



Alabama Small Business Development Center Network

Strengthening Alabama's Economy, One Small Business at a Time.

www.asbdc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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“IDEAS INTO DOLLARS”

13th Biennial ALABAMA CONFERENCE FOR INVENTORS

Inventors and experts from around the region will be getting together February 20, 2014, at The Alabama Conference for Inventors. The conference will be held at the Jacksonville State University Houston Cole Library in Jacksonville, Alabama. Sponsors for the event are the Jacksonville State University (JSU) Center for Economic Development, the JSU Small Business Development Center, the JSU College of Commerce and Business Administration, U.S. Small Business Administration, and INVENT ALABAMA.

All inventors or potential inventors are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Conference is aimed at helping eliminate some of the barriers to successful inventing as well as providing inventors with good information to further their ideas. A variety of topics will be addressed to include: invention scam discussion by the Federal Trade Commission; alternatives for protecting your idea; invention funding alternatives; internet patent search; patent filing considerations from an experienced patent attorney; and learning about Alabama's Launchpad program & how it can potentially help you. Inventors will have ample opportunity to network with their peers and with speakers.

The conference fee is \$20 per participant and includes refreshments, and conference materials. The deadline for registration is Friday, February 14. **For more information about the conference contact the JSU Small Business Development Center at (256) 782-5271 or email sbdc@jsu.edu.** The Conference brochure is available to be viewed and downloaded in pdf format from the JSU SBDC website (<http://www.jsusbdc.com/events/>).



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Alabama Conference for Inventors

Jacksonville State University

Houston Cole Library – 11th Floor

Jacksonville, Alabama

Agenda: Thursday, February 20, 2014

- 7:45 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 a.m. Welcome
Opening Remarks Dr. William A. Meehan – President, Jacksonville State University
Dr. William T. Fielding – Dean, College of Commerce and Business Administration
Acting Director, Center for Economic Development
- 8:45 a.m. What Patents Are Not, Plus Alternatives to Protecting Your Idea
Mr. Robert Porter, Inventor – IDEAMAGIK & Vvego International
- 9:45 a.m. Invention Funding Alternatives - Mr. Josh Watkins, Attorney/Angel Network Member
- 10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:40 a.m. Invention Scams – Ms. Cindy Liebes, Director - Federal Trade Commission (Southeast Division)
- 11:40 a.m. Lunch & Networking - Lunch on Your Own (Local Restaurant List in Packet)
- 1:00 p.m. Patent Filing Considerations from a Patent Attorney's Perspective
Mr. Jeff Veal, Patent Attorney - Veal Intellectual Property, LLC
- 2:00 p.m. Patent Search Tips - Mr. Andrew Wohrley, Research Librarian – Auburn University
- 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:40 p.m. The Alabama Launchpad Program – Mr. Greg Sheek, Director - Alabama Launchpad
- 3:15 p.m. Conference Wrap-Up & Adjourn