Deshpande Symposium 2018 Recap
Stephanie JH McReynolds
Business, Management, and Entrepreneurship Librarian
Syracuse University Libraries
Deshpande Symposium

“The Deshpande Symposium is a gathering of like-minded practitioners focused on accelerating innovation and entrepreneurship across the college and university environment.”

For more information, please see the Deshpande Symposium website.
**Deshpande Symposium Overview**

» “Co-founded by the Deshpande Foundation and the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2012.”

» “Held at the UMass Lowell Inn & Conference Center, draws together national speakers and those at the forefront of innovative strategies in higher education.”

» Steering Committee Members:

  - Arizona State University
  - Burton D. Morgan Foundation
  - Deshpande Foundation
  - Houston Community College
  - Middlesex Community College
  - Queen’s University
  - Rice University
  - University of Akron
  - University of Massachusetts Lowell
  - University of North Carolina
  - VentureWell
  - Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Deshpande Pre-Conference

» Innovation Ecosystem Tours

OR

» Workshops, such as “Spurring Innovation with Project-Based Learning,” “Exploring Entrepreneurial Engagement with FirstGen Students,” and “Transforming Education: Teaching Creative Problem Solving to Ignite Entrepreneurial Thinking in College Students.”
Innovation Ecosystem Tours

» Innovation Hub

» Emerging Technology and Innovation Center (ETIC)
  ▪ includes Raytheon UMass Lowell Research Institute (RURI), focusing on radar and communication systems research

» Makerspace

» E for All

» Lowell Makes
Innovation Hub Overview

• dedicated office space
• rapid prototype development equipment and services
• open coworking and collaboration space, and
• meeting and conferencing space
• pricing available at the Innovation Hub pricing page
Innovation Hub: Lobby
Innovation Hub: Window View
Innovation Hub: Prototyping Lab
Innovation Hub: Too Small Table & Chair Set
Emerging Technology and Innovation Center

“The 84,000-square-foot state-of-the-art Emerging Technology and Innovation Center (ETIC) is home to cutting-edge research in nanotechnology, plastics engineering and manufacturing research that will advance fields such as life sciences, energy, national security, environmental protection and more. The ETIC includes a multibay cleanroom, high bay manufacturing research suite, and interdisciplinary chemistry and engineering research labs that are "hosted and not owned." The ETIC prepares students for jobs in emerging sectors, serves as the site of corporate- and government-sponsored research, fosters industry partnerships in the global marketplace, provides opportunities to transcend individual disciplines, engages the community, and provides flexible research and development space in the process.”

Quote from "UMass Lowell Opens $80M Academic Building" press release.
ETIC: Lab to Analyze Running
ETIC: Fashion Makerspace Sign
ETIC: Fashion Makerspace
ETIC: Fashion Makerspace Materials
MakerSpace Overview

» “The space holds eight 3D printers and workstations for electronics and machining. There’s room for 100 students at a time and it is available to students 24 hours a day.”

» “The new Makerspace will allow students from all majors and ages to intermingle in a state-of-the-art space while refining designs and developing prototypes.”

» “This is really about making things real,” says plastics engineering Prof. David Kazmer. “All the time, students learn equations and math and how to do things. This maker space will let students at all levels realize their ideas.”

For more information, please see the Lawrence Lin MakerSpace website.
Makerspace: Tables for Collaboration & Planning
Makerspace: Electronics & Machining Room
Makerspace: Fabric Loom
E for All Overview

“EforAll is a project of the Deshpande Foundation, which has encouraged the use of entrepreneurship and innovation as catalysts for sustainable change in the United States, India and Canada since 1996.”

“Entrepreneurship for All (EforAll) is accelerating economic and social impact through entrepreneurship in mid-sized cities.”

“At EforAll we believe that the best way to revitalize mid-sized U.S. cities that have fallen into decline, and suffer related high rates of poverty and unemployment, is to fuel the dreams and ambitions of entrepreneurs who live in and near these cities. We believe that they understand their city and its problems better than anyone else and have ideas and solutions with the potential to make their city prosper once again while they create their own pathway out of poverty.”

For more information, please see the EforAll website.
E for All: Staff Presentation
Lowell Makes Overview

“Lowell Makes is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, shared community workshop and laboratory. We are an organized group of local artists, engineers, makers, and thinkers who work together to provide tools and learning resources to the public.”

For more information, please see the [Lowell Makes website](#).
Lowell Makes: Brew’d Coffee Studio Coffee Bags
Lowell Makes: 3D Imaging Studio
Lowell Makes: Cutting Edge & Old Tech
Lowell Makes: Bicycle Repairs
Lowell Makes: Pottery Mill Sign
Lowell Makes: Pottery Mill
Lowell Makes: Woodworking Shop
Lowell Makes: GiveWave Costume Studios
A Few Conference Sessions

» Beyond Competitions, Incubators, and Accelerators: A New “Zero Barriers” Playbook for Venture Development Initiatives on Campus

» Challenges and Opportunities with Online Entrepreneurship

» Alternatives to Internal Accelerator Programs

» Using Study-Abroad Programs to Inspire Entrepreneurship and Global Citizenship

» University Research Commercialization and Start-Ups: Metrics that Matter
Takeaway One

» Those who support entrepreneurs think highly of librarians and libraries in general, but some had never thought of reaching out to their business librarian.

» I got a chance to talk up business and entrepreneurship librarians and libraries in general as great resources to support entrepreneurship and innovation.
Takeaway Two

» There is a shift taking place from measuring student entrepreneurship success based on the number of successful ventures started to attempting to measure the impact of teaching students an “entrepreneurial mindset.”

» This reminded me a lot of how we in libraries struggle to measure our own impact—how our value and impact are not easily quantified.
Takeaway Three

» A very well-run conference where I got to hear from (and talk with) a number of people in different roles, who contribute to supporting entrepreneurship and innovation on their campuses in many different ways.

» Overall, it left me feeling refreshed, inspired, hopeful, and gave me a lot to think about—especially that piece about measuring impact and showing value.