

University of Delaware
(Newark, Delaware)



Dare to be first.



Charles Riordan

Deputy Provost for Research & Scholarship

Area of Expertise: Chemistry, Catalysis

Major Takeaways: University of Delaware

Event Overview

- The University of Delaware hosted a DOE Lab Day in May 2016, modeled after several DOE Lab Days on Capitol Hill
- Highlighted by a visit by Secretary Moniz.
- Nine DOE Labs participated in event via panel discussions and/or exhibits.
- Approximately 200 people attended from regional universities, large and small businesses and non profits.

*Sen. Chris Coons (DE), UD President Dennis Assanis
Sec. Ernest Moniz (left to right)*



Key Takeaways

Current Regional Innovation Ecosystem

- Delaware is going through fiscal challenges as well as the implications surrounding the DuPont-Dow merger and potential loss of technical talent. A mid-Atlantic regional ecosystem including the federal assets in the region (defense and bio) would enhance Delaware's existing capabilities and contribute to a economic development.

Building a Broader Ecosystem

- Delaware has a supportive State Government and Congressional delegation to help create a vibrant ecosystem. Combining the existing assets in renewable energy, composites materials for industry and military applications, chemical industry's catalysis expertise, and the bio/pharma centers in Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey will require a regional approach and commitment for success.

Major Takeaways: University of Delaware (continued)

Key Takeaways (continued)

Opportunities & Priorities

- The DOE labs have programs and user facilities that provide collaboration opportunities for Delaware research and development entities, including training, employment and tech transfer.
- The various Manufacturing USA solicitations have provided new opportunities for Delaware organizations to collaborate with DOE labs and industrial organizations.

Challenges

- Delaware is a small state and has limited discretionary resources.

Next Steps

- Plans are underway to host a Materials Workshop in the Spring of 2017 that will include several DOE laboratories that will lead to new collaborations.
- The new President of the University of Delaware, Dennis Assanis, brings a broad background of the national labs and DOE research programs that will provide new opportunities for high level conversations.