



IOWA ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CENTER

The Iowa Innovation Council (IIC) was established by the Legislature to serve as an advisory council to the Iowa Economic Development Authority. The IIC's role is to provide guidance on developing policies to support Iowa's innovation economy. In January 2013, the business members of the IIC participated in a workshop to begin work on an update for the Council's strategic plan. Council members recognized the fact that we had success with small, incremental innovation strategies but we now needed to think bigger and make recommendations with the potential for a greater impact on Iowa's companies' ability to compete globally.

Glenn Baker, John Deere, reported on several national meetings he attended to discuss the concept of a National Network for Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI) and the potential Institutes for Manufacturing Innovation that are being established as part of this federal initiative. He asked whether Iowa should be evaluating its' place in manufacturing innovation and preparing a proposal for an Institute for Manufacturing Innovation in Iowa. An outcome from this workshop was that we should submit a proposal for an Iowa Institute.

The leadership of the Iowa Innovation Council and the Iowa Innovation Corporation, the private arm of Governor Branstad's public-private partnership, met with Governor Branstad, Lt. Governor Reynolds and IEDA Director Debi Durham to present the concept and the opportunity it offered for Iowa manufacturing. Governor Branstad was very interested in pursuing an Institute for Manufacturing Innovation in Iowa.

In February, the Council recommended that Iowa submit a NNMI proposal and assigned the Iowa Innovation Corporation responsibility for developing this proposal. Creation of the Iowa Advanced Manufacturing Center (IAMC) would move forward whether or not Iowa was successful in a bid for a national Institute. The Corporation was not invited to submit a final proposal but their work on the IAMC continues.

IOWA INNOVATION CORPORATION

Created in 2011 to build public/private partnerships to "grow Iowa's own" business and innovation ecosystem, the Iowa Innovation Corporation is a business-led, not-for-profit organization working as facilitators with businesses, government, start-ups, existing companies, nonprofits, universities, community colleges and anyone in the business of job creation and business growth to ensure Iowa has the tools necessary to succeed in the Innovation Economy.

Iowa Innovation Corporation – The Iowa Innovation Corporation is a private non-profit organization that has been charged with being Iowa's innovation intermediary.

We:

- Foster research and development.
- Support the commercialization of ideas.
- Establish funding resources to help Iowa companies grow and innovate.

Whether it is an idea for a new product or business or if it's an established business with an innovative idea to grow their company, the Iowa Innovation Corporation keeps Iowa moving forward to by "filling the gaps" to grow Iowa innovation in advanced manufacturing, biotech and information solutions.