



# **Economic Development Committee Meeting**

May 8, 2017

Kelley Keffer, Project Manager  
Office of Economic Development



- December 2013 opened LAUNCHPOINT – Mesa Technology Accelerator, the City's first venture into the business accelerator space
- Began as a partnership between the City of Mesa and Arizona State University (ASU), LaunchPoint was located in southeast Mesa in an ASU building on the Polytechnic campus.



The mission of LAUNCHPOINT, Mesa Technology Accelerator, is to stimulate the establishment and growth of small technology based companies and other growth oriented businesses in the East Valley. By fulfilling this mission, the Accelerator will contribute to job creation, and provide for enhanced economic health to the region.



December 2013 - April 2016

- “Resident” businesses = 3
- Jobs = 5
- Capital Investment = \$5,000
- Occupied sq. ft. = 300





Entrepreneurial leaders should focus on creating the best startup community for their city **based on the unique attributes of their city** and by building an inclusive network that is connected, grows and strengthens over time.



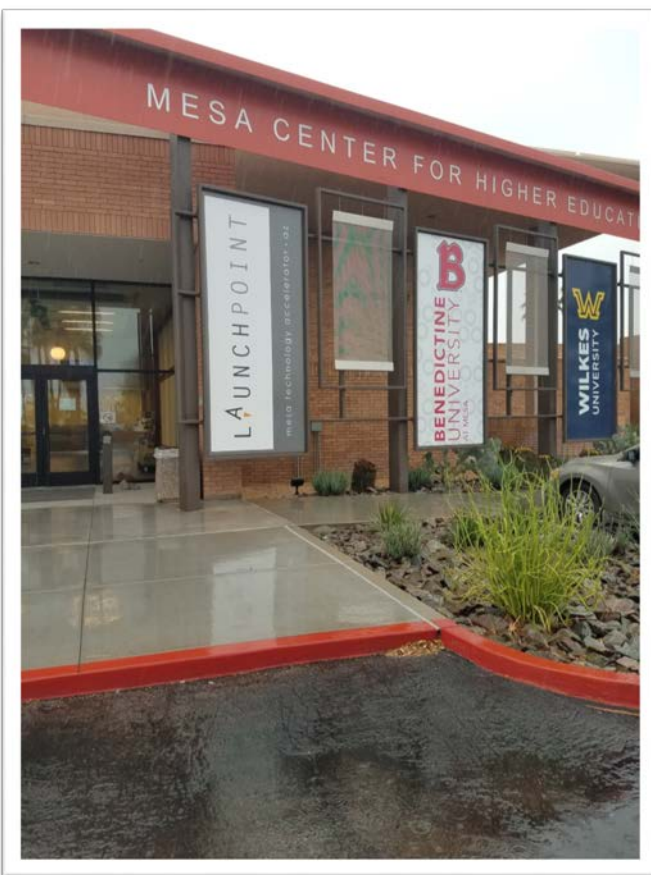
## Vision

Mesa is a **place** where innovative thinking and inspiration catalyze business startups and entrepreneurship; where the community grows organically from within.



## Mission

LaunchPoint is a unique **place** for entrepreneurs and small companies that provides flexible space, business development assistance and networking and training opportunities. It is a **place** to help companies launch and accelerate to create new jobs and capital investment in the community.



## Treating LaunchPoint as a Start-Up

- Relocating to Downtown Mesa
- Creating a flexible model (testing the market)
  - Office Space
  - Collaborative Space
  - Lab Space
  - Affordable pricing for startups
- Allowing the Participants to help us shape the model
- Adding technology

LaunchPoint 2.0





### **May 2016 – Current (1 Year):**

- 11 Participating companies
- Approximately 4,000 occupied Sq. Ft.
- 35 Jobs
- \$2M in capital investment (participant)
- More than 16 tech talks, meetups and trainings with 300+ total attendees



“Who” is LaunchPoint?

LaunchPoint 2.0



The Ultimate Parental Control

[www.CleanRouter.com](http://www.CleanRouter.com)

Spencer Thomason, Eric Vance



**Trust. Friendship. Good work.**

A consulting and development company built upon independent Arizona contractors.

[www.avagate.com](http://www.avagate.com)

Steven Douglas

Participating Companies



prenda

"Code Club Made Easy"

[www.prenda.co](http://www.prenda.co)

Kelly Smith, Andy Jennings, Luke Miller



**Advanced Computing Research & Solutions**

[www.scientifichost.com](http://www.scientifichost.com)

**LaunchPoint Participants**



Improving Employee Performance and Communication  
[www.PioneerCoaching.com](http://www.PioneerCoaching.com)  
Luke Sigrist



“Delivering Visual Excellence”  
R2 Advanced Technologies  
[www.R2AdvancedTechnologies.com](http://www.R2AdvancedTechnologies.com)  
Bill Thompson

Participating Companies



## AMBERCYCLE

'Converting waste plastics into higher-value chemical products'

[www.ambercycleinc.com](http://www.ambercycleinc.com)

Mubasher "Moby" Ahmed, Akshay Sethi



Pioneering Advanced Graphite Products

[www.urbixresources.com](http://www.urbixresources.com)

Adam Small, Dr. Palash Gangopadhyay, Nicolas Cuevas-Gomez



**We build Software.**  
**Amazing Developers at Great Rates.**  
[www.web3mavens.com](http://www.web3mavens.com)

# If Studio

Coding Education for Adults  
Daniel Lovell



**Network Solutions & Consulting**  
Rizwan Zahoor

Participating Companies



## What's new?

- Clean Router - Winner of 2017 Venture Madness
- Urbix Resources - Winner of 2017 Clean Tech Open Business Award as most investable company / ready for commercialization
- New Website: [www.launchpointmesa.com](http://www.launchpointmesa.com)
- New Meetup Page: [www.meetup.com/launchpoint-mesa/](http://www.meetup.com/launchpoint-mesa/)





## What's Coming?

- High Value Training
- SBDC Counselor Onsite
- Entrepreneurs Roundtable
- Entrepreneur Spotlight Company Vignettes
- Development of Signature Event
- Updating the Strategic Action Plan for FY18



## How can you help?....

- Get Excited!
- Talk up Entrepreneurship in Mesa
- Get to know our companies
- Networking & connections
- Assist with sponsorships for a Mesa Entrepreneurship Signature event
- Creative executable ideas to “grow” our program
- Offer to be a mentor



## Discussion & Questions

Kelley Keffer, Project Manager  
Office of Economic Development