



Title: Toothpick Factory©, the Simulation Game for Soft Skills

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 29, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Renaissance Austin Hotel

Cost: \$80

Description: The Toothpick Factory© is a hands-on activity, set in a manufacturing context, that stimulates discussion and awareness about a wide range of *soft skills* that are essential in today's work and personal relationships. Participants will be provided with an overview of soft skills and then given the opportunity to rehearse, become aware of, identify, and reflect on those skills while performing as part of a team. The facilitators will also lead a discussion on "classroom implementation" to allow participants to share ideas and ask questions about how to incorporate the Toothpick Factory© into current curriculum.

The workshop includes hands-on experience with the simulation, classroom implementation strategies, and case studies with examples from industry.

Takeaway: As part of the workshop, participants will receive the Toothpick Factory© starter kit. The starter kit will give participants the materials they need to bring the Toothpick Factory© back to their class or training room.

Presenter:



Marilyn Barger, Ph.D., P.E., is the Principal Investigator and Executive Director of the Florida Advanced Technological Education Center (FLATE), a NSF-ATE Regional Center of Manufacturing Education. She has been involved in curriculum development for B.S. and A.S. Engineering and Engineering Technology programs for over 15 years.