



FAME e-News – Winter 2015

- **From the Chair, Mike Mandina** (FAME Chair; President of Optimax Systems, Inc.)
FAME Members,
The FAME 2015 annual event was well attended and received high marks from the attendees! Please take some time and check out the highlights in the articles below. Going forward, I will continue emphasizing the **5% Pledge** as this will be our key program throughout 2015. This is the program where we ask manufacturers to pledge to provide 5 temporary job opportunities for every 100 full time employees each year. Most of the opportunities will likely be summer jobs of 8 to 12 week duration. These jobs can go to youth, vets, long-term unemployed, your friend's nephew, it does not matter. What does matter is that manufacturers increase the number of job seekers who get to experience manufacturing so that they are more likely to consider it as part of their career path.

We will be following up with FAME members and others to encourage participation. As a means of additional inducement, FAME has been awarded more than \$40,000 to partially off-set wages for students who are currently in technology training courses. You will find additional information about this program below. Further, FAME is working with our area Workforce Investment Boards to integrate the 5% Pledge program with the *Summer of Opportunity Youth Jobs* program and the recently won \$5.2 million *Finger Lakes Hired* program. We anticipate building a process that enables a means for job seekers and employers to test prospective jobs at low or no risk.

Employers, your signed participation will enhance FAME's ability to acquire and direct resources to develop a low risk, low hassle process for recruiting and temporary employees that will ultimately build a robust worker pipeline for you and other manufacturers.

My very best!
Mike Mandina

- **FAME's Annual Industry/Education event once again a Success!**
On January 28, 2015, FAME was pleased to present Mr. Andy VanKleunen of the National Skills Coalition at its annual industry/education event at MCC. Titled "*Driving a New National Skills Policy: How Local Partnerships Like FAME Are Making a Difference!*", and attended by close to 160 regional stakeholders in advanced manufacturing, education and workforce development, the event featured Mr. VanKleunen as keynote speaker, an Industry/Education Discussion Panel on "*Building Business and Education Partnerships*" and the presentation of FAME's annual STAR Award.

For event materials, a complete listing of panel members, and a PDF of Mr. VanKleunen's slides, please visit the following link:

http://www.nyfame.org/FAMEVanKleunenEventJan28_2015.asp



Mr. Andy VanKleunen



Members of the Industry/Education Discussion Panel



FAME Chair Mike Mandina presents the 2015 FAME STAR Award to Bob Lasch of MCC



Karen Springmeier receives the first donation to FAME's new Advanced Manufacturing Student Award program from Optimax Systems

- **Joint meeting of FAME's Hiring & Training and Pipeline Committees to take place at HTR**
The next meeting of FAME's Hiring & Training and Pipeline Committees will be a joint meeting on February 27, 2015 at High Tech Rochester (150 Lucius Gordon Drive, West Henrietta, NY 14586) from 8:30-10:30AM. The meeting topic will be "5 Keys to Saving your Star Employees." Dr. Beth Sears (who authored a recent white paper on this subject) will be presenting. The full meeting agenda is available at: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/JointMeetingPipelineandHiringTrainingAgenda2-27-2015.pdf> Please contact Michele Stolberg at FAME if you would like to attend, email: fame@nyfame.org
- **New FLCC courses to start in Spring 2015**
 - **Mechatronic Technology:** This 12-week course, starting March 2, covers basic electrical and mechanical fundamentals common to many employers and

provides training in industry certifications in soldering and safety. Orientation is required by calling (585) 785-1906.

- **Advanced Manufacturing Machinist:** This six-month program, starting March 16 at ITT Goulds Pumps, provides training in metal properties and machine tools necessary for production of precision components for a wide range of industries, from medical to aerospace. For more information, call (585) 785-1906.

- **MCC's High Tech Exploration Night to take place on March 18th**

MCC's High Tech Exploration Night will take place on March 18th from 7:00-9:00PM at the Warshof Conference Center, R. Thomas Flynn Campus Center, Monroe A & B, at Monroe Community College (1000 East Henrietta Road, Rochester, New York, 14623). To attend, please register online at: <http://www.monroecc.edu/depts/teched/hightechexpo/> Educators, students, parents, and industry representatives are all welcome to attend.

- **Many thanks to FAME members that supported US FIRST LEGO League teams in Fall 2014!**

North Rose-Wolcott CSD's Leavenworth Middle School, sponsored by **Absolute Precision LLC**

Pal-Mac Middle School, sponsored by **Unique Automation LLC**

Seneca Falls Middle School, sponsored by **ITT Goulds Pumps**

Wayne CSD's Ontario Elementary School, sponsored by **Harbec Plastics, Optimax Systems, and OptiPro Systems**

- **FAME Kicks-off Two New Initiatives for 2015!**

At the recent FAME Annual meeting at MCC, two new initiatives were introduced for 2015:

- **FAME 5% Pledge:** We are asking you to pledge 5% of your current workforce to the future. That means that for every 100 employees in your organization, you will provide five temporary positions for interns, high school students, and/or the long-term unemployed as a method of exposing them to the manufacturing culture through experience. In turn, these workers will gain valuable skills and experience to guide them as they become the workforce of tomorrow! For complete information, and to download a pledge form, visit: http://www.nyfame.org/documents/FAME5percentpledge_FINAL_Jan2015.pdf
- **FAME Advanced Manufacturing Student Award:** Introduced by Rick Plympton, Optimax CEO, this award will be offered to students pursuing an education that prepares them for employment in advanced manufacturing. This award will raise awareness for FAME in the region, create awareness of career opportunities in advanced manufacturing, and help strengthen our workforce pipeline. The FLWIB is accepting donations for the award, which will be managed by a FAME sub-committee. Optimax has presented Karen Springmeier, FLWIB Executive Director, with a check for \$10,000 to get the fund started. The hope is to raise \$100,000 within 5 years, such that the fund will be endowed and self-sustaining. For complete information, please visit:

<http://www.nyfame.org/documents/FAMEAdvMfgStudentAwardPRRev021715.pdf>

- **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 Finger Lakes WIB applied for and received a no-cost 1 year extension for 60 more seats for the Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathway grant. With the extension, it is hoped to enroll an additional 60 students that will complete a certificate course in Precision Machining, Computer Aided Design & Drafting, Accelerated Precision Tooling or Optical Systems Technology. The AMCN will be working closely with area high schools, veterans groups and Career Centers to recruit new students. To date, 206 students have participated in the H-1B grant. The first graduating class was May 2014. Another class graduated in December of 2014. 37 are employed in jobs ranging from test technicians, machine operators/programmers up to supervisor, quality engineer, process engineer. Currently there are 7 students that have not yet secured employment. FAME's HR Networking Group receives resumes of all graduates that are unemployed, they also receive profiles of students that are looking for internships/co-ops. 86 students are anticipated to graduate in May 2015. Assisting the current students with developing a profile that is a snap-shot of their skills/courses is an ongoing process. The outcome that is hoped for is that these students can secure internships/co-ops while they are in school and/or full time employment when they graduate. Please contact Eileen Rucinski at amcn@fingerlakesworks.com or (315) 789-3131 ext. 105 for more information, or if you know someone who would be interested in the grant.

- **Sad News and an Opportunity to Help**

It is with a heavy heart that we received the news that Paul Conrow's young daughter recently passed away after a two year battle with cancer. Many of you will remember Paul as FAME's first ever STAR Award recipient for his optics program at East High School. Our thoughts go out to Paul and his family in this difficult time. A fundraising effort has been started to help the family pay the costs of the funeral and other arrangements. If you would like to show your support, please visit:

<http://www.gofundme.com/amandaconrow>

- **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**

Skills Gap Predictions for 2015: Rising Wages and More Training

http://www.manufacturing.net/blogs/2015/01/skills-gap-predictions-for-2015-rising-wages-and-more-training?et_cid=4372494&et_rid=696403410&type=cta

Report ranks Rochester 78th for STEM workers

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/money/business/2015/01/22/report-ranks-rochester-th-stem-workers/22179799/>

Back from brink, MCC optics program thriving

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/money/2015/01/31/back-brink-mcc-optics-program-thriving/22634743/>

FACT SHEET: Partnering with Employers to Equip Hardworking Americans with the Skills They Need to Advance into Better-Paying Jobs

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/01/21/fact-sheet-partnering-employers-equip-hardworking-americans-skills-they->

- **Upcoming meetings and events:**

- *FAME Joint Hiring & Training/Pipeline Committees Meeting*
February 27, 8:30-10:30AM; Location: High Tech Rochester, 150 Lucius Gordon Drive, West Henrietta
contact: Michele Stolberg, e-mail: fame@nyfame.org
- *MCC Hi Tech Exploration Night*
March 18, 7:00-9:00PM; Location: Monroe Community College, Warshof Conference Ctr, Monroe A&B
contact: Bob Lasch, e-mail: rlasch@monroecc.edu
- *Career Fair/Open House at WTCC*
March 19, 4:30-8:00PM; Location: Wayne Technical and Career Center, 4440 Ridge Road, Williamson
contact: Mike Consadine, e-mail: mconsadine@soduscscsd.org

- **Welcome new FAME members!**

- Baldwin Richardson Foods, www.brfoods.com
- Exelis Geospatial Systems, www.exelisinc.com
- Berry Plastics, www.berryplastics.com

Thank you for your support of FAME!

Michele Stolberg

FAME Facilitator

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Check out our website! www.nyfame.org

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

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