



Dr. Sarah Meaker to Lead Suncoast Technology Forum Education Committee

SARASOTA, Florida (June 28, 2011) - Suncoast Technology Forum (STF), the leading technology industry advocacy group for companies creating and developing technology solutions in Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties has appointed Dr. Sarah C. Meaker, PhD., as the organization's Education Committee Chair. STF's Education Committee is focused on building partnerships between our growing technology cluster, local educational institutions and businesses in the tri-county area. The purpose of the STF Education Committee is to create and foster relationships with both the secondary and higher education community -and the technology students therein- and leveraging these close alliances to develop programs that help match the workforce needs of area technology companies to the skilled resources required for these firms continued growth.

Dr. Meaker, President of Meaker & Associates, is a business development expert with a demonstrated history of providing executive level leadership training and actionable solutions for today's most challenging business issues. With clients ranging from entrepreneurs, business leaders and service professionals to management of nonprofit organizations, Dr. Meaker has provided seasoned counsel and mentoring in disciplines spanning strategic planning, executive coaching, leadership training, sales development and customer loyalty, to name a few. Sarah is also the founder of the Institute of Dynamic Leadership, an organization focused on the essential elements of leadership development.

Speaking about her new role as Chair of STF's Education Committee, Sarah stated, "I am very much looking forward to being involved with the Suncoast Technology Forum and helping to support their efforts on behalf area businesses. After attending several of their educational and networking events as a non-member and seeing firsthand the benefits, resources and informative content provided to their members, it appealed to me as an opportunity to get involved and help make a difference."

Matthew Anderson, President of STF remarked, "As the Suncoast Technology Forum continues to expand its role in supporting the growth and success of the areas' high technology business sector, our education committee will function as catalyst between area educational institutions and the training and workforce needs of our local business community. We look forward to Sarah's participation and guidance as we facilitate, plan, deliver and support education programs and initiatives such as scholarships, mentoring, internships and career fairs; and Sarah's unique background is ideally suited for this important role."

About Suncoast Technology Forum

Suncoast Technology Forum was founded in 2005 by a group of local entrepreneurs, professionals and the Sarasota and Manatee economic development organizations. STF is a professional association of people united to make the bi-county area a place where technology-based business and innovation thrives. STF's mission is to create a technology-rich community, support technology entrepreneurship, and connect technology professionals with appropriate resources in the Florida Gulf Coast Region: "In short, to grow and promote the technology ecosystem in Sarasota, Manatee and Charlotte counties." For more information about the Suncoast Technology Forum, call 941-870-0078, email info@suncoasttechnologyforum.com, or visit www.suncoasttechnologyforum.com.

Suncoast Technology Forum Contact:

Jeffrey Kratsch, Executive Director
941-704-6835