

# Fresh Perspectives on Economic Development in Georgia

From the 2012  
Georgia Innovation Interns  
09.11.2012



- *How would integrating light industry into mixed-use urban development strengthen Georgia's cities?*
- *What impact has the film, television, and digital media tax credit had on Georgia and what have other states done to evaluate the impact?*
- *With gaps in the supply of workers for high-end manual and technical occupations only getting worse as older workers retire, how will Georgia address this problem?*
- *What is smart grid and how important is it to the Georgia Economy?*

Learn the answers on September 11, 2012, when four Georgia Tech graduate students publicly present results of their summer internship research projects. We invite you to join us and other economic developers and policy-makers in attending the interns' readout sessions at Technology Square in Midtown Atlanta. Admission is free, and a complimentary box lunch will be served.

**What:** Presentation of STIP Intern Research Projects

**When:** Tuesday, September 11, 2012, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** Hodges Connections Room, Centergy Building, 75 5th Street, NW, Third Floor, Atlanta, GA  
Box lunch for the first 30 to walk in the door!

- *How would integrating light industry into mixed-use urban development strengthen Georgia's cities?*

URBAN LIGHT INDUSTRY

**Dan Cotter**, a master's student in the School of City and Regional Planning, explored how integrating light industry into mixed-use urban development could economically strengthen Georgia's cities, using Atlanta as an example. He picked three target industry groups to investigate and came up with recommendations and tools for incorporating light industry into mixed-use development.



- *What impact has the film, television, and digital media tax credit had on Georgia and what have other states done to evaluate the impact?*

FILM TAX CREDIT

**Lyndsey Nott**, a master's student in the School of Public Policy, looked at the history of the Georgia film tax credit and strove to answer these two questions: (1) What are the results of recent state studies that measure the effectiveness of the film credit? (2) What lessons can Georgia learn from similar film tax credits.



- *With gaps in the supply of workers for high-end manual and technical occupations only getting worse as older workers retire, how will Georgia address this problem?*

WORKFORCE for AEROSPACE

**Alison Pienta**, a master's student in the School of City and Regional Planning, picked Georgia's aerospace industry to examine how its need for high-end manual and technical workers is being met by the state's technical colleges and whether other programs may help to fill the demand. Her research answers questions such as (1) are programs currently offered by technical colleges a good fit for companies and job openings, (2) what can be done to ensure that the workforce skillsets align with available jobs in the aerospace industry, and (3) are there short-term workforce fixes for this industry that can be implemented?



- *What is smart grid and how important is it to the Georgia economy?*

SMART GRID

**Shan Zhou**, a doctoral student in the School of Public Policy, investigated smart grid deployment and its potential economic impact on Georgia. Her work profiles the smart grid industry in Georgia and what the state can do to further investments in smart grid infrastructure.



#### Internship Selection Committee

- Mr. Dennis Chastain, Vice President, Community and Economic Development, Georgia EMC
- Mr. Mark Lytle, Division Director, Georgia Centers of Innovation, Georgia Department of Economic Development.
- Ms. Pat Sims, Manager, Community Development - Metro, Georgia Power Company

These internships reflect Georgia Tech's commitment to preparing the next generation of economic developers and to building a bridge between today's practitioners and innovative ideas in economic development. They are offered through the program in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP), a joint initiative of Georgia Tech's Enterprise Innovation Institute and School of Public Policy ([www.stip.gatech.edu](http://www.stip.gatech.edu)).

Presented by:



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