amcn@fingerlakesworks.com). Minutes from recent Pipeline meetings are available at:

http://www.nyfame.org/about_meetings.asp

The new Pipeline video on advanced manufacturing careers is almost complete! Stay tuned for an announcement of its availability. ***Pipeline is also looking for FAME-member volunteers to help staff its Speakers Bureau. If you are interested in more information, please contact Eileen at the email above – thank you!***

- ***Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands event to be held October 2nd***

This year's *Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands!* event will take place on October 2nd at Rodman Lott & Son Farms in Seneca Falls. Register your hands-on display now at <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/flw-wth-register-your-exhibit/> Exhibit registrations are due by 8/31/13. General information on the event is available at:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/youth/finger-lakes-works-with-their-hands/>

Sponsorship opportunities are available at: <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/flw-wth-sponsorship-opportunities/>

Questions? Contact FLWWTH Event Coordinator: Pat Gopen, email:

pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com

- **News from FAME's Hiring & Training Committee**

Rick Murphy from Silgan Containers has graciously agreed to take on the role of H&T Committee Chair from Ron Golumbeck, who recently retired from ITT Goulds Pumps. The next meeting of the FAME Hiring & Training Committee will take place on September 10, 2014 from 8:00-10:00AM, location: TBA. The topic of the September meeting is: "Hiring for Emotional Intelligence." The guest speaker is Dr. Courtney Walsh, Asst. Dean of Executive Education at the University of Buffalo. Watch your in-box for the upcoming H&T meeting notice with location and RSVP information!

- **Does your organization have a Twitter account?**

Follow FAME on Twitter today: **@NY_FAME** Re-tweet our messages for maximum impact! This effort will not only support FAME locally, but will also send the message to your followers that your firm is active in building a future for our workforce and advanced manufacturing community.

- **Update from FLWIB Advanced Manufacturing Career Navigator, Eileen Rucinski**

The Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathways Grant has been expanded to include one year certificate programs that can be completed by the Spring of 2015. Although the grant is in its last year for participants to complete their AS or AAS degrees, the New York State and United States Departments of Labor have agreed to include funding for existing one year certificate programs. The program that currently qualifies, and still has openings, is *Monroe Community College's Accelerated Precision Tooling Certificate Program*. All programs need to be completed by the Spring of 2015. Contact Eileen

Rucinski at amcn@fingerlakesworks.com or (315)-789-3131 extension 105 for more information.

- **FLWIB Event to take place on October 22, 2014 – ‘Optimize Your Future’**
The Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board is pleased to welcome Ms. Joyce Gioia, Strategic Business Futurist & CEO/President of [The Herman Group](#). Ms. Gioia will present an informative and inspirational program that focuses on future trends in workforce and economic development — and the impact it will have on your organization/business in the future. She’ll also share a fun, yet thought provoking discussion, on generational diversity in the workplace that you won’t want to miss! For more information, visit: <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/employers/optimize-your-future-feat-joyce-gioia/>
- **Join FAME’s LinkedIn group for timely updates!**
Stay up-to-date on the most current advanced manufacturing workforce news! Join FAME’s LinkedIn group today at the following link:
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2889557&trk=hb_side_g
- **News You Can Use**
Testimony given at the Legislative Hearing on the CTE Diploma bill sponsored by Brindisi (bill A8189-C)
<http://www.nyfame.org/documents/NYSACTETestimonyJul162014.pdf> (July 2014) ; also: [CTE Testimony from BOCES Dist Superintendents](#) (July 2014)

Success in the New Economy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcNSpKX8kVs&feature=kp&noredirect=1>

Selling manufacturing to a new generation

http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2014/may/25/selling-manufacturing-to-a-new-generation/?partner=yahoo_feeds

Community-college grads out-earn bachelor’s degree holders

http://hechingerreport.org/content/community-college-grads-out-earn-bachelors-degree-holders_11261/

Still Searching: Job Vacancies and STEM Skills (Brookings)

<http://www.brookings.edu/research/interactives/2014/job-vacancies-and-stem-skills#/M10420>

Engaging Millennials in Manufacturing Takes Early T.E.A.M. Effort

<http://news.thomasnet.com/IMT/2014/06/05/engaging-the-millennials/>

Is There Really a Skills Gap?

<http://www.inc.com/magazine/201404/cait-murphy/skills-gap-in-the-labor-force.html>

Sweeping Change is in the Works for How Job-Training Dollars are Allocated

<http://www.nationalskillscoalition.org/news/latest/sweeping-change-is-in-the-works-for-how-job-training-dollars-are-allocated>

- **Upcoming meetings and events:**

- *FAME Hiring & Training Committee Meeting*
September 10, 8:00-10:00AM; Location: TBA
contact: Michele Stolberg, e-mail: fame@nyfame.org
- *FAME Pipeline Committee Meeting*
September 19, 8:30-10:30AM; Location: Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES, Spencerport
contact: Eileen Rucinski, e-mail: amcn@fingerlakesworks.com
- *Finger Lakes Works – With Their Hands!*
October 2, all day; Location: Rodman Lott & Son Farms
website: <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/youth/finger-lakes-works-with-their-hands/>
- *National Manufacturing Day!*
October 3, all day; Locations: various – see the online event finder/planner:
website: <http://www.mfgday.com/>
This year FAME is partnering with HTR and RTMA to increase location offerings in our region. In 2013, over 30 events were offered in the nine county area – and FAME members hosted one-third of these activities. We are hoping to surpass last year’s total. We will also be compiling a listing of nine county events for distribution to local educators. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting event!
- *FLWIB Event “Optimize Your Future”*
October 22, 9:00AM-12Noon; Location: The Ramada Inn – Geneva Lakefront
website: <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/employers/optimize-your-future-feat-joyce-gioia/>

- **Welcome new FAME members!**

- Genesee Valley Educational Partnership, www.gvboces.org

Thank you for your support of FAME!

Michele Stolberg

FAME Facilitator

Email: fame@nyfame.org

Check out our website! www.nyfame.org

Follow us on Twitter! [@NY_FAME](https://twitter.com/NY_FAME)

Phone# 315-521-7826