

Speaker Bios - Innovate 22

(Panel 2)

Wayne Miller, Executive Director, The Venture Center

For entrepreneurs in financial technology, or fintech, Little Rock is in the big leagues of business accelerators. Preserving and enhancing that reputation is the role of Venture Center Executive Director Wayne Miller, a mission he has executed with aplomb. Miller, who came to the organization in 2017, oversaw the 2018 iteration of the nonprofit group's 12-week startup program including knitting together a coalition of mentors and support from Fortune 500 Fidelity Information Services, local business leaders and entrepreneurs.

From the success of the fintech accelerator, Miller negotiated a partnership with the Independent Community Bankers of America to launch the ICBA ThinkTECH Accelerator. That cohort, a first-of-its-kind community bank-focused fintech accelerator program, has the aim of helping community banks directly engage and partner with early stage fintech companies focusing exclusively on product development.

Prior to coming to Little Rock, Miller was CEO of Enovative Technologies, LLC, a private equity-backed medical device manufacturer in Bishopville, Md., and was COO of a \$45 million transportation and logistics company with more than 1000 vehicles, five facilities and staff of 1,500.

In all, he's worked with 12 startup technology companies in health care, cybersecurity, advertising, and internet consulting, as well as taught entrepreneurship as an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland. He attended the University of Pittsburgh and serves on a variety of boards of directors

Lindsey Leposke, National Bank Examiner/Innovation Officer, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC)- Office of Innovation

Lindsey Leposke is an Innovation Officer with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's Office of Innovation. She has served in this role since November 2020. As an Innovation Officer, Lindsey focuses on digital ledger technology, credit, fraud and bank-fintech partnerships. Additionally, she supports the Western District providing technical assistance to examiners and bankers.

Lindsey joined the OCC in 2010 as an Assistant National Bank Examiner in Los Angeles, CA and became commissioned as a National Bank Examiner in 2015. She has served as an Examiner-in-Charge (EIC) and Functional EIC within the midsize, community and international bank supervision portfolios and has experience working with bank-fintech partnerships. She also specializes in BSA/AML work and has her CAMS certification.

Lindsey graduated from Arizona State University in Tempe with a Bachelor of Science in economics and certificate in international business.

Eric Johnson, VP of Banking Northwest, Meriplex

Eric has over 25 years' experience in the Technology and Banking industry. Prior to joining Meriplex, he was the CIO and head of Information Security for River City Bank headquartered in Sacramento, CA. With his experience keeping data highly available and secure for the three-billion-dollar financial institution, Johnson possesses a wealth of knowledge and best practices to share with clients today in the financial space.

Matthew Smith, Director of Innovation Initiatives, Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT)

Matthew Smith is the Director of Innovation Initiatives for the Independent Bankers Association of Texas (IBAT). Matthew joined the IBAT team in 2022, following an eighteen-year career of strategic technology implementation in community banks in Texas and Oklahoma.

Matthew's experience provides him with a deep knowledge of IT infrastructure management, vendor management, process improvement and emerging financial technology. He is comfortable in the board room and in the server room, playing an important role in strategy development and deployment.

In his role at IBAT, Matthew is charged with the ongoing development of **Bankers Helping Bankers**, an initiative to connect bankers nationwide to navigate the changing landscape of financial services technology. He also serves as the staff leader of IBAT's emerging technology committee.