

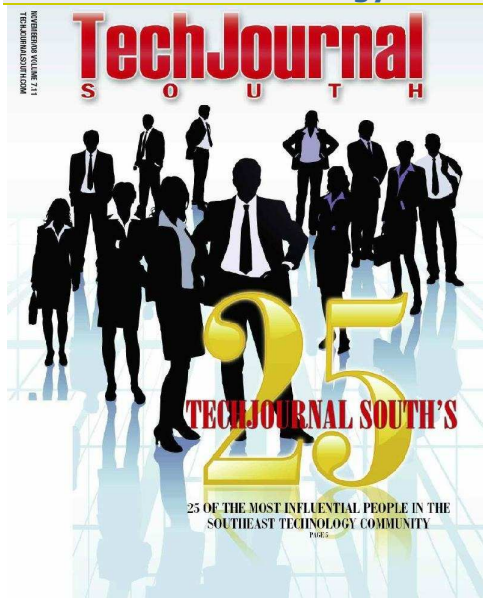
Please take a moment to read the latest news from Columbia SC's knowledge economy.

For continuous updates, check out [www.engenuitysc.com](http://www.engenuitysc.com)

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### SCRA's Mahoney a Top 25 Most Influential Person in the Technology Community



TechJournal South recently released its 2008 list of the 25 most influential people in the Southeast technology and entrepreneurial arena. TechJournal's 25 are talent people working to foster the

entrepreneurial spirit and the technology sector from the Potomac region to South Florida. Bill Mahoney, President and CEO of [SCRA](#), made the elite list with over 30 years of technology management and applied systems innovation.

Upon his arrival at SCRA, Mahoney directed that the company launch a new business area focused on alternative energy. In the fall of 2005, SCRA joined a statewide effort to facilitate the discovery, development, and deployment of critical segments of

### Building a Bridge to the Next Economy: Engenuity '08 & the Talent Forum



On November 12th, over 225 people gathered on the 5th floor of the Discovery I building at Innovista for Engenuity '08, Columbia's annual knowledge economy conference. The event celebrated the progress Columbia has made in developing a knowledge-based economy and formed a vision for the future of Columbia becoming a next generation city.

On November 21st, over 100 government officials, business leaders, community leaders, young professionals, and students met at Trustus Theatre for the first-ever Columbia Talent Forum. The event was structured around a discussion about how Columbia can attract and retain the best and brightest talent in the region that will fuel the community's growth in the new knowledge economy.

Both events represent the progress Columbia has made in developing a shared vision and goal that is supported by members across the community. The next steps for taking Columbia from good to great include focusing more on creating jobs and internship opportunities, strengthening collaboration amongst government and community leadership, and enhancing communications amongst the various organizations around town.

Engenuity '08 and the Columbia Talent Magnet Forum helped to bolster enthusiasm and momentum to move things forward, but the effort to incite change will come from the cooperation and collaboration of the whole

the hydrogen economy within South Carolina. That effort has grown dramatically and through its memberships in the [South Carolina Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Alliance](#) and the [USC Columbia Fuel Cell Collaborative](#), SCRA has developed solid partnerships with the state's leading hydrogen and fuel cell research institutions.

Mahoney's leadership is helping guide the state to become more competitive in the knowledge-based economy. He now serves on the boards of: National Energy Marketers Association, Midlands Technical College, EngenuitySC, and the SC Museum Foundation.

For the complete list, click [here](#)

### Obama and Entrepreneurship



Part of incoming President Barack Obama's big agenda to revitalize the economy is providing effective support for entrepreneurs. [Business Week](#) recently conducted a Q&A session with leading entrepreneurs and experts to find out what advice and action items they have to offer the new President.

The comments captured range from general suggestions like fix health care for aid capital formation to the specific like lower taxes on interest income for small businesses or linking bank access to the Federal Reserve's discount window based on increased lending to small business.

Click [here](#) to see what other policy prescriptions these entrepreneurs have for the new Administration.

### Knowledge Economy Calendar



**December 1st -  
USC Columbia  
Technology  
Incubator  
Graduation**  
Come celebrate  
with the companies  
that will be

community. If you would like to get involved, contact Greg Hilton at [ghilton@engenuitysc.com](mailto:ghilton@engenuitysc.com) and bookmark [www.columbiatalent.com](http://www.columbiatalent.com) to stay up to date with the project efforts.

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graduating from the Technology Incubator. The event will be held from 6-8:00 pm at the Midlands Technical College northeast campus with keynote, Dr. Hildy Teegen, Dean of the Moore School of Business.

### **December 2nd - New Ideas for a New Carolina**

Do you want to win \$5,000? Do you have a big idea for a business? If so, then enter your idea at [www.newideas SC.com](http://www.newideas SC.com) for the New Ideas for a New Carolina Business Ideas Contest. Don't hesitate because the contest ends December 2nd!

### **December 9th - Science Cafe, Hydrogen from Nuclear**

Dr. Finis H. Southworth, Chief Technology Officer with AREVA, will lead a discussion about the hot topic of hydrogen production by nuclear power. Join us at Damon's (900 Senate St) at 6PM to learn, ask questions, and enjoy a glass of wine or cup of coffee! [RSVP](#)

### **Growing a Green Economy**

On December 2nd, industry and academic professionals, entrepreneurs, investors, and services providers will convene at the Moore School of Business for the Sustainability Forum to discuss the critical priority of enhancing green purchasing and waste management. Participants will brainstorm ways to develop markets for green products and waste recycling and create a list of next steps to move from discussion to action.



The term "sustainability" has become more widespread as environmental concerns have heightened. When applied in an economic context, "sustainability" serves as the common point where the environment and the economy converge. Fostering innovation and technology that promotes sustainability will be a crucial part of growing Columbia's knowledge economy.

The Sustainability Forum on December 2nd is the first in a series of related forums, leading up to the annual InnoVenture Southeast in March 2009. To register, visit [www.swampfox.ws](http://www.swampfox.ws)

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