



**Georgia Science and Technology
Strategic Plan Joint Study Commission
Meeting**

**October 12, 2011
8:00 AM – 3:00 PM**

Commissioner Binders

AGENDA: Science and Technology Study Commission

October 12, 2011 8:00 – 3:00 PM
Cartersville, GA

Timing	Activity
7:30 – 8:00	Check-In & Registration – <i>Tellus Science Museum</i>
8:00 – 8:10	Welcome Announcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jose Santamaria, Tellus Science Museum - Co-Chair Barry Loudermilk - Co-Chair Barbara Sims
8:10 – 8:55 (45 min)	INFRASTRUCTURE PANEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jim Hendrickson, Georgia Public Web - Joe Patton, FiberLight - John Scoville, University System of GA, IT Services
8:55 – 9:00	Panel Transition
9:00 – 9:45 (45 min)	STATEWIDE (RURAL) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TECHNOLOGY PANEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bruce Abraham, North Georgia Network - Hank Blackwood, Dalton Utilities - Jim Kortum, Windstream Corporation
9:45 – 9:55	Break & Panel Transition
9:55 – 10:45 (50 min)	SELECTED PANELIST FROM THE OFFICE OF THE LT. GOVERNOR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marshall Chambers, Direct to Discovery Partnership Project - Ashley Hopkins, Technology Students Association - Irene Munn, Office of the Lt. Governor
10:45 – 11:00	Public Input Session
11:00	End of Public Session
11:00 – 11:50	Private Commission Discussion
11:50 – 12:45	Tour - Tellus Science Museum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jose Santamaria
12:45 – 1:00	Travel to Anheuser Busch Production Facility
1:00 – 2:00	Lunch & Discussion- <i>Anheuser Busch Production Facility</i>
2:00 – 3:00	Tour – Anheuser Busch Production Facility
3:00	Adjourn and Depart

Infrastructure Panel

- **Jim Hendrickson, Georgia Public Web**
- **Joe Patton, FiberLight**
- **John Scoville, University System of GA, IT Services**

Jim Hendrickson
Vice President & Chief Technology Officer
Georgia Public Web

Jim Hendrickson is a long time industry executive with over 30 years of successful experience in virtually all aspects of the telecommunications and IT industries. During this time, he has spent significant time in Operations, Strategic Planning, Marketing, and Sales; possessing both domestic US and international experience with voice, data, and converged services customers, products, and services. In his current role as Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for Georgia Public Web, Inc. (GPW), Mr. Hendrickson has for nine years overseen all strategic and tactical operations of GPW's 3,500 route-mile fiber infrastructure which supports SONET, Ethernet, IP, video, and cloud services over xWDM and native protocol platforms. This includes network management and field operations; engineering and construction; provisioning; ISP products and services; IT operations and support; billing; and product development. Before GPW, Mr. Hendrickson served as Founder, Executive Vice President, and Chief Operating Officer for QoS Networks, a global IP network company with more than 20 nodes in 11 countries in Europe, North and South America, and Asia-Pacific. Prior to QoS Networks, he served as Vice President for WorldPort Communications responsible for Technology and Strategic Planning and Information Technology where he led the team that conceived and developed the network that won a coveted SuperQuest Award presented by SuperComm for "Best Built Network for IP Services." Mr. Hendrickson has also served in roles for Equant Network Services, AT&T, Sprint, Sprint International (Telenet), Unisys, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.



Georgia Public Web is a non-profit corporation formed in 1998 to help “bridge Georgia’s digital divide” by bringing high-end technology services to municipalities, businesses and telecommunications carriers throughout the State of Georgia. The following thirty-two municipalities own Georgia Public Web:

Adel	Commerce	Forsyth	Norcross
Albany	Covington	Fort Valley	Palmetto
Barnesville	Crisp County	Griffin	Quitman
Blakely	Douglas	LaGrange	Sandersville
Cairo	Elberton	Marietta	Sylvania
Calhoun	Ellaville	Monticello	Thomaston
Camilla	Fairburn	Moultrie	Thomasville
Cartersville	Fitzgerald	Newnan	Washington

Georgia Public Web is a facility-based technology solutions company offering:

- High speed Internet access
- Point-to-point private lines offering broadband connectivity
 - SONET / TDM
 - Ethernet
 - Wave Services
 - Native IP transport
- Dark Fiber/Fiber Builds
- Frame relay services
- Technical consulting services
- Network operations center/collocation services

We operate a network comprised of over 3200 route miles of lit fiber with last-mile connectivity utilizing wire, wireless and fiber optics cable. Our network routing is separate and diverse from that of traditional carriers and generally offers true route diversity.

Georgia Public Web operates a 24 x 7 Network Operations Center (NOC) staffed by highly trained technicians. From the NOC we monitor, maintain and supervise the operation and provisioning of all Georgia Public Web products and services.

Georgia Public Web also has highly trained field technicians throughout the state to respond to the maintenance and provisioning needs of our customers.

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Outline of Remarks:

Please type an outline of your remarks based on the prompts below and return to Richie Johnson at Richie@tagonline.org by October 10, 2011. These remarks will be given to the Commission in advance to help prepare for the meeting.

- I. Please address the following points:
 - a. What policies are currently in place that are barriers to your company/organization's success?
 - i. Large, all-inclusive bids
 - ii. Unusual, complex, and/or expensive bond requirements
 - iii. Pre-determined solutions
 - b. What policies have aided in your company/organization's success?
 - i. Telecom act of 1996 – wholesale access via UNE-P / Comingling /
 - ii. Georgia PSC competition friendly; supportive of municipalities in telecom
 - iii. CBUD raises awareness of utility/telecom assets and the attendant high capital costs
 - iv. E-Rate dollars greatly assist rural access and development in education and healthcare
 - c. Where do you want to see your company/organization in ten years?
 - i. Preferred network / carrier for state government
 - ii. Leading broadband transport provider for non-metro Atlanta
 - iii. Extensive carrier interconnects to national and international carriers
 - iv. Nearly ubiquitous fiber foot print in Georgia
 - d. How can the state of Georgia help your company/organization realize this goal?
 - i. Do not over regulate / over legislate (i.e., garnishment orders must be filed by licensed attorneys)
 - ii. Observe a level playing field for all technology companies: small, medium, and large
 - iii. Seek ways to do business with Georgia-based companies
 - iv. Encourage technology adoption through partnerships, grants, and loans

Recommendations for the Commission: Please use the template below to make any policy

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recommendations to the Commission on actions the State can take to improve Georgia’s Science and Technology Industry. They may be specific or broad, but the more details the better. Feel free to provide any additional or supporting documents you deem appropriate.

Policy Recommendation(s)	Recommendation Details, Specifics & Reasoning
Recommendation #1 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	Observe a level playing field for all technology companies, small, medium, large. In procurement activities, consider the burdens placed on the vendors in order to mitigate all risk for the state. Especially if consideration is made for Georgia-based companies, then a shared risk model should not be untenable.
Recommendation #2 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	Place a premium on cost savings. Most technology vendors have skills, capabilities, and services that obviate duplication on the state level. Further, flexibility in solutions that accomplish the goals of a procurement can frequently achieve tremendous savings. Thinking out of the box and avoiding the “buying what we know” syndrome can further add to potential savings. Successful companies are generally successful because they are good at what they do – harness those resources.
Recommendation #3 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	GTA should be a resource, not a reseller; one-size does not fit all. GTA would excel as a consultative resource in procurements, both pre-RFP and during the decision process. They are also necessary to provide a consistent baseline during purchasing and contract negotiations. GTA should also serve as a resource for state organizations that are smaller and/or have limited technology expertise in order to assist them in accomplishing their missions without the additional cost of staff that might not be fully utilized or might be utilized only on a project basis.
Recommendation #4	Fully fund the Georgia Automated Environmental Monitoring Network. AEMN is an awesome resource for commercial and small farmers as well as small and residential gardeners. It supports local economies and benefits rural economies.

Joe Patton
Vice President of Sales
FiberLight, LLC

Joe Patton became Vice President of Sales for FiberLight in 2009 where he leads the team addressing the Large Enterprise/Wholesale markets. Joe started with FiberLight in early 2007 after serving in various Senior Sales Management and high level customer acquisition positions. Joe's career spans 21 years where he has held various roles including Customer Service, Sales and Alternate Channels Management. He has a long history of building top teams throughout the communications industry and improving the overall operations and product offering for companies such as MCI, XO, Global Crossing and other communications carriers. Joe serves as Board Chairman of the non-profit, Sage School as well as heading up the Infrastructure Society at the Technology Association of Georgia. Joe enjoys time with his wife and 5 children. He enjoys swimming, soccer, camping and going to church with his family.

FiberLight, LLC

FiberLight is a premier provider of mission critical, high performance fiber optic network services for enterprise, government and the wholesale telecommunications market. Our Network spans more than 500,000 miles of fiber optic cable across 21 US markets. We construct, operate and maintain this private network with the best in class fiber plant and monitoring systems available. Our portfolio of products includes High Bandwidth transport, Internet Protocol (IP) services, Content Delivery, Longhaul Transport, and Metro Ethernet connectivity. The LightSource family of products includes Ethernet, Dedicated IP, Managed Wavelengths, Dark Fiber and SONET, which provides OC-N and 1Gig through 100Gig connectivity.

Joe Patton
FiberLight

a.

What policies are currently in place that are barriers to your company/organization's success?

Two of the largest barriers to fiber optic deployment, a very capital intensive process, are the lack of uniform standards and the permit processes that vary by municipality for building fiber in the public right of way. The costs and timelines associated with building access can vary from zero to thousands of dollars per year, which often makes the fiber build a barrier to complete. The value we bring to the community, the state and the individual is when we take our massive fiber backbones and directly connect them to businesses inside of a building. We believe that any type of industry and government programs that place competitive fiber access in the same category as other utilities will drive increased adoption of fiber optics. In addition to the building, the regulatory process for each municipality we build through vary greatly, with some reviewing and issuing permits in 7 days or less, and some requiring over 5 different permits and a greater than 60 day process just to get the right to construct.

b.

What policies have aided in your company/organization's success?

Our decision to build extremely dense and robust underground fiber networks has clearly aided in our ability to grow. By placing enough fiber the first time, in our case typically 432 or 864 fibers, we are able to more capital efficiently bring on additional customers, deliver far more bandwidth on average and improve our speed to deploy. The policy to build underground has been an advantage as municipalities prefer to remove the cables from unsightly poles and FiberLight prefers the security and flexibility of placing fiber underground. Lastly, our choice to be carrier neutral has allowed us to be a platform for our clients to access the best networks and clouds for their requirements in a more cost effective, higher performing and more flexible way. This model has allowed us to grow over 50% per year over the past 5 years.

c.

Where do you want to see your company/organization in ten years?

We see FiberLight as a leader in cloud and network services, providing a key role in enabling the best enterprise architecture leveraging our massive fiber networks and deep interconnection into other networks, data centers and cloud services.

d.

How can the state of Georgia help your company/organization realize this goal?

The state of GA can play a key role in helping to create an atmosphere that encourages continued expansion of data centers, brings new businesses to the market and offers incentives that allow customers of fiber providers to reap tax benefits for investing in fiber to bring to their businesses, similar to investing in new manufacturing space or RD facilities. The realities of today's economy are that businesses require high speed access to the Internet, to their services and to cloud services where data is analyzed for scientific and industrial applications. Providing the proper incentives will accelerate the deployment of fiber as a great enabler of GA competitive advantage both within the US and around the world.

Policy Recommendation(s)	Recommendation Details, Specifics & Reasoning
Recommendation #1	Create uniform rules for fiber operators to be allowed into a building, demarcation within a common point and have access to connect to the tenants throughout the building.
Recommendation #2	Create uniform rules in GA for the review and approval of fiber construction in the public municipal right of way.
Recommendation #3	Create a tax incentive package available to businesses who make an investment to bring fiber based services into their facility. Make this incentive to both commercial real estate owners as well as businesses occupying space.

**John Scoville,
Executive Director and Chief Technology Officer, Enterprise Services
University System of Georgia/PeachNet**

John Scoville has served ITS as Executive Director and now Chief Technology Officer for the past 12 years. John provides leadership for PeachNet – the USG’s statewide network that provides and supports access to a rich variety of voice, video, and data applications that enhance learning, research, and collaboration throughout the state. Scoville also is responsible for operating two data center environments, and providing robust and stable operating environments for mission-critical systems such as the Learning Management System, GeorgiaFIRST financial system, and hosted student information services. In addition, John oversees desktop and network support for the Athens facility as well as Customer Services and the ITS Helpdesk which provide central support to USG institutions and GALILEO (Georgia's virtual library) customers for ITS products and services through a three-tier help desk strategy. John’s 22 years of experience with the University System of Georgia has earned him a reputation for providing reliable and cost-effective services which rank amongst the highest in customer satisfaction within the University System.

**University System of Georgia
Information Technology Services**

ITS is the University System of Georgia’s central organization for technology-based services. ITS’s primary objective is to ensure that technology empowers the USG to deliver vital academic support, business services, and information securely to USG students, educators, administrators, and Georgia residents. ITS has outlined a Strategic Plan with a clear vision to be a nationally recognized leader in providing secure higher-education information technology infrastructure, learning support, knowledge management, and services such that if our customers could choose any educational IT provider, they would choose ITS. As part of that plan, our mission is to anticipate and respond effectively with innovative, robust, reliable, and secure technological and decision-support services and applications to the USG and its constituent institutions so as to educate and inspire students, empower USG educators and administrators, and advance the state of education in Georgia and the nation.

PeachNet®

USG’s statewide network, is the foundation that connects all USG institutions and public libraries and provides efficient, robust access to mission-critical online learning resources, business applications and transactions, and academic research. There are more than 80 PeachNet® locations around the state interconnecting USG locations, Technical College System of Georgia locations, public library systems, K-12 systems, private higher education, and offices of state government to the Internet. PeachNet® provides:

- Virtually unlimited bandwidth and a higher level of service at a cost equal to or less than current costs for commercial leased lines
- Alternate paths that increase network redundancy and reliability
- Flexibility to design a more robust and fault-tolerant infrastructure to meet increasing demands for bandwidth and higher quality services
- Capability for research institutions to participate in national initiatives such as Internet2 and the National Lambda Rail
- A fiber backbone that uses advanced optical technologies that combine amazing bandwidth capacity with an extremely high degree of reliability.
- PeachNet Video Conferencing Service

Statewide/Rural Economic Development through Technology Panel

- **Bruce Abraham, North Georgia Networks**
- **Hank Blackwood, Dalton Utilities**
- **Jim Kortum, Windstream Corporation**

Bruce Abraham
President and CEO
North Georgia Network

Bruce Abraham is the President and CEO of the North Georgia Network, a non-profit communications company that is building 1,000 miles of fiber optics network through north Georgia. The project was funded by a \$33 million grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, a \$2.5 million grant from the OneGeorgia Authority and additional funding from local utilities and communities.

He is formally the Executive Director of the Lumpkin County Development Authority, where he launched the network project as an economic development effort to bring high-tech jobs to north Georgia. He previously served as Economic Development Director of Dekalb County and was instrumental in starting the Dekalb Workforce Center.

His previous work was in commercial real estate development, where he was a manager with Mobil Land Development which developed Windward in North Fulton and then Crescent Resources, the developer of Sugarloaf in Gwinnett County. In his early career he was a communications professional with the Fulton County Board of Education.

Bruce is a graduate of Georgia State University and has been married for 32 years and has four children. He was selected as Volunteer of the Year for Forsyth County Schools and Walt Disney Partners in Education, and coached youth sports for 15 years.

North Georgia Network

North Georgia Network is a federal/state/local investment fiber optic network being built by Georgia Electric Membership Corporations and operated by a non-profit representing the EMCs and the public interest. It will be an open access network and connect in Atlanta and interconnect with other networks to allow world-class high speed internet across at least 8 counties in north Georgia

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Outline of Remarks:

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I. Please address the following points:

a. What policies are currently in place that are barriers to your company/organization's success?

None experienced

b. What policies have aided in your company/organization's success?

No obstacles imposed by state for communications development

c. Where do you want to see your company/organization in ten years?

Become a regional economic development enabler, recruit tech business to north Georgia and promote issues related, such as STEM education, workforce development, collaborations of governments for incentives and regional cooperation

d. How can the state of Georgia help your company/organization realize this goal?

Visit us and see our capacity and learn about this technology; engage Georgia Economic Development in our goals; develop state thinking and practical incentives to attract tech development; promote education of small local businesses as to how they can use internet for exports and advanced business applications

SR 68 Strategic Plan for Science & Technology Joint Study Commission – Panelist Guidelines

Recommendations for the Commission: Please use the template below to make any policy recommendations to the Commission on actions the State can take to improve Georgia’s Science and Technology Industry. They may be specific or broad, but the more details the better. Feel free to provide any additional or supporting documents you deem appropriate.

Policy Recommendation(s)	Recommendation Details, Specifics & Reasoning
Recommendation #1 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	Develop a state capacity, perhaps a specialized agency, to lead and advocate for broadband strategic development and issues in Georgia. OneGA does some funding now, GTA does broadband mapping and government office connections, but there is currently no home for broadband/technology growth industries/issues/strategy in the state.
Recommendation #2 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	Develop strategic incentives to attract technology companies, above the normal industrial incentives. Suggest talk to technology companies, existing in Georgia and far afield, get first-hand what would attract them to Georgia. There is talk now about reducing sales tax on electricity for tech companies, who are heavy users of electricity, such as data centers. Suggest we look at regional incentives where a region demonstrates a competence to attract certain industries, as opposed to state-wide. Develop tech incentives where there is broadband; agricultural incentives where ag is common; poultry where there is poultry, etc. Target incentives where there is a workforce and local capacity to support such industries.
Recommendation #3 (insert summary statement/descriptor)	Develop internet commuting for employees that can work remotely through a good broadband connection. Develop workforce plans for companies as how to train and enable employees to work remotely, provide incentives for employer as well as employee to do so. We can communicate anywhere in the world with a high speed connection, so why can’t we free up our highways and office space to let people work remotely. We cannot build enough highways to keep up with the growth in metro areas, so plan around the emerging broadband highway. This could be worked on through the agency recommended in #1 above .



Jim Kortum
Vice President, North Georgia Operations
Windstream Corporation

Jim Kortum is division vice president of Windstream's north Georgia operations. Kortum has worked in the telecommunications industry for more than 30 years and has held management positions in regulatory, marketing, CLEC business development and operations. The Nebraska native transferred to Georgia prior to Windstream's formation in 2006 through the spinoff of Alltel's wireline business and merger with VALOR Communications Group.

Windstream Corporation

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq: WIN), headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., is an S&P 500 communications and technology solutions provider, specializing in complex data, high-speed Internet access, voice and transport services to customers in 29 states and the District of Columbia. The company generates more than \$4 billion in annual revenues and has about 10,000 employees. On Aug. 1, Windstream announced a definitive agreement to acquire PAETEC Holding Corp. (Nasdaq: PAET) in a transaction valued at approximately \$2.3 billion. The merger is expected to be completed by Dec. 31, 2011, pending necessary approvals from federal and state regulators and PAETEC shareholders.



Strategic Plan for Science & Technology Joint Study Commission

Comments of Windstream Communications October 12, 2011

Company Background:

Windstream Corp. (Nasdaq: WIN), headquartered in Little Rock, Ark., is an S&P 500 communications and technology solutions provider, specializing in complex data, high-speed Internet access, voice and transport services to customers in 29 states and the District of Columbia. The company generates more than \$4 billion in annual revenues and has about 10,000 employees. On Aug. 1, Windstream announced a definitive agreement to acquire PAETEC Holding Corp. (Nasdaq: PAET) in a transaction valued at approximately \$2.3 billion. The merger is expected to be completed by Dec. 31, 2011, pending necessary approvals from federal and state regulators and PAETEC shareholders.

Policy Concerns:

- I. Lack of uniform regulation across the state in areas such as pole attachment agreements and use of local/county municipality right-of-ways.
- II. Government funding of networks that overlap areas already served by private enterprise. This stifles private enterprise investment in technology and undermines the competitive marketplace.

Positive Policy Changes:

- I. Removal of significant regulatory oversight of traditional telecommunications services has allowed the growth and development of new business and technology in telecommunications.

Windstream Ten Years From Now:

Windstream plans to continue to be the primary communications provider in our existing footprint, as well as develop and offer solutions based services that meet the growing demand for broadband services throughout the State of Georgia.

How The State of Georgia Can Help:

Identified in Policy recommendations, a government/private partnership where warranted, state funding to encourage technological growth in rural areas specifically identified as being underserved, or not served at all.



Policy Recommendations:

- I. Encourage and facilitate uniform regulation across the state. This helps us determine the cost of doing business as we move into new areas. Drawn out processes for these type agreements not only impact our cost of doing business, but our ability to timely expand our network and offer services to customers. Examples: franchise agreements by local/county municipalities, pole attachment agreements
- II. State funding to encourage technological growth in rural areas should be used to supplement success-based capital investment rather than funding networks that overlap areas already served by private enterprises. The goal should be to expand technology in rural areas that don't have access to the latest technology.
- III. Government and private enterprise partnership where warranted.

Selected Topics by the Office of the Lt. Governor

- **Marshall Chambers, Direct to Discovery Partnership**
- **Ashley Hopkins, Technology Student Association**
- **Irene Munn, Office of the Lt. Governor**

Lt. Governor Cagle Education Initiatives and Partnerships

Direct to Discovery:

Presenter – Marshall Chambers

A Georgia Tech employee, Marshall Chambers is working to expand the Direct to Discovery Partnership Project- a partnership between Georgia Tech, Georgia Partnership for TeleHealth, and Ware County Schools. Prior to his role at Tech he was employed by Barrow County Schools where he worked as a middle grades science, language arts, geography, and special education teacher and as the district's Director of Strategic Initiatives. These roles served as the initial inspiration and crucible for Direct to Discovery, which centers on connecting students with real-world people, real-world research, and real-world curriculum - in real time.

Partner - Georgia Institute of Technology

The Georgia Institute of Technology is one of the nation's top research universities, distinguished by its commitment to improving the human condition through advanced science and technology. Georgia Tech is consistently ranked in U.S. News & World Report's top ten public universities in the United States.

College and Career Academies:

Presenter – Irene Munn, Legislative Counsel/Director of Policy, Office of the Lt. Governor

In her role as legislative counsel Irene serves as the legal advisor to the Lt. Governor, ethics officer, and provides valuable expertise during the legislative session. As Policy Director she oversees the advocacy of legislation championed by the Lt. Governor and assists with the implementation of the Lt. Governor's initiatives throughout state agencies. Her main policy areas are education, healthcare, public safety and the courts. Irene has worked for Lt. Governor Cagle for five years and came to the office with 18 years of political and legal experience. She served as an Assistant District Attorney for Douglas Judicial Circuit, Douglas County Georgia. In that role she also served as legislative advisor to the Georgia District Attorneys' Association. Prior to the completion of law school, she served as director of Public Affairs for the Georgia Sheriffs Association.

Partners – Technical College System of Georgia – Office of College and Career Transitions; the Department of Education – Charter Division, the Georgia College and Career Academy Network (GA CCAN)

The Technology Student Association

Presenter - Ashley Hopkins, Executive Director

The Technology Student Association fosters personal growth, leadership, and opportunities in technology, innovation, design, and engineering. Members apply and integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics concepts through co-curricular activities, competitive events and related programs.

Currently the Office of Lt. Governor is partnering with the TSA to participate in the Real World Design Challenge. This national initiative allows high school students to gain engineering experience through partnerships with industry experts. Teams of students will address a challenge that aviation industry leaders have defined as a current issue in the aviation industry. Participants will receive one million dollars in computer programming software as well as guidance from industry mentors throughout Georgia to aid them in finding real solutions to these real problems. Georgia's winner will go on to the national competition in Washington D.C. For more information visit: <http://www.realworlddesignchallenge.org/GA.php>

Partner – Georgia Department of Education

Additional Information

- **Meeting Matrix**
- **Commission Meetings & Timeline**
- **Commission Directory**

SR68 Commission

October 12, 2011

Tellus Science Museum



Speaker Name	Company	Major Points
Jim Hendrickson	GA Public Wed	
Joe Patton	FiberLight	
John Scoville	USG, IT Services	
Bruce Abraham	North GA Network	
Hank Blackwood	Dalton Utilities	
Jim Kortum	Windstream Corp.	
Marshall Chambers	Direct to Discovery	
Ashley Hopkins	Tech Students Assoc.	
Irene Munn	Lt. Gov's Office	

Priorities from Meeting		
High	Medium	Low

Short-term Goal

Long-term Goal

Georgia's Science and Technology Strategic Initiative Joint Study Commission

Purpose: This study commission was created in 2011 through Senate Resolution 68 to explore the need for a strategic plan for science and technology in Georgia. The objectives of the Commission are:

Objective 1: Inventory Georgia's existing assets in the science and technology sectors to determine current strengths and capabilities.

Objective 2: Conduct review of state and national policies to discern best practices and lessons learned with regard to public policy that encourages advancement of the science and technology sectors.

Objective 3: Hold meetings around the state to solicit input from science and technology stakeholders, with a specific interest in identifying barriers to growth and progress.

Objective 4: Develop specific recommendations with regard to the scope and content of a strategic plan for science and technology in Georgia. Such recommendations shall stipulate what ...should be excluded from such a plan.

Public meeting dates, locations, and topics

July 20
Gwinnett County
9:00 to 12:00

- Education
- Data centers
- Emerging growth companies

August 16
State Capitol
1:00 to 5:00

- Access to capital
- High growth potential companies
- Health information technology
- STEM education

September 26
Savannah
9:00 to 5:00

- Logistics
- Georgia and International Marketplaces
- Education & Workforce Development

October 12
Cartersville
8:00 to 11:00

- Infrastructure
- Statewide (Rural) Economic Development Through Technology
- Lt. Governor Topics

October 28
Macon
10:00 to 5:00

- Role of Higher Education and Technology Industry
- Role of Traditional Ind. In Technology
- Aerospace
- Military and Defense

November 15
Augusta
1:00 to 5:00

- Research & Development & Commercialization
- Communication Services
- Bio/Life Sciences

November 30
Columbus
1:00 to 5:00

- Financial Technology
- Information Security
- Economic Gardening (Entrepreneurs and 2nd Stage Companies)
- Emerging Technologies

December 15
Atlanta
8:00 to 12:30

- Subcommittee recommendations
- Public input via breakout sessions

Subcommittees:

- STEM Education: Chair, Dr. Gilda Lyon, GA Department of Education
- Access to Capital: Chair, Senator John Albers
- Workforce Development, Rep. Charlice Byrd

To follow the activities of the Commission online:

- Georgia Science & Technology Strategic Plan: www.scitechplan.ga.gov
- Twitter: GASciTechPlan
- Facebook: Georgia Science & Technology Strategic Plan
- Linked In: Georgia Science & Technology Strategic Plan

SR 68 Commission Committee Members Directory

<p>John Albers State Senator Georgia State Senate Office: (404) 463-8055 Email: john@senatorialbers.com</p>	<p>Dean Alford Chairman Technical College System of Georgia Office: (404) 679-1612 Email: bwise@tcsg.edu</p>
<p>Charlice Byrd State Representative Georgia State House of Representatives Office: (404) 557-2218 Email: charlice.byrd@house.ga.gov</p>	<p>Michael Cassidy President & CEO Georgia Research Alliance Office: (404) 332-9770 Email: mcassidy@gra.org</p>
<p>Dr. Steve E. Cross Executive Vice President for Research Georgia Institute of Technology Office: (404) 894-8885 Email: steve.cross@gtri.gatech.edu</p>	<p>Steve Dickinson VP Global Corporate Communications Merial Limited Office: (678) 638-3682 Email: steve.dickinson@merial.com</p>
<p>Barry Loudermilk (Co-Chairman) State Senator Georgia State Senate Office: (770) 387-2424 ext. 105 Email: barry@barryloudermilk.com</p>	<p>Dr. Gilda Lyon STEM Coordinator Georgia Department of Education Office: (404) 657-8324 Email: glyon@doe.k12.ga.us</p>
<p>Tino Mantella CEO & President Technology Association of Georgia Office: (404) 920-2027 Email: tmantella>tagonline.org</p>	<p>Calvin Rhodes Chief Information Officer & Executive Director Georgia Technology Authority Email: crhodes@gta.ga.gov</p>
<p>Barbara Sims (Co-Chairman) State Representative Georgia State House of Representatives Office: (706) 373-5437 Email: beesims@aol.com</p>	