

## **Vermont Young Professional Economy Pitch**

### **April 21, 2015**

**Name of Organization:** SELF! O'Brien Shortle Reynolds & Sabotka / Rutland Young Professionals

**Name of Individual/s Presenting Pitch:** Gwen Flewelling

#### **Challenges Facing Vermont Businesses/Specific Sector:**

How to attract and retain young professionals in the area

-her company is understaffed

Common theme: in order to retain and attract, it must be affordable here

-student loan debt is crippling

"The Sandwich Generation" – need to buy a home, start a family and save for retirement

#### **Ideas/Suggestions to Rejuvenate Vermont's Economy:**

Student loan forgiveness or consolidation program

Expand student loan repayment terms?

-will still allow young people to save

Pay-as-you-go program based on percentage of salary

Tax incentives for businesses

#### **Other Challenges we must address:**

#### **Other Comments:**