

FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY BOSTON

Ongoing Coverage of FinTech Innovation

2017 - Issue 3

from Boston Financial Services Leadership Council, an initiative of Mass Insight Global Partnerships

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Save the Dates

Events hosted by the Boston Financial Services Leadership Council

June 7: Annual Mass Insight MA Financial Services Sector Impact Report/Boston FinTech Event (Downtown Boston location TBD)

November 30: Second Annual Boston FinTech/Data Innovation Conference (Federal Reserve Bank of Boston)

Innovation at Fidelity Labs

Fidelity Labs: A Far-Reaching Innovation Strategy to Transform the Customer Experience through Experiments, Pilots and Internal Incubators

Interview with Sean Belka, Senior Vice President and Director, Fidelity Labs



Financial technology, or FinTech, is one of the hottest areas within IT, and Fidelity Labs is poised to be a leader in nurturing new businesses, sharing innovation across the firm and testing new products for this fast-growing market.

Fidelity Labs, the innovation arm of Fidelity Investments, has a mandate to find new and better ways to help people achieve better investment outcomes. FinTech is a big part of that, including emerging areas Fidelity Labs is focused on such as predictive analytics, blockchain and digital currency, financial wellness, student loans and the gig economy.

The organization emphasizes rapid experimentation,

"Fidelity values partnering in Boston with the best and brightest," Belka says.

Design Thinking and a Lean Startup approach, with its internal researchers and strategists relying on co-customer development to explore emerging technologies and incubate new products, services and

businesses designed to address the biggest challenges its customers face. **Read more [here](#).**



The Fidelity Patent Program provides support for employee inventors to pursue their ideas. Fidelity Labs helps run the program and holds PatentFest events at different employee locations that feature outside speakers, panel discussions and presentations from other inventors. (Photo: a 2016 PatentFest event at Fidelity)

BFSLC & Mass Insight Host 10 Canadian FinTech Start Ups

On March 29, the Boston Financial Services Leadership Council (BFSLC) and Mass Insight, in collaboration with the Canadian Consulate, welcomed 10 Canadian FinTech start ups for a day-long event, **Exploring the Canadian FinTech Opportunity**.

Mass Insight CEO Bill Guenther moderated a panel discussion on "The Boston FinTech Ecosystem," featuring BFSLC FinTech workgroup co-chairs Ian Sheridan, Co-Founder and Managing Director of Vestigo Ventures, and Sumedh Mehta, CTO of Putnam Investments. In addition, Brett Huneycutt, Co-Founder & COO of Wealthsimple and Roy Kao, Senior Advisor - Finance & Commerce at MaRS Discovery District, also joined the panel. A link to the presentation is [here](#).

The 10 Canadian firms met with local investors, customers, and future partners to promote their FinTech solutions (details on the companies and program are [here](#)). For further information on the companies or the event please contact Tom Gradel at tgradel@massinsight.com.



Bill Guenther speaking on "The Boston FinTech Ecosystem"

FinTech in the News

- [Fintech in the US: the state of the union is questionable](#), *Banking Technology*
- [What Dimon had to say about fintech in his annual letter](#), *American Banker*
- [US States working on blockchain legislation in 2017](#), *BraveNewCoin*
- [European Commission Considers Passporting Rights for FinTech Services](#), *Cryptocoins News*
- [How Will Finance Approach the Regulation of Blockchain?](#), *Nasdaq*
- [Insurtech the Rising Star of the FinTech Movement](#), *The Huffington Post*

Boston Financial Services Leadership Council

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*Financial Technology Boston is the flagship initiative of the CEO-led **Boston Financial Services Leadership Council** organized by **Mass Insight Global Partnerships**. This initiative promotes the region as a global hub for FinTech talent through an integrated media, outreach, and talent strategy and a network linking leading firms, start ups, venture capital, universities, and government.*

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