

## live

**GIG4GNV:** Google hosted a competition to choose a community in the U.S. to install a gigabit fiber network (Internet 100 times faster than anything we have seen) and showcase new and innovative uses of their ultra high-speed network. Chamber and CEO staff worked with the city and county to clear permitting issues related to the project, as well as helping lead the marketing component in which iG was a major focus. Google will announce the winning communities by the end of 2010.

**INNOVATION PRIZE WINNER AT GTEC:** More than 100 applications have been received for the Cade Innovation Prize. Chamber and GTEC staff have been assisting with the process of receiving and reviewing applicants for the prize, as well as the assembling of judging panels. The winner will be announced at the Cade Museum Dinner on June 11 and will receive \$50,000 in start-up capital and reserved space at GTEC with occupancy slated for early summer.

## learn

**ENTERPRISE FLORIDA:** CEO hosted Enterprise Florida's (EFI) United Kingdom and International for a one-day working tour of Alachua County. The group was specifically interested in iG. CEO staff showcased GTEC, UF's Office of Technology Licensing, the Gainesville Area Innovation Network (GAIN), the SFC Perry Center of Emerging Technologies and the UF Biotechnology Development Incubator in Alachua. Because of this visit, we are already seeing greater global resources for our existing emerging companies and we have received three potential economic development projects for our community.

**APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM:** FloridaWorks is working to reinvigorate and expand the apprenticeship program in Florida across all industries to create more earn-and-learn opportunities, increase the number of graduates and provide a cost effective way of training and growing the workforce.

## speak

**DC FLY-IN:** April 27 - 29 the Chamber will host its first DC Fly-In. Participants will meet with federal legislators to discuss funding crucial to the success of our local economy. Additionally they will share the message of Innovation Gainesville, taking connectivity to a national level.

**IG PRESENCE:** Numerous presentations have been given to local, national and international audiences, with more appearances slated including Gainesville's Celebration of Biotechnology and BIO 2010 in Chicago. The iG Web site has an average of 500 unique monthly visitors from 15 states and 10 countries.

## invest

**ENERGY INNOVATION HUBS:** A call for entries came from the U.S. Department of Energy to fund regional Energy Innovation Hubs around the country associated with a university or national lab. The University of Florida will be participating through the High Tech Corridor with UCF handling the application. The Chamber has been working with UF's Erik Sander to be sure that the Greater Gainesville area will be included in the plans.

**FLORIDA BACK TO WORK:** The FloridaWorks team has worked to bring more than \$14 million in wages to our region. More than 60 employers submitted budgets to create 650 jobs ranging from entry-level to professional. Many of the companies are our start-ups that are using this funding to grow their companies during their launch phase and add to their team months before they projected.

## celebrate

**SHOWCASING INNOVATION:** The Chamber's Business Showcase will have a new feature this year. Several local high-tech companies will be invited to give a special presentation to attendees. This provides an opportunity for our business community to learn about the global impact of our local high-tech companies, as well as see demonstrations of the products.

**CADE CELEBRATION OF INNOVATION:** Chamber staff is working with the Cade Museum staff and volunteers on the 2010 Cade Prize Evening where the winner of the first Cade Prize for Innovation will be announced. The event will be held Friday, June 11. For more information, visit [www.cademuseum.org](http://www.cademuseum.org).