

**BIO SKETCH FOR ROBERT G. SNYDER, DIRECTOR
MACKLIN CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP
MONTGOMERY COLLEGE**

Robert Snyder has spent over 20 years supporting entrepreneurship in Montgomery County and Maryland. His career includes direct assistance to small, high growth firms and building the infrastructure of government and nonprofit organizations that support entrepreneurs. Before joining the Macklin Center, Snyder spent six years as a consultant helping high tech entrepreneurs develop business plans and obtain investment capital. His clients have been in the biotechnology, information technology and telecommunications sectors. From 1992-1994, Snyder was Director of the Baltimore-Washington chapter of the MIT Enterprise Forum, where he selected promising early stage high tech firms and organized expert panels to provide advice. He has been a business reviewer for the Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) program of the University of Maryland, and the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Recognizing that entrepreneurs need better opportunities for networking, financing, education and other support services, Snyder has devoted considerable effort in developing the region's organizational infrastructure to support entrepreneurs. In the 1980s, he helped establish the Montgomery County High Tech Council (now the Tech Council of Maryland). In the early 1990s, he served as the Vice President of the Tech Council where he organized industry networks and developed support programs for entrepreneurs. As a consultant, he conducted feasibility studies and developed business plans for three high tech and biotech incubators for Maryland jurisdictions. For each of these projects, Snyder provided specific workable solutions that supported each community's economic development needs.

Snyder has had a continuing interest in workforce development issues and higher education. He began his career serving as research staff on several studies of higher education and student finance needs for national commissions and boards, including the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council. While working for the Montgomery County Office of Economic Development in the late 1980s, he helped develop the campuses of Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland at Shady Grove. More recently, he examined workforce trends and education and training needs in the biosciences, with studies for the Baltimore Workforce Investment Board and the Montgomery Network of the Tech Council.

From 1998-2001, Snyder wrote the bi-weekly "Technology Watch" column in the *Washington Techway* magazine (a *Washington Post* publication), commenting on regional public policy issues, technology trends and infrastructure needs of the high tech industry. Snyder graduated from Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts with a B.A. in Political Science. He earned a Masters in Public Administration (M.P.A.) and a Ph.D. in Social Science (Policy Analysis), both from the Maxwell School, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.