Transitioning FLATE

Our journey to sustainability

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FLATE, an NSF ATE Regional Center

- 2002 Regional Center Planning Grant awarded
- 2004 Regional Center fully funded for the state of Florida
- 2008 FLATE renewed
- 2012 FLATE renewed
- 2016 - 2020 No cost extension, supplemental funding
- 2016 - MOU with FloridaMakes for Manufacturing Day Outreach
- 2016 - 2020 – multiple partner projects with FloridaMakes
- 06/17/2020 - FLATE NSF ATE Center closed
- 06/18/2020 - FLATE, a part of the FloridaMakes Network opens
- 09/01/2020 - FDOE awards FloridaMakes a grant to partially support FLATE
FLATE’s Sustainability Worksheet

- Isolated our activities by “category” (curriculum, professional development, outreach)
- Built a worksheet for each
- Identified partners that might take over each of these
- Identified activities that would be impossible to sustain
- Reviewed the worksheet annually - updating partners, activities and the status of each partnership
# FLATE Sustainability Worksheet (sample)

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<th>OUTREACH</th>
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<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>Partner/s</th>
<th>Partner Role</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Post-Its/Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FLATE Awards</td>
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<td>“Made in Florida” website resources for manufacturing education</td>
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<td>“Made in Florida” DVD/Video</td>
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<td>FLATE Summer Robotics Camps @ HCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLATE Summer Robotics Camps @ other locations</td>
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FLATE will drive Florida's world-class manufacturing workforce
FLATE – FloridaMakes Partnering

- 2016 - MOU for outreach, start of increasing interactions
- 2017 FLATE invited to RMA network monthly call (later also invited to the Workforce Leadership Council regular meetings)
- 2017-2020 - Regular brainstorming with FloridaMakes leadership and FLATE leadership teams started
  - Explored many ideas and options (political state and federal, MEP, NSF, state SUS system centers and institutes, Florida Department of Education)
- 2019 – FLATE Speaks to MakeMore Summit
- 2019 FLATE- FloridaMakes community of practice project successfully implemented
- 2020 – FloridaMakes awarded a grant from NSF ATE
What is FloridaMakes?

The **MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP (MEP)** is a public-private partnership with Centers in all 50 states and Puerto Rico dedicated to serving small and medium-sized manufacturers.

The **National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)** was founded in 1901 and is now part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. NIST is one of the nation's oldest physical science laboratories. Congress established the agency to remove a major challenge to U.S. industrial competitiveness at the time.
• **MEP National Network**  
  Member in Florida

• **Mission:** Improve the productivity & technological performance of Florida manufacturers

• Provide expertise & resources to meet manufacturer needs

• Focus on small and medium manufacturers

**MEP** = Manufacturing Extension Partnership

**What is FloridaMakes?**
CORE SERVICES

Focus on: Growth...Technology...Talent

Enterprise Assessment
Business Growth Services
Technology Acceleration
International Market Development
Workforce Training & Development
Supply Chain Optimization
Process Improvement
Sustainability
Focus on: Growth...Technology...Talent

Enterprise Assessment
Business Growth Services
Technology Acceleration
International Market Development
Workforce Training & Development
Supply Chain Optimization
Process Improvement
Sustainability
Focus on: **Growth**...**Technology**...**Talent**

Enterprise Assessment

**Business Growth Services**
**Technology Acceleration**

International Market Development

**Workforce Training & Development**

Supply Chain Optimization

Process Improvement

Sustainability
ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORK

• Serve Regional Manufacturers
• Advocate for manufacturing
• A channel bringing resources to all Florida Manufacturers
• Share best practices
Nearly Complete RMA Coverage

Over 20,000 Manufacturers in Florida
• Workforce issues/services
  • Educational & training programs
  • Subject matter expertise
  • Career Pathways
  • Promote manufacturing and its careers
  • Industry 4.0 technologies
Benefits for FLATE

- Long-term funding to support FLATE’s work as part of Florida’s manufacturing ecosystem
- Established network of manufacturers through RMAs to connect to colleges
- Higher level access to Florida Department of Education and state agencies
- Access to large statewide public-private entities
- More statewide visibility to manufacturing stakeholders
- Continue our FLATE mission and work
- Opportunities for growth/expansion
Transitioning Tips

- Talk about how to sustain your NSF Center or project regularly
- Develop some alternatives
  - Establish a corporation, not-for-profit organization, etc
- Identify organizations whose mission overlaps OR compliments yours
- Build relationships
- Tell them what is in it for them (and you)
- Engage in partnerships activities and projects
- Share the kudos for good work
- Promote them whenever its appropriate
FLATE Sustained

Questions, Answers, Discussions & Thank You!

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