



Michigan Photonics Cluster

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Press Release

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## Baker College Success Stories

[Baker College](#) has been on the frontier of Photonics and Laser Technology programs championed by Anca Sala who was recently named 2016 Educator of the Year by the High Impact Technology Exchange Conference (HI-TEC). In the past, the study of photonics would not have been a degreed program in of itself. Courses in photonics were buried within physics and electrical engineering degree programs. When cutting edge technology demands meet undeveloped academics, new programs are created to meet industry demand. Baker College met the need and developed a Photonics and Laser Technology program. Not only that, but they are celebrating recent graduates. Two of those graduates now have full time positions with companies in the photonics industry. The two videos here showcase their experience.

**Meet Marcus Hosmer.** [Video](#) He was hired as a Field Service Technician at Laser mechanisms. The video also features Mark Taggart, President of [Laser Mechanisms](#) which is the recognized world leader in the design and manufacture of laser beam delivery components and articulated arm systems. Laser Mechanisms' products are used in every type of industrial application including cutting, welding, drilling, scribing, surface treatment and other processes. The products are used with every type of laser, including CO<sub>2</sub>, Nd:YAG, Fiber Laser and more.

**Meet Chris Moulton.** [Video](#) He was hired as a Laser Technician at [IPG Photonics](#). The video also features Mike Klos, General Manager of IPG Photonics Midwest. IPG Photonics Corporation is the world leader in high-power fiber lasers and amplifiers. IPG pioneered the development and commercialization of optical fiber-based lasers for use in diverse applications, primarily materials processing. Fiber lasers have revolutionized the industry by delivering superior performance, reliability and usability at a lower total cost of ownership compared with conventional lasers, allowing end users to increase productivity and decrease operating costs. IPG has its headquarters in Oxford, Massachusetts, and has additional plants and offices throughout the world.

Baker College, Laser Mechanisms and IPG are members of [Mi-Light](#), a new industry cluster that supports Michigan's photonics-related businesses with the goal of growing the state's talent pool to expand the photonics industry and stimulate innovation. The circle is complete, the photonics industry hiring graduates from a leading university providing a novel Photonics and Laser program all growing into the mainstream of the Michigan economy.