



Some Happenings @VCET in 2017

- 1) The inaugural [Female Founders Speakers Series](#) was a smashing success! We heard from game-changer leaders such as Corinne Prevot of Skida, Marguerite Dibble of Game Theory, Jennifer Kimmich of The Alchemist, and Sascha Mayer and Christine Dodson of Mamava. And more than **400 people attended** and together we raised over **\$5,000** for some of Vermont's most vital non-profits.
- 2) *Our family grew...* we proudly welcomed **10 new startups**, including Sap!, Burlington Code Academy, SWIM.Systems, Widget Brain and Ona.
- 3) *They grow up so fast...* Sundae Month, Game Theory, Majorwise, Xemory, Packetized Energy, Stagecoach Digital, OhMD, Easy Tactile Graphics, and ThinkMD are a few of the companies that experienced strong growth and added to their teams. Congrats to them all!
- 4) *Listen up, y'all...* we added **17 episodes** to our super popular podcast, [Start Here](#). We've loved sharing the stories of the accidental entrepreneurs like John Replogle of Seventh Generation, Governor Phil Scott, Allison Hooper of Vermont Creamery, and Mike Lane of Dealer.com.
- 5) *Did we say our family grew?* **70 new members** joined our family of coworker friends in 2017. Yup. Everything is cool when you're part of a team.
- 6) *PowPow.* The incomparable Donna Carpenter of Burton Snowboards led the debut of our second season of Female Founders by moderating an all-women panel of leaders from Burton. As if the conversation wasn't valuable enough, we raised over **\$1,400** on behalf of Vermont Works for Women. Boom.
- 7) *Partnership isn't rocket science.* We launched a strategic partnership with the **Cambridge Innovation Center** for reciprocal coworking services, and joined the **Amazon Web Services Activate Program** for complimentary cloud computing resources. Better. Together.
- 8) *Yes we did.* We welcomed two new board members that have major thud factor. President of **Champlain College**, Don Laackman, and **UVM** Provost David Rosowsky. We're still pinching ourselves!
- 9) *I'm with the band.* Two new mates joined our small and mighty team. On Operations is **rockstar** Phoebe Lo, and Taylor Kracher (UVM '19) is crushing it on social and overall support.
- 10) *All access.* VCET's **VR Studio** became available for members 24/7.



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- 11) *And the winner is....*VCET members Max Robbins and Peter Silverman from Majorwise captured first place in the **LaunchVT** competition! And our own David Bradbury was their proud mentor. Other VCET members Andrew Giroux and Jeff Frolick of Packetized Energy took a very close second.
- 12) *The Graduate.* SchoolHack Solutions outgrew the **VCET@MIDD** location and landed a new office in Bristol, VT.
- 13) *Build it and they will come.* In collaboration with the Vermont Agency of Commerce, the first **Innovation Spaces Conference** debuted at Castleton University with and welcomed more than 100 attendees.
- 14) *What matters most.* Realizing the importance of community and giving back, our team volunteered with the **Boys & Girls Club of Burlington** and the **Intervale Center**.
- 15) *Get Schooled.* We proudly celebrated our 5th year teaching **Middlebury Entrepreneurs J Term Class**...where has the time gone?
- 16) *Party at the moontower.* We hosted **40+ events**, from ping pong tournaments for charity to “First Friday” socials, to educational workshops and meetings with international delegations of entrepreneurs. But wait, there’s more! During Innovation Week, we hosted a **Vermont Health Tech** panel, a new company launch party, and the first Innovate Middlebury event.
- 17) *And now, let’s do the numbers.* Our **50** portfolio companies have cumulatively racked up **\$112 million** in payroll, **\$133 million** in sales, and **\$172 million** in capital. To date, we’ve assisted over **1,630** startups, supported **188** coworkers across our three locations (UVM, Middlebury, and the FairPoint Technology Hub), worked with **54** interns and fellows, and leveraged advice from over **130** kickass mentors.

It has been a year of incredible successes, none of which would be possible without our members, portfolio companies, investors, and trusted board of directors and advisors. Sincere gratitude to U.S. Senator Patrick Leahy, the University of Vermont, Dr. John Evans and the Vermont Technology Council, FairPoint Communications, the State of Vermont, Vermont EPSCoR, Middlebury College, and VEDA. Together, we have made VCET the innovation epicenter in Vermont where higher education, economic development and entrepreneurs intersect in order to start and scale new business ventures. Let’s keep it going! We love where we live.