The Laboratory for Education and Application Prototypes facility at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) is open for innovation and collaboration.

LEAP@WPI/QCC, initially funded by a $4M grant from the Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (M2I2), was originally conceived as a pathway for Worcester to support the growing integrated photonics, rapid prototyping, and manufacturing sector in Massachusetts and provide an on-ramp to the national ecosystem. Today, it has grown to be part of the broader network of industry/academic/government stakeholders working together in multidisciplinary areas such as photonics for food safety, biomedical and chemical sensors, and quantum sensing.

Local Partnerships to Advance National Goals

LEAP@WPI/QCC is part of the national effort to advance 21st century manufacturing with the American Institute for Manufacturing (AIM) Photonics consortium. Strategic partnerships such as this, and synergies with several other Manufacturing USA institutes, accelerates the facility's ability to expand research, education opportunities, collaborative research and project work, and workforce development in the state.

A Facility with Open Access at the Forefront of New Ideas

The facility is open access through a pay-per-use service model. LEAP@WPI/QCC offers an Industry Affiliate tiered membership model of additional benefits, including the following:

- Discounted rates for use of laboratory and cleanroom facilities
- Opportunities to engage with experts at the forefront of integrated photonics and related technology sectors
- New distribution channels to promote company products and services
- Access to student talent (AS/BS/MS/PhD) to fulfill hiring needs and for project collaboration
Instrumentation and Capabilities for Advancing the Innovation Ecosystem

The facility leads the way for researchers and entrepreneurs to be part of the development of a rich ecosystem here in Central Massachusetts, including use of the following instrumentation:

- Testing and characterization facilities
- Software and design packages
- Wafer, die, and chip prototyping
- Photonic integrated circuit functionalization lab
- Nano 3D printing
- Multimedia classroom and teaching lab

How to Engage with Us

LEAP@WPI/QCC provides technical, manufacturing, and business development opportunities through sponsored research and cooperative agreements as well as consultation services for companies, universities, and government laboratories interested in entering the photonic integrated circuit ecosystem. The duration and complexity of the consultation can vary. The goal is to provide engagement opportunities as well as to problem-solve for organizations that are accelerating innovation in a testbed environment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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