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## **Dr. Abram Walton Shapes the Innovative Culture on the Space Coast**

*Walton recognized at the EDC's 2017 Annual Meeting.*

**Space Coast, FL (October 24, 2017)** – As the Space Coast's business community continues to fuel innovation and technological advancements, many key players work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure this ecosystem continues for generations to come. One key player, Dr. Abram Walton, Professor, College of Business at the Florida Institute of Technology, was awarded with the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast's (EDC) 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award, for his continuous contributions to the innovative culture here in Brevard County.

Dr. Walton, founding chairman of the EDC's innovation council, continues to be a significant contributor to the EDC's innovation-focused program of work, including the Technology Docking Program, a collaboration between the EDC and NASA, which helps local businesses solve a company-defined technology challenge. Also, Dr. Walton fueled the collaboration between the EDC and local high-tech incubator Groundswell Startups, leading to the successful Moonshot Innovation Series, which celebrates small high-tech start-ups in Brevard County, that capture the innovation and risk-taking spirit that led to man walking on the moon.

An active supporter of the EDC for several years, Dr. Walton is a leader on the Space Coast, keeping Brevard's innovation and entrepreneurial spirit thriving, attracting the talent needed to retain and grow area businesses.

"It's always an honor to recognize such a deserving individual," stated Lynda Weatherman, president and CEO of the EDC. "Beyond his contributions to the EDC's mission, Abram has provided unparalleled contributions to our community, securing the Space Coast's position as an innovation hub for years to come."

"I would just like to say thank you to Lynda Weatherman, Greg Weiner, and Elizabeth Huy from the EDC for their vision and support in helping to build a unique and successful innovation ecosystem," exclaimed Dr. Walton.



*Pictured: EDC Treasurer Joe Mayer presents Dr. Abram Walton with the EDC's 2017 Volunteer of the Year Award.*

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**About the Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast**

The Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast (EDC) is dedicated to attracting new business and investment and expanding existing industry throughout the Space Coast, influencing change on government laws and regulations affecting economic development, promoting the Space Coast to encourage new investment, supporting efforts of Space Coast military installations, and relaying new programs and procedures to assist manufacturing and high-tech companies. The EDC is a private, not-for-profit coalition whose stakeholders are business leaders committed to the economic growth and stability of Florida's Space Coast. Visit [www.SpaceCoastEDC.org](http://www.SpaceCoastEDC.org).