

## News Letter April 2019

Investors, Advisors and Startup Mentors,

First quarter was a flurry of activity for us with some big milestones like closing out our second fund at over \$31M. Several of our portfolio companies have raised capital at significant uptick valuations. We have seen a flood of new investment opportunities especially in March and have three new signed terms sheets from fund II that we anticipate closing this month. The Triangle is on fire with startup activities and opportunities and we are spreading the love around the state as well with our last investment closing in Asheville and a next investment closing anticipated in a Boone-based startup. We have several new initiatives underway in 2019. One of these is to do a better job at recruiting more minority and female entrepreneurs. Another is to prepare more guilds and templates to help our newest entrepreneurs come up to speed faster and to avoid typical mistakes.

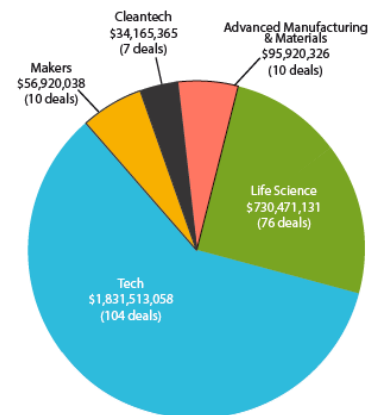
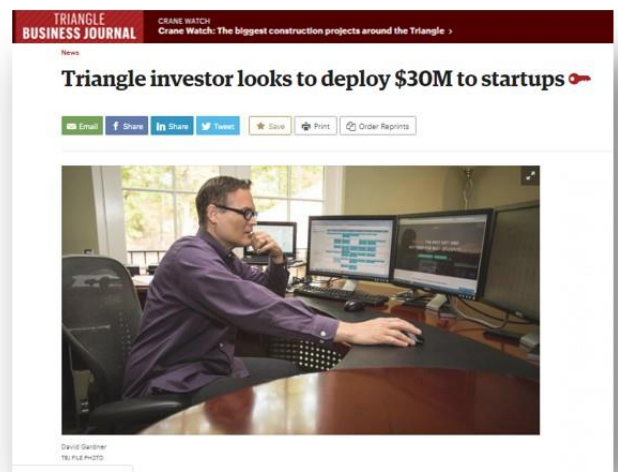
## Cofounders in the News

[TBJ – Investors Looks to Deploy \\$30M to Startups](#)

[WRALTechwrie – 2019 Tweener Event](#)

[GrepBeat-Cofounders Can Now Double Down](#)

[WRALTechwire – Asheville Startup Tour comes to Cary](#)



[Inc. Magazine – Raleigh Ranked in top 3 best places to start a business](#)

[CED – Innovators Report – Tech Investing Up in NC](#)



*We don't really know if this one says good things about us but just in case it does we included it!*

## Our Events

Tim and I generally host, attend or speak at several events each month. Our goals are to promote entrepreneurship, encourage local investing and to ensure that we see every startup company in NC that might be a fit for our fund and expertise.

### Lulu eGames

Every year I participate in this event at NCSU as a judge. It was a big deal last week with dozens of entrees and over \$100K in prize money at stake. To the right you'll see fund II investor, co-judge and patent attorney extraordinaire, JiNan Glasgow George, with a local TV celeb.



### CED Tech Conference

We were thrilled again this year to have so many of our portfolio companies speaking and showing off their technologies at the Raleigh Convention Center. Here you can see Tim with fund I entrepreneurs Monica Wood and Shawn Gagne.



### NC Investment Forum

We enjoyed meeting the head of Federal SBA who discussed many issues entrepreneurs face.



We've also started holding regular office hours to work with entrepreneurs at the Morrisville Town Hall.



## Ashville Entrepreneur Road Show

We are please again this year to host a group of entrepreneurs from Ashville and hear their pitches at the Mayton Inn. To the right, Tim welcomes the teams to Cary.



## Tweener Awards

We were proud to sponsor fund investor, Scot Wingo's Tweener event this year hosted at the Raleigh Museum of Science. It was great to see so many of our companies on the list again this year.



## Seed the South

Tim spoke at the Seed the South event discussing the need for more seed round capital and it's important to the entire innovation ecosystem.



## Chancellor's Innovation Dinner

And there's fund I FilterEasy cofounder Kevin Barry having dinner at the NCSU Chancellor's residence beside Tom Miller. The dinner guest enjoyed a provocative discussion around how to increase support for student entrepreneurs.

## Chan Gala

We were honored to attend Leo and Hannah Chan's gala last week recognizing successful entrepreneurs in the real estate space. These fund II investors are very focused on helping local Chinese entrepreneurs.

## RTI Innovation Focus Groups

Tim and I have committed to conducting regular focus groups with scientists and engineers at RTI to discuss the commercialization potential of some of the amazing technologies being invented there. Former Cofounders entrepreneur, Vinay Tannan, now leads this initiative for RTI.



## WakeTech Ignite Event

I was pleased to participate in this WakeTech event with hundreds of community leaders. Sponsored in part by fund II investor, Mike Conlon, we have big plans for collaborating with WakeTech this year.



## Cary Leadership Program

SharkTank winner, Jonathan Hayes and I have an initiative to co-present at several events together this year to hopefully inspire more entrepreneurs of color. Below, we were presenting last week as part of the Cary Leadership Series.





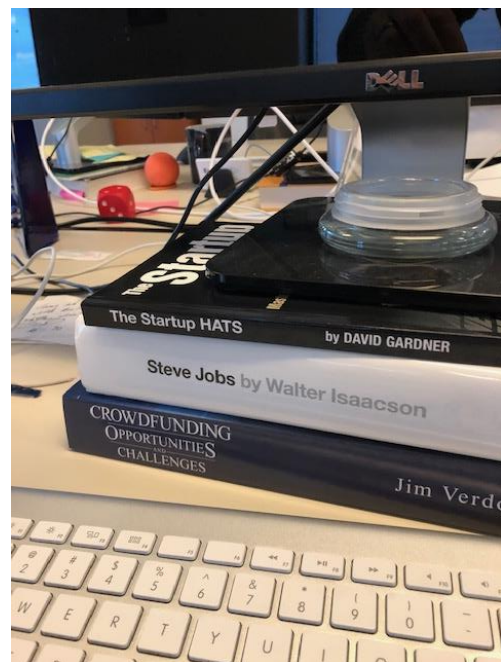
## General Stuff

We are please to welcome our new cohort of MBA interns. We give them serious and difficult assignments and hold them accountable for deliverables. Tim runs our intern program and usually receives over 130 applications per term. They work hard and gain valuable experience.



Tim and I took our families and got away last weekend to the beach. It was nice to spend a little time away celebrating our fund closing.

We supply a small library of books for our entrepreneurs at the lab. It's always good to see that they are being utilized every day!



## Our Publications

[WRALtechwire – The Importance of investor Updates](#)

[WRALTechwire- 5 Questions to ask yourself before you become an Entrepreneur](#)

[WRALTechwire – Innovation, Immigration and Entrepreneurship](#)

## Closing

What a great time to be involved in innovation and entrepreneurship. We are seeing great companies and great deal terms almost every day. Tim and I were touched that so many prominent people trusted us with their investment dollars and we keenly feel the gravity of that responsibility every day. It's nice to be done with fund raising so we can focus our time on helping our portfolio companies be successful.

*"I truly believe that the Triangle is the new up and coming Silicon Valley."*

Looks like I will be attending at least one additional event this October as my daughter is getting married. We are thrilled for her but I am used to getting equity when I write checks of this size.

