PENNSYLVANIA ROBOTICS AND TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP

Christopher Barlow  
*Director, Corporate Engagement & Career Management*

Bill McShane  
*Associate Director*  
*Integrated Learning*
• Built on the Pennsylvania - Manufacturing Advisory Fellowship (PA-MAF);

• Result of federal funding to the Southwestern Pennsylvania New Economy Collaborative

• 27 projects to be run over next 3 years
  o Focused on SMEs
    • Robotics, technology, advanced manufacturing
Catalyst Connection

• **Mission** is to advance the performance of manufacturing companies in Southwestern Pennsylvania by accelerating their growth and productivity improvements

• Private, Not-for-profit
  - Dedicated to serving small to medium sized manufacturers (SMMs)
  - Located in Hazelwood Green Mill 19

• **4 areas of expertise**
  - Consulting Services
  - Technology Services
  - Training & Events
  - Workforce Development

• Supporting over 2700+ manufacturing establishments and 86,000+ active workers
Program Structure

• Short Intense Projects
  o 6-8 weeks in length
    • Determined by client needs

• Approx. 4 Students per project

• 2 Immediate Opportunities
  o Spring 2 (March 20 start)
  o Summer 1 (May 8)
  o Additional opportunities throughout AY 2023-24

• Guided by experienced coach/mentor

• Not for academic credit
Student Expectations

- **From Students:**
  - Commit to project
  - Represent yourself and Pitt
  - Recognize input has an impact
  - 8-12 hours of effort per week
    - Includes client meeting(s), coach meeting(s), team meetings and individual expectations
    - Additional synchronous and/or asynchronous workshops may be required
  - Complete all required feedback and learning assessments

- **For Students**
  - Professional experience and skill building
    - Including in robotics, autonomy and advanced manufacturing industries
  - Networking opportunities
  - Stipend = $2,000 (before taxes)
Payment and Authorization

• Must be a current Pitt student (not open to recent graduates)

• Students do NOT:
  o Have to apply for CPT
  o Need to participate in an independent study/internship course
  o Need any special authorization from OIS

• You will receive a one-time taxable stipend for your completion of the project ($2000)
  o Instructions regarding payment processes will be shared to selected students
Course Outcome

“My experience on the PA-MAF project with SKC, Inc. was extremely rewarding.

Through the program and Catalyst Connection, I received invaluable real-world experience and coaching in the art of consulting. Without this hands-on experience, I would not have been able to develop my soft skills, such as useful informational interview techniques and interfacing with the client.

My PA-MAF project pushed me out of my comfort zone in such a way that I grew exponentially from the experience and all of the valuable lessons I learned along the way.”

• Matthew Bonidie MBA/MS Engineering
Application Process

- Application posted online
  - Now open
  - Submit resume and thoughtful reply to short answers

- Selected students will be notified prior to start of Spring 2 term
  - First Deadline: March 2
  - Selection notification: By March 9
  - Deadline to accept offer: March 13
QUESTIONS?