



Tech Talks

at ATEC March 24, 2020
1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Panelists



Vicky Rad
Director, Macomb County Planning and Economic Development

Vicky Rad is the director of the Macomb County Department of Planning and Economic Development. She helps oversee the overall strategy for the department and helps implement the economic development action plan. This is accomplished through four distinct program areas: Economic Development; Land and Water Resources; Planning & Mapping Services; and Outreach & Communications.

Her focus areas for Macomb County include growing targeted industry sectors and fulfilling the workforce pipeline in automotive, aerospace, defense, robotics, and cybersecurity. Prior to joining the county in 2013, Vicky had a highly successful career at Detroit Regional Chamber, where she was primarily responsible for leading business development efforts. She was responsible for the program management of Connection Point, a grant-funded program that identified and developed business opportunities for Michigan businesses through supplier engagements. Part of the outreach included working with small and large businesses, collaborative partners, government and academia. She also contributes her success in economic development from her previous experience working at the Macomb Regional Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) hosted out of Macomb Community College, where she counseled and educated local businesses in their pursuit of federal, state and local government contracts.

Vicky earned a Bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems from Baker College and received her Masters of Science in Administration degree with a concentration in Leadership from Central Michigan University. In her work studies, she also obtained a master's certificate in Government Contracting Administration from George Washington University in 2010. Vicky is immediate Past President of the Michigan Chapter of Women in Defense (WID), a nonprofit group that supports professional development for women across Michigan who contribute to national defense and security. She is the mother of two children, Ava and Aydin.



Richard Lerman,
Director, Computing Services and Part-time Faculty in Information Systems Management

Richard is the Director of Computing Services for the Mike Ilitch School of Business. In this role, he is responsible for all administrative and academic technology used at the school.

Richard is also a part-time faculty member in Information Systems Management. He created a class that teaches students how to design, create and publish mobile applications for the Android OS using MIT's App Inventor. This class helps to develop students with the right mix of technical skills, business know-how and creativity to bring compelling mobile applications to market.

Richard has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Education in Instructional Technology. He was recently awarded the Mike Ilitch School of Business 2017 Sue Garr Innovative Teaching Award.



**Carl Weckerle,
Director, Michigan Colleges Online**

As the Director for the Michigan Colleges Online (MCO), Carl works with all 28 community colleges to provide leadership in support of their distance learning programs and manages the MCO services to students.

Prior to this, Carl served as the Director of Instructional Technology and Online Learning at Macomb Community College to direct the administration of the College's Learning Management System (LMS), including the management of professional development & support staff, budget, and all online learning activities. Previously, he worked in the Center for Teaching & Learning and Workforce Development departments and as a K-12 teacher. He has also served on several higher education and K-12 advisory groups.

Carl has his Master of Education in Instructional Technology and Bachelor of Science in Education, both from Wayne State University. He is currently pursuing a degree in Educational Psychology and Educational Technology at Michigan State University.