50th NAWI Annual Conference - 2015
Saratoga Springs, New York

May 20-21, 2015 with makerspace and industry tours on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

Register online for your room at our conference hotel (pictured to the right):
**Holiday Inn Hotel Saratoga Springs**
232 Broadway
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
518.584.4550

Use group code NAW. The group rate will be honored past the May 1 group rate reservation deadline on a space available basis, please contact the hotel if you need assistance using our $139 group rate. Note that the discounted room rate may be used starting Monday night, 5/18 and through Thursday night, 5/21.
For additional hotel accommodation information, as well as information about submitting conference speaking proposals, exhibitor and sponsor information, registering for the 2015 conference, and fascinating Saratoga Springs, New York, scroll down this page or use the jump links to your right.

“CTE for All: Celebrating 50 years of Workforce Education”

The Maker Movement is sweeping the nation with Maker Faires, Makerspaces, product accelerators, and a renewed look the way we educate our youth. New low cost and available tools and technology have given rise to new sustainable products, solutions that were unaffordable just a few years ago, and the Third Industrial Revolution.

This conference May 19-21 in Saratoga Springs, brings together practitioners who will share their experience and expertise to help you grow a renewed culture of innovation in your region. You will experience two different perspectives: big corporate nanoscale technologies to grassroots tinkers, makers, and startups and with everything in between. The common thread is entrepreneurism - not just business plans, but innovative problem solving that will make our world a better place.

**Student Focus**

- Preparing students for the workforce
- Implementing differentiated teaching methods that work
- Identifying innovative best practices in Career Education
- Creating and maintaining business/industry/education partnerships and internships as a part of a meaningful and applied education experience for students

**Industry Focus**

- Contributing to economic development: how CTE makes it happen
- Providing opportunities for organizations to share their talents, resources, expertise, and real world projects by creating and maintaining business/industry/education partnerships and internships as a part of a meaningful and applied education experience for students to develop their 21st century skills

**Teacher/Administrator/Counselor Focus**

- Contributing to economic development: how CTE makes it happen
• Providing opportunities for organizations to share their talents, resources, expertise, and real world projects by creating and maintaining business/industry/education partnerships and internships as a part of a meaningful and applied education experience for students to develop their 21st century skills

To see the 2015 NAWI Conference session descriptions, subject to revision, click on this: NAWI 2015 Conference sessions.

To see the 2015 NAWI Conference-at-a-Glance schedule, subject to revision, click on this: NAWI 2015 Conference schedule-at-a-glance.

To see the 2015 NAWI Conference program, subject to revision, click on this: NAWI 2015 Conference program.

To see the NAWI President's Welcome to 2015 conference attendees' letter, click on this: NAWI President's letter.

This amazing line up of keynote speakers are just part of a broad list of guest speakers and workshops offered at our 2015 conference!

University at Albany - SUNY and Nanotechnology Center Tour (2 p.m., 5/19)

Alain Kaloyeros

Alain E. Kaloyeros, Ph.D. is Founding President and Chief Executive Officer, SUNY Polytechnic Institute and Professor of Nanoscience. Dr. Kaloyeros received his Ph.D. in Experimental Condensed Matter Physics from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1987.

He has authored and co-authored over 150 articles and contributed to 7 books on topics pertaining to the science and technology of nanoelectronics and nanooptoelectronics ultrathin film materials, atomic layer vapor phase
deposition processes, and nanoscale x-ray, electron, and photon-based characterization and metrology. He has graduated 31 Ph.D.s and over 50 Masters.

Dr. Kaloyeros’ complete bio

GE Today and Tomorrow (Wednesday morning 5/20 keynote speaker)

Scott Price

An overview of the General Electric Global Research Center shows the wide range of technologies that are needed for GE businesses to meet customer needs now and to prepare GE for the future. The research center has a staff of nearly 2,000 advanced degree-qualified people who tackle a variety of challenges during their tenure. The GE businesses are concerned with producing goods and services that require many different employee talents and training. A look ahead into emerging technologies yields a profile of GE tomorrow.

J. Scott Price is currently a Physicist and X-ray Technologist in the High Energy Physics Lab at the GE Global Research Center arriving there in 2004 after five years at GE Healthcare in Milwaukee, WI, specializing in high power metal-ceramic x-ray tubes for CT and vascular applications. Scott is leading a number of technical efforts related to x-ray source development for medical, NDE, and security applications.

Scott graduated with a B.S. magna cum laude from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (former University of Missouri-Rolla) in physics, has a physics degree from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie Paris VI, and a Ph.D. in nuclear physics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A post-doctoral appointment with the High Energy Spin Physics group at University of Michigan-Ann Arbor involved in developing ultra-cold spin-polarized H jet target for UNK-1, Protvino, Russia.

Scott spent five years as a staff scientist at the Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Newport News, VA. He has 25 patents. The GE Global Research
Center has 900 Ph.D. researchers supported by 2000 engineers and technicians.

Business, Government and Academia Partnerships: Paving the Way for the Region’s Economic Future and Workforce Pipeline. (Wednesday lunch 5/20 keynote speaker)

Joseph P. Dragone

Learn how collaboration across sectors has created new learning experiences for high school students with direct connections to higher education and jobs that are fueling the economy of Tech Valley.

Dr. Joseph P. Dragone was appointed Superintendent of the 4300 pupil Ballston Spa Central School District in 2008. Dr. Dragone graduated from The College of St. Rose and received a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Administration and Policy Studies from the University at Albany, State University of New York.

He has brought to his school district programs in Sustainable Design, Video Game Design, Pharmaceutical Research, International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, School Based Mental Health Clinics, Robotics, Biomedical Science and Nanotechnology, which was featured in Education Week.

He partnered with GLOBALFOUNDRIES, Cisco, and over 30 other partners to bring Clean Technologies and Sustainable Industries Early College High School to his students. He serves on the Board of Trustees of The College Board, the Saratoga Economic Development Corporation, and has received numerous recognitions and awards.

Dr. Dragone’s complete bio

Joseph Dragone’s keynote: Business, Government, and Academia Partnership
Five Ways to Encourage Learning Outside the Classroom (Wednesday evening 5/20 keynote speaker)

Kathy Ceceri

Enrichment teacher, homeschooling expert, and makerspace organizer Kathy Ceceri will talk about why it's important to help students find real-life opportunities to learn and where to find resources that go beyond textbooks, screens, and classrooms.


A frequent speaker on hands-on learning and STEAM education, she was the Homeschooling Expert at About.com and a top contributor to Wired.com's GeekDad blog. When she’s not writing or speaking, Kathy presents hands-on workshops for students, teachers, and families at schools, museums, and libraries throughout the Northeast and volunteers as the events coordinator for the Tech Valley Center of Gravity in Troy, NY. She is the mother of two grown sons, one a game developer and the other a film student, and lives in Schuylerville, NY.

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Her Web site is www.craftsforlearning.com.

Integrating Workforce Development and Economic Development: The Case of New York's Capital Region (Thursday morning 5/21 keynote speaker)

Michael Tucker

Stakeholders in New York's Capital Region have been highly motivated to integrate workforce development and education pipeline issues into the practice of economic development. Michael Tucker will provide an overview of key industry-workforce partnerships and initiatives, best practices and lessons learned from the Tech Valley experience, as well as the challenges still being addressed.
F. Michael Tucker was appointed President of the Center for Economic Growth in March 2007. Mr. Tucker graduated from Villanova University and the Villanova School of Law. He is an attorney and a licensed real estate broker, and is active in legal, real estate, and economic development organizations at the local, state and national levels.

Michael serves as a Director of the New York State Economic Development Council and is on the boards of numerous not-for-profit organizations throughout Tech Valley. He served as the Chairman of the Town of Bethlehem Industrial Development Agency, is a Trustee of Ulster Savings Bank, and is a member of the MedTech Board of Directors’ Advisory Council. He is also a member of Governor Cuomo’s Capital Region Economic Development Council.

**A New Paradigm for Expanding our Nation’s Workforce (Thursday lunch 5/21 keynote speaker)**

Karen Hitchcock

A new approach to workforce development will be described which enables baccalaureate students to receive the technical background and experience necessary to meet the requirements of our nation’s industries. The necessity to better align the content of educational programs with workforce needs will be stressed. In addition, a new paradigm for economic development will be described which involves a unique partnership of universities, industry and government, and which has had a major impact on the economy and workforce needs of upstate New York.

Karen R. Hitchcock, Ph.D., Special Advisor, Park Strategies, LLC, has had a distinguished career as an educator, research scientist and university administrator. From 2004 to 2008, Dr. Hitchcock was Principal and Vice Chancellor of Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada.

This followed her nine year tenure (1996 to 2004) as President of the University at Albany, State University of New York. Additionally, she served in a number of leadership roles at the University of Illinois, Chicago and Texas Tech University, as well as Tufts University in Boston where she received numerous teaching
awards as she moved through the ranks to become the George A. Bates Professor and Chair of the Department of Anatomy and Cellular Biology. Dr. Hitchcock received her B.S. in Biology from St. Lawrence University and her Ph.D. from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

During her leadership of the University at Albany and Queen’s University, Dr. Hitchcock was committed to fostering university – business – government partnerships to advance research, enhance the quality of education and foster economic development. Aligning university research strengths with the needs and priorities of the Capital Region, the state and the nation, led to major developments in nanotechnology, and health and environmental sciences. In partnership with the state and federal governments, as well as numerous industry leaders, the University at Albany developed unique, state-of-the-art research facilities and educational programs, including the first School of Nanosciences in the nation.

These multi-sector, multi-billion dollar investments at the University at Albany helped make the region and state a world leader in nanoscale sciences and engineering. Further, under Dr. Hitchcock’s leadership, a partnership of the University at Albany with the State (NYSERDA) and the Saratoga Economic Development Corporation led to the development of the Saratoga Technology and Energy Park, the country’s first technology park specifically devoted to promoting new clean energy technologies.

Dr. Hitchcock’s complete bio

Karen Hitchcock’s keynote: A New Paradigm for Expanding Our Nation’s High-tech Workforce

Fascinating Saratoga Springs, New York!

With history, entertainment, and attractions of all kinds, Saratoga Springs is a wonderful place to be in May for our conference. NAWI conference attendees will have many interesting venues to visit in Saratoga Springs after conference sessions are done each day! Consider visiting Saratoga Spa State Park with its mineral baths, golf courses, tennis courts, swimming pools, and hiking trails. As the site of the Revolutionary War Battle of Saratoga, the city is home to the Saratoga National Historic Park battlefield preserve commemorating the American victory in what was ultimately the turning point in the war.

Then there is the Saratoga Springs History Museum, the New York State Military Museum and the Automobile Museum. Music lovers will appreciate that the city was a powerful magnet for the 1960s folk music movement, remember Don
McClean and Arlo Guthrie? That music entertainment legacy continues today, especially at the downtown Saratoga Performing Arts Center, which features big-name performers as well as serving as the part-time home to the New York City Ballet and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Art lovers will want to visit the galleries and bistros in the Beekman Street art district. Come join us in Saratoga Springs, New York this May.

Additional Lodging Information

Rooms are being held at our Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs conference hotel for $139 per night, king or double room, use group code NAW. The group rate will be honored past the May 1 group rate reservation deadline on a space available basis, please contact the hotel if you need assistance using our group rate. Note that the discounted room rate may be used starting Monday night, 5/18 and through Thursday night, 5/21. A 13% tax is added to the room rates.

You may book your hotel room by clicking this Holiday Inn Hotel Saratoga Springs conference hotel registration link. If rooms at our Holiday Inn conference hotel are fully booked, please consider these additional hotel accommodations in the greater Saratoga Springs area (map provided) as well as these additional hotel accommodations.

How to submit a 2015 NAWI Conference speaking proposal

Please note that NAWI conference proposals are no longer being accepted for our 2015 conference. This year’s conference will focus on “CTE for ALL: Celebrating 50 Years of Workforce Education.” We are seeking to identify a variety of approaches that support the conference theme to help teachers, workforce developers, counselors, administrators, and business partners meet the challenges of the future. Conference attendees include staff from secondary schools, community colleges, and technical institutes, as well as government leaders in workforce development and representatives of business, industry, and labor. You are invited to submit a proposal for presenting at the 50th Annual NAWI Conference.

We invite you to participate in the conference and to submit your most innovative idea as a possible presentation. Session proposals that include supporting data/statistics will receive top consideration. The deadline for non-keynote speaking proposal consideration is the end of the day Pacific Time, April 15, 2015. Please click to start your submission of your conference proposal.
presentation proposal. If you have questions regarding your presentation proposal please contact NAWI President Laurie Kash, Ph.D. at petrarchslaurie@aol.com

Interesting First Day Optional Makerspace and Industry Tours in the New York Nanotechnology Corridor are planned for Tuesday, May 19, 2015!

For those registered for the NAWI Conference, we will have complimentary bus transportation for the two tours. Our bus will go to the first tour, then directly to the second tour, then back to our Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn conference hotel. The tour bus departs from the Saratoga Springs Holiday Inn at 1:20 pm EDT and will return at approximately 6 pm.

SUNY Polytechnic Institute (SUNY Poly) is a global education, research, development, and technology deployment resource dedicated to preparing the next generation of scientists and researchers in nanotechnology. We will visit their NanoTech Complex, a fully-integrated research, development, prototyping, and educational facility that provides strategic support through outreach, technology acceleration, business incubation, pilot prototyping, and test-based integration support for onsite corporate partners including IBM, Intel, GlobalFoundries, SEMATECH, Samsung, TSMC, Applied Materials, Tokyo Electron, ASML and Lam Research, as well as other “next generation” nanotechnology research activities. SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Colleges of Nanoscale Science and Engineering, is located at 257 Fuller Road, Albany, NY 12203. We will tour at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Tech Valley Center of Gravity is a community makerspace. The Tech Valley Center of Gravity is a federation of makers, hackers, crafters, and artists who share camaraderie, space, and resources to do tinkering and innovation. They have a permanent makerspace as well as several satellite locations. They are supported by and share with a community of local individuals and organizations. Based in downtown Troy, NY, they sponsor events all over the New York State Capital Region. Their primary goal is to build a community around the idea of people doing for ourselves, rather than just passively consuming. Members learn how things work - those things being the arts, crafts, and technologies that surround them on an everyday basis. They also aim to create a network of contacts for small business and start-ups in the Capital Region to connect with local leaders, like-minded businesses and individuals, and tools and resources they might not otherwise have access to. Tech Valley Center of Gravity makerspace is currently located at 35 4th Street, Troy, NY 12181; however, they
will be moving into a new 50,000 sq. ft. location before the start of our NAWI conference. We will tour at 4:00 p.m. Eastern time.

Presentation files voluntarily provided by 2015 conference speakers

Marilyn Barger's and Richard Gilbert's Keeping Curriculum Aligned to Industry Needs PDF of their Power Point.

Marilyn Barger's and Richard Gilbert's Integrated Engineering Curriculum for Elementary Engineering PDF of their Power Point.

Frances Beauman's, Glenn McRae's, and Jeannine Gallina's Adding PBL and Engineering Concepts to Transportation Pathways Resources and Partnerships PDF of their Power Point.


Jim Gibson's Taking the Classroom to Students, Utilizing Portable Trainers Power Point file.


Karen Hitchcock's keynote: A New Paradigm for Expanding Our Nation’s High-tech Workforce Power Point file.


Carolyn Malstrom's Building a K-12 STEM Program Power Point file.

Vendor Exhibitor and Sponsor Information

Please click here if you would like information on becoming an exhibitor or sponsor for our 50th Annual NAWI Conference. Please click here to register to become a sponsor or a vendor exhibitor for our 50th Annual NAWI Conference.

Conference Registration Information

The online conference registration system for our 50th Annual Conference is now available. This system will allow you to register for the conference and pay via a credit card. Payments via checks and institutional purchase orders can also be accommodated. Click here to register for our conference.

Note that hotel sleeping room registrations are done separately from registering to attend the conference, although there is a link at the NAWI 2015 Annual Conference registration site to our conference hotel registration page.