CIT ANNOUNCES JUDGES, SPEAKERS, SPONSORS FOR NOVA EDU STARTUP WEEKEND
Panels include Secretary of Technology Jim Duffey, other leaders in technology-based economic development

May 29, 2012 (HERNDON, Va.) – The Center for Innovative Technology (CIT) announced today judges, speakers and additional sponsors for its NOVA EDU Startup Weekend event to be held June 1-3.

The following list includes leaders in Virginia's technology and innovation-based economic development arena:

Judges:
Jim Duffey, Virginia Secretary of Technology
Janet Yang, Partner at Novak Biddle Venture Partners
Tom Adams, Chairman, Rosetta Stone
Caton Burwell, Manager, QED Investors
Bobbi Kurshan, Fellow, Education Impact and Executive VP, Educorp Consultants Corporation
Tom Weithman, Vice President and Managing Director, CIT GAP Funds

Speakers:
Tom Adams, Chairman, Rosetta Stone
Richard Culatta, Deputy Director, Office of Educational Technology, U.S. Department of Education
Paul McGowan, Vice President and Managing Director, CIT Connect

Sponsors:
Platinum: Virginia Department of Education (VDOE), CIT and Microsoft
Contributing: CIT GAP funds, Charlottesville Business Innovation Council, Fredericksburg Chamber Innovation and Technology Council, Greater Richmond Technology Council, Hampton Roads Technology Council, Northern Virginia Technology Council (NVTC), Region 2000 Technology Council, Roanoke-Blacksburg Technology Council, Region 2000 Technology Council, Shenandoah Valley Technology Council, Southwestern Virginia Technology Council and The Entrepreneur Center at NVTC

CIT also announced the addition of Kristin D'Amore, Director of Entrepreneur Center at NVTC to the host committee.

NOVA EDU Startup Weekend is the kick-off event for the Apps4VA competition launched by CIT and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). It will bring together teachers, developers, designers, entrepreneurs and others to generate ideas, applications, and even start a business to improve the use of K-12 education data. It is the first Startup Weekend to focus exclusively on K-12 education data.

Startup Weekends are 54-hour events launched by the Kauffman Foundation to provide superior experiential education for technical and non-technical entrepreneurs. Over 45,000 entrepreneurs and 5,000 teams have participated in 468 Startup Weekends, with 190 more planned.

The Apps4VA program stems from a federal grant to create a Virginia Longitudinal Data System (VLDS) to provide educators and policymakers aggregated data on Virginia public school students' progress toward college and career readiness. It will encourage the development of new and innovative apps to improve education using VLDS data.

For more information on NOVA EDU Startup Weekend and to register, go to novaedu.startupweekend.org. To learn more about the Apps4VA program, please visit www.apps4va.org.

About the Center for Innovative Technology, www.cit.org
CIT is a nonprofit corporation that accelerates the next generation of technology and technology companies. CIT creates new technology companies through capital formation, market development and revenue generation services. To facilitate national innovation leadership and accelerate the rate of technology adoption, CIT creates partnerships between innovative technology start-up companies and advanced technology consumers. CIT's CAGE Code is 1UP71.

About CIT Connect, www.cit.org/programs/cit-connect
Recognizing a need in the marketplace, CIT Connect was established to help federal, state, and corporate consumers of technology identify and assimilate innovation. The CIT Connect service line delivers unique and innovative value-add solutions enabling technology consumption, adoption, and integration into organizations. CIT Connect's experts work with organizations to assess the spectrum of inputs into the development and implementation process, including stakeholders, corporate culture and policies, technology, and market environment.

About the Virginia Department of Education, www.doe.virginia.gov
The Virginia Department of Education provides support and guidance to the commonwealth's 132 public school divisions which, combined, educate approximately 1.2 million PK-12 students. The department administers regulations promulgated by the state Board of Education and supports the board in carrying out its responsibilities under state and federal education law.

###