

A Wiki Project

THE ENTREPRENEURIAL REVOLUTION IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

People and Organizations “at the creation”

Preamble: Nearly four decades ago, economic development was primarily about recruiting companies to move from another town to your town. In 1987, the City of Littleton, Colorado made a formal decision to leave that model and pursue a “grow you own” strategy that focused on helping local companies grow – i.e. Economic Gardening®, an entrepreneurial approach to economic development. In those early days, a small group of people and organizations bought into that concept, planting the seeds of an entrepreneurial revolution that ultimately added a major new tool to the economic developer’s tool kit.

The purpose of this working wiki table is to identify people, organizations, dates and activities with a verifiable source. These will then be used to develop a paper that documents the various strands of the movement. Some individuals like Don Macke (Center for Rural Entrepreneurship), Dan Ripke (early Economic Gardening projects in California), Kate Hodel (Kauffman Foundation) and Chris Gibbons (Economic Gardening) have extensive histories already written about their own organizations. This is a wiki; we count on first person contributions. Please vet any entries that may be related to you and/or send new entries to christiangibbons47@gmail.com .

INTELLECTUAL GROUNDWORK

Authors/Academics/Research Organizations

PERSON/ORGANIZATION	DATE	ACTIVITY	SOURCE
Jay Forrester/MIT	1961	Writes “Industrial Dynamics” first effort at systems thinking	wikipedia

Babson College	1972	Establishes first graduate class in entrepreneurship	website
Donella Meadows / MIT	1972	Publishes 'Limits to Growth' and later "Thinking in Systems"	website
Don Ralston, Marty Strange/Center for Rural Affairs	1973	Researches and advocates policy for rural areas	wikipedia
George Kozmetsky/IC2 at U Texas	1977	Establishes think-and-do-tank to explore tech and human factors in rural economic development.	website
Roland Tibbetts, National Science Foundation	1977	Champions Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program	website
Bill Wetzel / University of New Hampshire	1978	Coins the term "angel investors"	website
Santa Fe Institute	1984	Funded by Citibank to study Complex Adaptive Systems (Complexity)	website
Janet Topolski / Corporation for Enterprise Development	1985	Edits "Entrepreneurial Economy Review"	linkedin
Aspen Institute - Community Strategies Group	1985	Helps policymakers find, create, and spread economic development strategies that work.	website
Boulder (Colorado) Chamber of Commerce	1985	Establishes "Esprit Entrepreneur" event to celebrate entrepreneurs.	Clif Harald
Paul Romer / Stanford	1986	Publishes endogenous growth theory -- knowledge drives long term economic growth (2018 Nobel Prize in economics)	wikipedia
Michael Gerber	1986	Publishes Emyth – successful businesses are built on systems, not technical skills	website
Nancy Stark /U Minnesota, Center for Small Towns	1986	Publishes Harvesting Hometown Jobs	website
David Birch, MIT	1987	Publishes "Job Creation in America" -small business creates a lot of jobs. Later, gazelles are key.	wikipedia
Ewing Kauffman, Michie Slaughter/Kauffman Foundation	1991	Kauffman Foundation establishes Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership	Kate Hodel
Brian Arthur / Stanford	1994	Publishes Increasing Returns/Path Dependence	wikipedia
Albert Lazlo Barabasi / Notre Dame	1999	Publishes scale free networks research	wikipedia

EARLY LOAN PROGRAMS

Gap Financing and High Risk Loans

Ray Moncrief/Kentucky Highland Investment Corp	1968	Establishes loan fund	web
Gene Severens/Center for Rural Affairs (Waithill NE)	1973	Establishes loan fund	website

Costal Enterprises, Brunswick ME	1977	Establishes loan fund	website
Bob Friedman/Corp for Enterprise Development	1979	Establishes loan fund	wikipedia
Pam Bishop/ Initiative Foundation	1986	Loans, grants, technical assistance to organizations in southern Minnesota	website
Nancy Straw, John Molinary/West Central Initiative (MN)	1986	Gap lending, grants	website
Pam Bishop/Southern MN Initiative Foundation	1987	Establishes loan fund and technical assistance for southeast Minnesota.	website
Dennis West/Northern Initiatives	1997	Loans + coaching + tools (Initiate)	Dennis West

INTRODUCTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP INTO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Person/Organization	Date	First Activity	Source
Phil Burgess, Kent Briggs/Center for New West	1987	Proposes philosophy of working with local growth companies. Coined term Economic Gardening. Gave a speech attended by Chris Gibbons and Jim Woods, City of Littleton CO.	Phil Burgess
Chris Gibbons, Jim Woods/City of Littleton CO	1987	Following the layoff of 7,500 employees of a major employer, Littleton city council changes economic development policy from recruiting to working with local entrepreneurs. In partnership with the Center for the New West, Chris Gibbons and Jim Woods craft the outline of the first Economic Gardening program. Littleton is the test bed and the Center for the New West provides advice and door opening introductions to key people.	Chris Gibbons
Harry Blanton, Pat Longo/Hamilton County (OH) Business Center	1989	Establishes business incubator	Harry Blanton
Kay Reynolds/League of California Cities	1990	Early promoter of Economic Gardening in California	Kay Reynolds
Robert Stowell, Caleb Pillard/Valley County (Nebraska) Economic Development	1990?	Early advocates for entrepreneurship	Website /Don Macke

Steve Buttress/Nebraska Dept Economic Development	1990	Early entrepreneurship advocate.	web/ Don Macke
June Holley / ACEnet	1990	Early advocate of networks; food incubator	June Holley
Association for Enterprise Opportunity	1991	Establishes AEO to provide capital and services for underserved entrepreneurs.	website
Dick Gardner/Idaho Rural Partnership	1992?	Early advocate for rural entrepreneurship	website /Don Macke
Bob Ballantyne/Mesa County (CO) Economic Development Council	1992	Takes local photonics entrepreneurs to the first trade show	Bob Ballantyne
Ed Morrison	1993	Creates Strategic Doing for Oklahoma City incorporating network theory/complexity.	Ed Morrison
Jane Ehrke- Grow Nebraska	1995	Technical assistance, education, training, website	web
Patrick von Bargaen, Erik Pages /National Commission on Entrepreneurship	1996?	Kauffman Foundation sponsors commission to focus public policy on the role of entrepreneurship	web / Kate Hodel
Ernesto Sirolli	1996	Establishes Sirolli Institute. Entrepreneurship by focusing on person rather than business idea.	website
Mo Collins/University of Northern Iowa	1997	Establishes Entrepreneurship Outreach	LinkedIn
Babson College	1997	Creates Global Entrepreneurship Monitor	website
John Sechrest/ Seattle Angel Investors	1997	Invests in startups	John Sechrest
City of Lake Elsinore, CA	1998	Starts an Economic Gardening program	Dan Ripke
City of San Bernardino, CA	1998	Starts an Economic Gardening program	Dan Ripke
Center for Economic Development at Cal State Chico, CA	1999	Starts an Economic Gardening program	Dan Ripke
Cal State San Bernardino	2000	Starts an Economic Gardening collaborative	Dan Ripke
Ord, Nebraska	2000	First "Hometown Competitiveness" designation in NE. Entrepreneurship one of four "pillars."	web/Don Macke
Erik Pages, Association of Management Proceedings	2000	Writes article: Entrepreneurs in the New Economy	Erik Pages
Rose Jaspersen / Nebraska Enterprise Fund	2000	Loans and technical assistance	LinkedIn
Don Macke, Deb Markley, Brian Dabson/ Center for Rural Entrepreneurship	2001	Establishes center to promote rural entrepreneurialism; also Energizing Entrepreneurs (E2) program	LinkedIn
Tom Lyons, Gregg Lichtenstein/ University of Louisville	2001	Publishes a paper proposing an Entrepreneurial League System approach to helping small businesses grow.	Tom Lyons
Dan Ripke/Center for Economic Development at Cal	2001	Hosts first Economic Gardening conference in	Dan Ripke

State Chico		Chico CA	
National Association of Community College Entrepreneurship	2002	New association created for community colleges teaching entrepreneurship	wikipedia
Bob Ho/Maine Rural Development Council	2002?	Early advocate for entrepreneurial activity	website, web
Harry Blanton/Hamilton County (Ohio) Economic Development	2002	Establishes Morning Mentoring program	Harry Blanton
Mark Lange/Edward Lowe Foundation	2002	Researches, defines and names "second stage" companies, which match up well with "gazelle" term used by Economic Gardening.	Mark Lange
Mike Lambert/ University of Wyoming	2003	Vistis Littleton CO; establishes a statewide Economic Gardening program in Wyoming	Mike Lambert
Maria Meyers/University of Missouri at Kansas City KCSOURCELINK	2003	Heads KCSOURCELINK to network resources in various entrepreneurial support organizations	Maria Meyers
Leslie Scott /Institute for Rural Entrepreneurship (North Carolina Rural Center)	2003	Develops policies and programs that encourage the start-up and growth of locally owned companies	website
Mark Lange/Edward Lowe Foundation	2004	Contacts Littleton's Economic Gardening program for a demonstration.	Chris Gibbons
Kate Hodel/Kauffman KCSOURCELINK	2004	Kauffman Foundation funds KC SOURCELINK (links to referral resources) administered by University Missouri-Kansas City	Kate Hodel
Don Wall/YourEconomy.org	2005	Builds database showing company growth over time.	Mark Lange
Advantage Valley WV	2006	Establishes first Entrepreneur League Program based on Lyons/Lichtenstein work.	Terrell Ellis
Steve Quello / CEO Nexus	2006	Writes "Economic Gardening" chapter in SBA Report to the President of the United States.	Steve Quello
Steve Radley, Erik Pedersen/Network Kansas	2006	Network Kansas loan program, business resources funded by KS economic growth act of 2004	website
John Sechrest/Corvallis OR	2006	Creates Willamette Angel Conference	John Sechrest
Mark Lange, Chris Gibbons, et. al/Breckenridge Summit	2007	A dozen economic development practitioners meet in Breckenridge CO to advise the future of Economic Gardening. Lowe Foundation commits to administrative support for a nationwide effort.	Mark Lange
Carla Eysink/Marion County IA	2007	Starts an Iowa state program: MyEntrenet. Planning, funding, resources for entrepreneurs dollars from state.	Carla Eysink

Chris Gibbons / National Center for Economic Gardening	2008	Establishes a national center to help communities set up Economic Gardening programs, run pilot projects with a national team and certify professionals. Trademarked term.	Chris Gibbons
Steve Quello, Tom O'Neal/UCF - GrowFL	2008	University of Central Florida creates GrowFL and hosts statewide program in Florida--the second statewide Economic Gardening program after Wyoming.	Steve Quello
Chuck Marohn/Strong Towns	2008	Blog, books, podcasts supporting entrepreneurship in small towns	wikipedia
Brad Poquette / Mass Challenge	2009	Establishes start up pitch competition	Brad Poquette
Zachery Barker/Lafayette Economic Development Authority	2010	Establishes Louisiana Entrepreneur Center	Zachery Barker
Mark Lange/Institute for Exceptional Growth	2010	Studies fast growth companies with a grant from the NASDAQ Foundation	Mark Lange
Dell Gines/Kansas City Federal Reserve	2011	Publishes "Grow Your Own"	Dell Gines
Victor Hwang	2012	Publishes Rain Forest: the secret to building the next Silicon Valley – uses complexity theory and network dynamics.	website
Harry Blanton/Hamilton County OH EDC	2012	Startup Cincy	Harry Blanton
Appalachian Regional Commission	2016	Establishes ARC Power Grants for entrepreneurial communities Initiative, in cooperation with Center for Rural Entrepreneurship	website
Phillip Gaskin and Andy Stoll/Kauffman Foundation	2017	Initiates the concept of advanced entrepreneurial ecosystem building as a lever for supporting entrepreneurs and building stronger economies through the ESHIP Summit series and demo projects in 4 cities.	Phillip Gaskin

Note on sources:

- Website is the home URL of an organization.
- Web refers to an article or reference to the organization from a reputable source on the Internet.
- LinkedIn is self-reported information on a personal account.
- Wikipedia is the communal encyclopedia online.
- People's names are those who had first-hand experience and information.