

# Maine Center Ventures Update to The University of Maine System Board of Trustees

*Monday, March 19, 2018*



Presented by:

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# What's Happening At MCV?



# Incubator / Accelerator

- Maine Center Ventures/Maine Center for Entrepreneurs (formally MCED) is negotiating the formation of a strategic partnership:
  - This MOU will allow MCV to jointly sponsor the annual Top Gun Showcase which typically brings 250-300 attendees including the 'who's who' in entrepreneurship, angel, and venture capital as well as media exposure.
  - The MOU will also reintroduce MCV to the entrepreneur and broader business community.

# Executive Education

- ½ way through the inaugural presentation of Maine Law's Regulatory Compliance Certificate Program;
- The program is sponsored by Wex, Unum, MeRTEC and the Portland Regional Chamber of Commerce;
- 9 Students are enrolled:
  - 6 from Unum;
  - 2 from Wex; and
  - 1 MeRTEC student.
- Feedback for the program has been extremely positive;
- MCV is working with Dean Conway and Andy Coffman from the Regulatory Compliance Certificate Program to develop an online presentation of the program.
- Met with Evaluation Committee – recommended offering Executive Education programs under the broad umbrella of Compliance.



## **Current MCV Steering Committee Members**

*Bobby Monks, Chair  
Mike Boyson  
Kris Keating  
Kevin Mahaney  
John Ryan  
Chris Claudio*

# Fundraising

- **Goals:**
  - **Create a Steering Committee to engage leaders and business community members in the development process of the Maine Center so they have a stake in the effort;**
  - **Steering Committee to act as Executive Committee of 140 person Advisory Council;**
  - **As the MCV and Maine Center for Graduate and Professional Studies become closer, this committee will lead the fundraising efforts to match the Alfond Grant.**

# Branding & Messaging

- The MCV team has worked with Broadreach PR over the past few months on Phase 1 Branding and Messaging efforts. There have been 4 key findings thus far:
  - 1. The Maine Center must be known for something – what will differentiate this program from other programs being offered throughout New England?
  - 2. The curriculum must be rigorous – both employers and students are in search of programs that will challenge them in ways that will prepare them for real world opportunities
  - 3. The opportunity to pull other academic areas into the Maine Center will be key to developing students who are ready for the workforce.
  - 4. There is a lot of confusion about what the Maine Center is and what it isn't – very important to start to define.
- Next steps:
  - The MCV team is currently creating an RFP for Phase 2 of Branding and messaging development.



**MAINE CENTER**

FOR GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES