



# INDIANA WORKS COUNCILS

## Region 5

### Region 5 Works Council

#### Minutes

July 27, 2015

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Ivy Tech Community College  
Illinois Fall Creek Center  
2535 N. Capitol Ave. Room 521  
Indianapolis, IN 46208

**Members Present:** Dave Dimmett, Leroy Robinson, Reginald McGregor, Dave Tucker, Randy Decker, John Newby, Bill Turner, Mark Fisher, Cindy Frey, Jim Tuerk, Nicole Elam

**Friends of Works Council Present:** Jeff Duell (GE Aviation), Shelley Ashley (Goodwill Education Initiatives), Betsy Delgado (Goodwill Education Initiatives), Jason Kloth (CICP), Stephanie Bothun (CICP), Tracey Everett (Conexus), Sally Bae (CICP), Alisa Deck (State Chamber), PJ McGrew (DWD), Amy Marsh (DWD), Lou Ann Baker (DWD), Marie Mackintosh (DWD), Tatum Miller (DWD)

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Council Chair Dave Shane called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and members and guests introduced themselves.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were provided in council handouts. William Turner moved that the minutes be approved, Dave Tucker seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.
- III. **Review**
  - a. **CTE Awareness Grant & Activities**
  - b. **Innovative Curriculum Grants & Activities**
    - i. Tracey Everett, workforce development specialist at Conexus gave an update of the Conexus Internship Program.
      - Students are paid \$9/hour for a 6-week internship.
      - Two cohort meetings to bring all students together (June 10 at Purdue West Lafayette and July 14<sup>th</sup> at Rolls Royce)
      - Developed Internship framework document.
      - Had 45 companies request interns. Had 203 students apply to be Conexus interns. Hired 84 interns by 31 companies across Region 4 & Region 5.
      - Did survey students at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> summit. 99% of students said it was their first logistics internship. 16% increase in likeliness for students to pursue a career in manufacturing

and logistics. 79% of students said their experience this summer impacted their plans after high school. Had positive experiences. Still collecting data from industry partners. 92% rated their candidate quality as strong and 100% thought it was a valid way to support their workforce needs. Likely or very likely to participate again.

**c. Employer-Student (Direct Connect)**

Bill Turner gave an update on behalf of the Direct Connect Committee. He mentioned that the group has only met once since the last Works Council meeting. They have decided to pause because it sounds like other organizations are currently working in this space and don't want to be duplicative. He mentioned wanting to connect with Brooke Huntington to get more involved in the Hire Up Initiative.

**d. Regional draft plan**

**IV. Look Forward**

**a. Plan elements**

**b. Ongoing actions**

- i. Amy Marsh, director of career readiness at the Department of Workforce Development gave an overview of the employability skills benchmarks. She mentioned that the department would love to discontinue the phrase "soft skills" because it is abstract and vague. DWD has merged a lot of different definitions of employability skills and wants to create a comprehensive list. The next step is to gather how regions are teaching and measuring each of these skills. Ms. Marsh asked the members to review and send feedback electronically to Tatum.

**c. Anticipation of possible funding for regional work**

- i. Marie Mackintosh- Award made to the General Assembly of \$48 million over the next two years. DWD is working to finalize how the money will be spent. Mr. Shane asked if we should find and identify pieces and places where we can begin working together to have the highest impact in the high-wage, high-demand areas? Pursuant to the draft of the Working Plan. CACP and the Chamber are on board to help us get some of this done. Are there any additions or deletions to the Working Plan?

**d. Actions to increase capacity**

- i. David Dimmett asked if there are employers in the region that would want to match grant dollars?

**e. Actions to increase understanding, awareness & connectivity**

**V. Other Business**

**VI. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.