Breakout sessions for the 2014 Annual Conference are now OPEN! Here are the descriptions of each session separated by date:

**Thursday August 7, 2014 (choose one of these sessions):**

1. **Topic: "Building CI Capability - One Company at a Time”**

**Presenter: Jason Schulist**

Industry Focus: General

Target Audience: Experienced Practitioner - 1 to 3 years of experience

Description: How do you capture the hearts and minds of every employee with continuous improvement? Jason Schulist, VP of CI at Appvion (otherwise known as the CI guy) will share his journey and learning about developing people to apply lean in business. He was part of the team that led DTE Energy's successful CI implementation broadly and then deeply within project management. He is now taking the learning from prior deployments and is working with Appvion to accelerate performance and learning in another context. Learn how to lead from the middle to make CI stick in your organization!

 Objectives - The learner will:

 1 - Understand that CI is about developing the capability in people and not just tools to close gaps and apply this approach within your own organization

 2 - Describe the common steps in a CI Deployment to develop a culture of excellence

1. **Topic: “A3 Coaching Strategies”**

**Presenter: Eric Ethington**

Industry Focus: General

Targeted Audience: Experienced Practitioner - 1 to 3 years of experience

Description: To misquote a dance instructor, "it takes two to A3." Organizations who have embraced the A3 process often do so without understanding the nuances of the writer / coach dynamic. This workshop introduces a leadership style continuum, defines the role of a coach in the A3 process and provides insight on how to be a better coach. This workshop will also cover the what and why of the A3 process and successful deployment strategies.

1. **Topic: “The Building Blocks of Standard Work Instruction”**

**Co-Presenters: Jerry Browne and Jessica Bermejo**

Targeted Audience: Novice Practitioner - less than 1 year of experience

Description: Hands on workshop demonstrating how to use inexpensive building block toys to teach the power of visual standard work instructions. Many standard operating procedures are written entirely in words which make them very hard for the brain to process. Wordy procedures lead to long lead times for training, poor understanding by the user, and often they are so hard to use that employees stop using them altogether. WORKSHOP DETAILS: A small vehicle made from toy building blocks will be constructed by the audience members using all word instructions with a 30 minute time limit. The vehicles will be inspected for accuracy, disassembled, and then a visual procedure will be provided. When all vehicles are completed they will be inspected for accuracy. Then a group discussion of the learning will take place. Generally the success rate of the written instructions is 0% and the visual instructions are 100% in under 10 minutes with no training required. The discussion of the features and creation of the visual instructions will include information about utilizing the whole brain to process information more quickly and accurately.

Objectives - The learner:

1 - Will identify the benefits of visual standard work instruction

2 - Will learn how to apply visual work instruction in the work place

1. **“Leveraging Lean Management: the System, Tools and Teacher”**

**Co-Presenters: Margy Dayton, Heather Toppen, Jenna Beckman, Mary Schubert**

Industry Focus: Healthcare examples but learnings applicable to any industry

Targeted Audience: Experienced Practitioner - 1 to 3 years of experience

Description:

 We invite you to experience the student-teacher relationship in action, through the use of practical tools within the management system at Mercy Health. As we are all continuous learners, even the most experienced practitioner will gain new insights and ideas. Join us for this engaging hands-on program that will provide real-life examples and spontaneous coaching around recognized tools, including a One Page Strategic Plan, Leader Standardized Work, Huddles and Daily Problem Solving.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 – Understand the specific elements and tools within the Mercy Health management system

2 – Identify essential strategic plan and leader standardized work elements for their organization

3 – Experience spontaneous coaching using participant examples

1. **Topic: "The Power of Value Stream Mapping in Complex, Non-Manufacturing Processes”**

**Presenter: Ron Crabtree**

Industry Focus: Non-manufacturing office, complex transactional programs but learnings applicable to all industries including profit, non-profit and government

Targeted Audience: Novice Practitioner - less than 1 year of experience

Description: This hands-on interactive workshop will help anyone at any level of learning to understand how to use the Value Stream Mapping (VSM) techniques in offices and complex transactional environments. This hands-on, highly interactive working session provides plenty of time to practice and integrate the nuances of VSM in a non-manufacturing setting.

The lecture portion includes understanding:

a. The concept of Value Stream Mapping demonstrated through a case study.

b Techniques to effectively collect data to complete the Mapping.

c. Case Study lab provided - University E-Mail Setup Process.

The Hands-on lab you will:

a. Construct a Value Stream Map.

b. Perform analytics of the data.

c. Identify how to improve process results by 30% or more.

d. Celebrate instant success in ""seeing"" the way forward.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 -Perform basic data collection to support Value Stream Mapping for office and complex transactional processes.

2 - Apply Value Stream Mapping Skills in a lab setting.

3 - Implement Value Stream Analytics and Identifying Solutions.

**Friday August 8, 2014 (choose only one session):**

1. **Topic: "Using Lean Techniques to Foster Innovation”**

**Presenter: Bill Artzberger**

Industry Focus: General

Targeted Audience: Experienced Practitioner - 1 to 3 years of experience

Description: No one is able to stand still in this fast paced business environment. As business leaders you're looking for ways to improve innovation. Innovation is difficult to master. Research shows that only one out of every 3,000 ideas successfully reach the market. Of these products, only 20% make some appreciable profit. Although a lot of people working in innovation say we should embrace failure (Edison discovered over 200 ways not to make a light bulb) I think we should focus on improving the innovation process. The problem is not our inability to generate new ideas, but our inability to let go of the old ones! This seminar will help you use a variety of lean techniques (plus a few others) to foster effective innovation and growth in your organization.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 - Learn the difference between an idea and an opportunity

2 - Use direct observation and experimentation to foster successful innovation and growth

1. - Identify and apply revolutionary and evolutionary opportunities
2. **Topic: "Make Improvements Soar with Value Streams”**

**Co-presenters: Brad Brown and Rob Pease**

Industry Focus: General

Targeted Audience: Novice Practitioner - less than 1 year of experience

Description: This fun and challenging value stream course will demystify the mapping process by utilizing an interactive demonstration to fix simulated problems with real world applicability. A large order has just been placed by one of the most progressive customers in the industry, but they have placed strict parameters on the end product for time, cost and quality. Participants will construct a value stream map as the simulation unfolds, leaving with a tangible example of lessons learned, and if they are successful in meeting the customers’ demands, a final product to display proudly on their desk.

Objectives - The learner will:

1 - Discover the power of information when everyone can see it

2 - Identify standard processes utilized for value stream mapping 3 - Perform in a simulated work environment to get hands on experience with mapping a process

1. **Topic: "The Red Bead Experiment”**

**Co Presenters: Eric Budd, Adrian Bass**

Industry Focus: General

Novice Practitioner - less than 1 year of experience

Description: The Red Bead experiment is a very interactive exercise and can engage everyone in group sizes from 8 to 160 people and almost always takes an hour to 90 minutes. The PDF and slides guide the participants and the dialogue in a lesson from the metaphor of our typical workplaces and management methods. It is a lens through which to view our experience working in systems designed by someone else.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 - Identify the key elements control charts

2 - Understand the importance of a method to manage variation in systems

3 - Identify the difference between "special cause" and "common cause" variation

1. **Topic: "Business Process Improvement Startup at Kansas City Southern Railroad”**

 **Presenter: Matt Bommarito**

Industry Focus: Examples focus on transportation, railroad but learnings are applicable to all industries

Targeted Audience: Expert - three years, plus experience

Description: The program focuses on the critical steps to effective Business Process Improvement (Lean Six Sigma Program) Implementation at a major transportation company. This includes the development of the strategic initiative, organization structure, governance, Champion and Lean Six Sigma Black Belt training protocols, communication plan and project repository functions. The timeframe of this program is from program beginning through effective project kick-offs. The program I recently implemented for 16 BPI Black Belts is projected to yield $6 million in annual savings for the 1st Wave Black Belt Projects. The program will identify key concepts for successful Lean Six Sigma program design and development including senior leadership engagement through project team membership. The BPI - Business Process Improvement program project plan commenced on January 1, 2014. In 120 days, BPI has evolved from a conceptual strategic initiative to full deployment at Kansas City Southern. The Michigan Lean Consortium participants that are planning on implementing similar programs will learn the specific actions to ensure Lean Six Sigma Deployment success and avoid the many pitfalls and traps that occur with new program introductions.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 - Provide Lean Six Sigma Leaders with a strategic rollout strategy for new process improvement introduction in greenfield sites (organizations that did not have process improvement)

2 - Learn key current state assessment tools including:

Organization; People; Process; Change Management; Tools; Data; Communication

3 - Apply critical tools for successful lean six sigma deployment including:

Governance (Senior Leadership through Project Champions); Project Identification; Black Belt Team Formation; Training; Project Throughput; Organizational Communication

1. **Topic: "Focus Groups: Understanding Culture Through Storyboards”**

**Presenter: Troy Tungate**

Industry Focus: General

Targeted Audience: Experienced Practitioner - 1 to 3 years of experience

Description: Focus groups are a method that uncovers the culture and employee vision for the future. Two person teams are guided through a process of creating current and future state storyboards using photos and images representing different feelings, emotions, challenges, accomplishments, etc. The teams create their storyboards and present to the group. The teams also develop thoughts on requirements necessary to reach future state. The storyboards and requirements are summarized and presented to senior leadership. This can be used to develop targeted interventions if the future state does not match leadership vision or if cultural issues are uncovered. This is a fun process that produces surprising cultural clarity and results. Prepare for tears, cheers, and a deeper understanding of your culture.

Objectives - the learner will:

1 - Understand how to facilitate focus groups

2 - Develop focus group summary for senior leadership

3 - Develop targeted intervention recommendations for culture change