

**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



To: Area Media
From: Ames Economic Development Commission
Date: April 13, 2017
Re: 2017Ames Seed Capital Annual Meeting

Ames Seed Capital to Review 2016 Success at Annual Meeting

AMES, IA – The Ames Seed Capital LLC (ASCF) will review their 2016 accomplishments during their 2017 Annual Meeting with investors and guests on Tuesday, April 18th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Scheman Building (room 220-240) in Ames. The keynote speakers for the event are Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds and Peter Wilkins, Managing Director Hyde Park Angels in Chicago.

The meeting will recognize ASCF investors and highlight the fund’s 2016 accomplishments. “This year we’re excited to welcome Lt. Governor Reynolds and Mr. Wilkins as our keynote speakers,” says Ron Hallenbeck, Ames Economic Development Commission Executive Vice President, Existing Business & Industry. “Lt. Governor Reynolds will comment on what Iowa is doing to help and prepare individuals for start-up enterprises and entrepreneurship and joined by Mr. Wilkins giving his viewpoints on growth of entrepreneurial start-ups in the Midwest and private investing.”

The event has sold out for the second year in a row.

This year Ames Seed Capital is also introducing the inaugural “Iowa Entrepreneur & Start-up Showcase” immediately following the Annual Meeting. ASCF is expecting strong turnout from Iowa, Chicago, and greater Midwestern investors. The event will feature short pitch presentations from more than twenty Iowa-based startup and early-stage technology companies pursuing funding rounds in the next year. These companies are all current or former cohort members at one of Iowa's leading startup accelerator/incubators. In addition to the pitch session, business and community leaders and startup accelerator directors will discuss Iowa’s strong support for business startup and growth that has led to breakout successes like Harrisvaccines, NewLink Genetics, REG, Workiva, Involta

The ASCF is a for profit investment group that is affiliated with the Ames Economic Development Commission (AEDC). ASCF and a predecessor entity, Ames Seed Capital, Inc. (ASCI) have been investing in Ames area start-up companies since 1987 and have been a key part of the success of many well-known Ames/Story County companies. ASCF aims to create a profit for each investor and has an investment window of five to seven years. The rate of return varies by each investment, and neither the rate of return nor the investment window period can be assured or guaranteed.

ASCF and its predecessor, ASCI, were initially established by the AEDC to fund start-up companies locating in the Iowa State University (ISU) Research Park. Over time, ASCF began investing in start-ups and other earlier stage companies around the Ames/Story County/Central Iowa area.

###

Contact:

- Ron Hallenbeck | Executive Vice President, Existing Business & Industry | 232-2310 | ron@ameschamber.com