



A NATIONAL DIALOGUE : The Secretary of Education's Commission on the Future of Higher Education

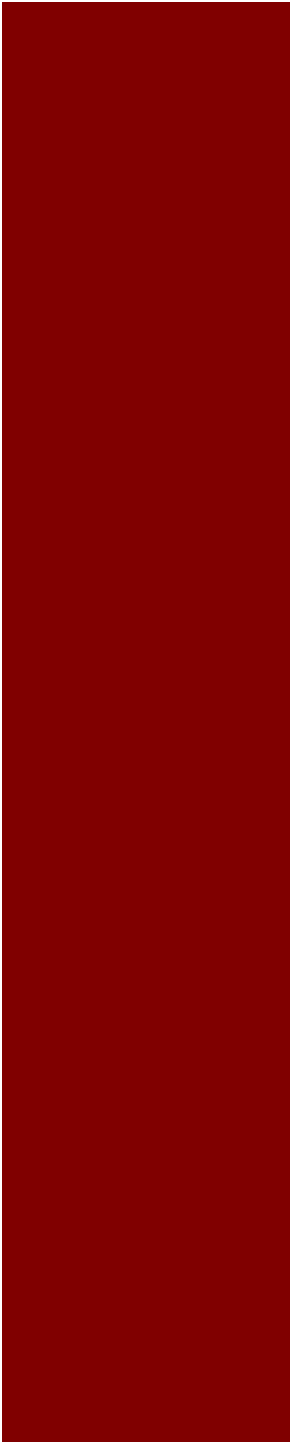
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Why Create the Commission?

- Concerns over our ability to compete globally and signs that the quality of our higher education system is slipping.
- The changing structure and delivery of higher education includes new types of educational institutions and the use of distance learning.
- The demand for increased accountability to government, consumers, and the general public is growing.
- Rising costs and reduced federal and state funding are pressuring higher education institutions to increase affordability and improve the value of and returns on higher education.



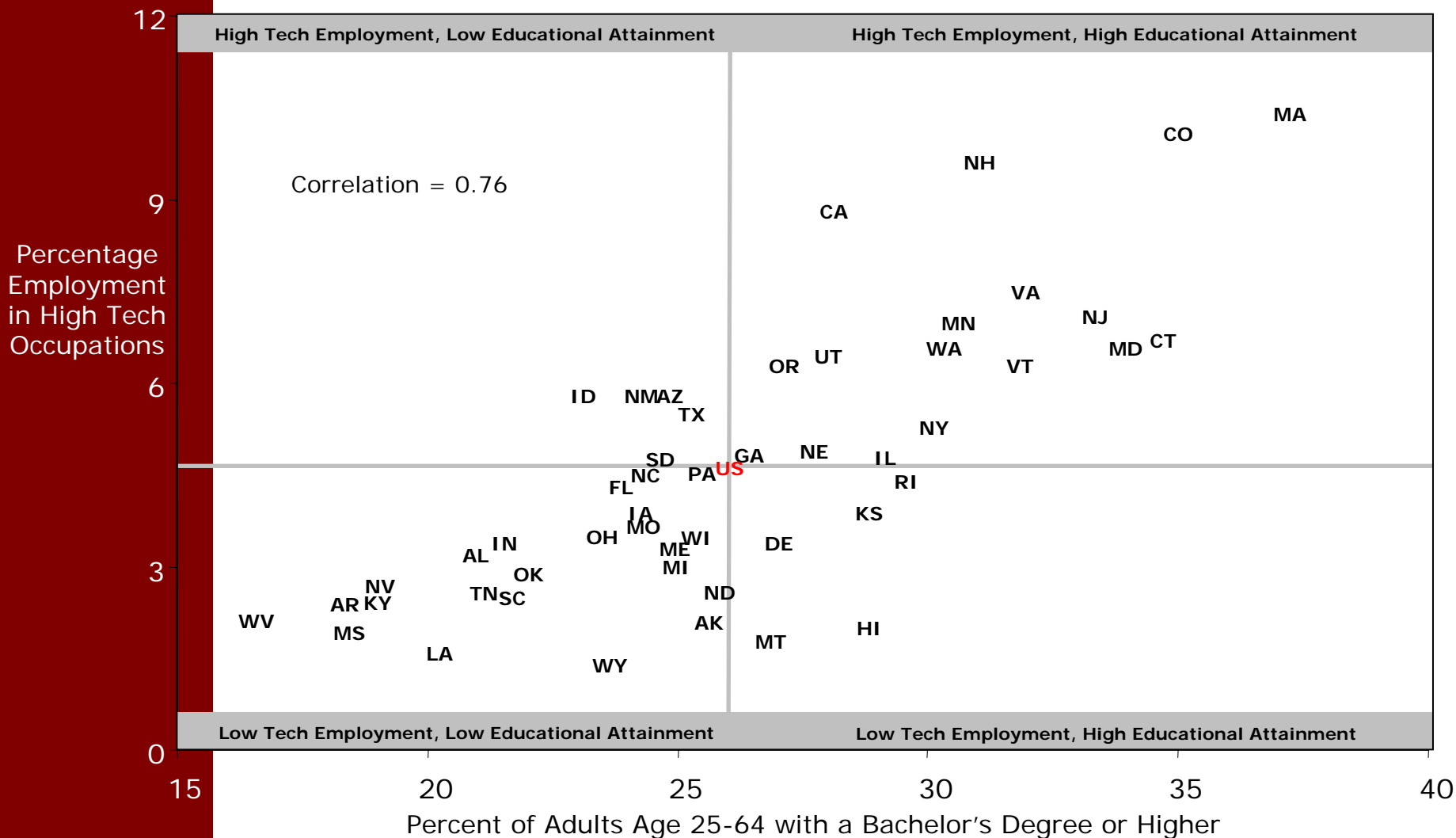
The Pace and Nature of Global Change

- The international economic playing field is now “more level” than it has ever been.
 - Easier access to technology
 - Rising technical competencies abroad
- Now affects every aspect of economy
- Creates a middle class in India and China and market for our products
- Standard of living, size of our middle class depends of increased attainment
- Double whammy of demographics

Can U.S. and Indiana Keep Up?

- By 2012, 40% of factory floor jobs will require some form of postsecondary education, as will 60% of new jobs and 90% of the fastest-growing jobs.
- Almost half of 17-year-olds are not proficient enough in math for factory floor jobs.
- Minorities comprise 12% of enrollment at public flagship universities, but 26% of all high school graduates and 24% of all college students.
- 324 accredited colleges in this country have 6-year graduation rates for African American and Hispanics that are lower than 30%.
- Indiana is 1 of 32 states that will need to dig deep into the adult population to remain competitive; 1.2 billion nationally without intermediate or advanced literacy skills.

Relationship Between Educational Attainment and High Tech Employment





Three Central Questions for Indiana

- Are you playing green to tee?
- Do you have the information you need?
- Are your resources targeted?



Access

- Commission Finding
 - Too few Americans prepare for, participate in, and complete higher education – especially those underserved and nontraditional groups who make up an ever-greater proportion of the population.



Access

- Commission Recommendation
 - The U.S. should commit to an unprecedented effort to expand higher education access and success by improving student preparation and persistence, addressing nonacademic barriers and providing significant increases in aid to low-income students



Access in Indiana

- Nationally-recognized progress on college readiness.
- Is your eye on first-year alignment? Adult access and success? Progress on transfer.
- Do you know the barriers to adult access? The institutions that are doing a better-than-predicted job at graduating students – and why?
- Are resources sufficient and targeted to increase completion rates?



Affordability

- Commission Findings
 - Our higher education financing system is increasingly dysfunctional. State subsidies are declining; tuition is rising; and cost per student is increasing faster than inflation or family income.

Affordability

- Commission Findings, Continued
 - The entire financial aid system – including federal, state, institutional, and private programs – is confusing, complex, inefficient, duplicative, and frequently does not direct aid to students who truly need it. Need-based financial aid is not keeping pace with rising tuition.



Affordability

- Commission Findings, Continued
 - Affordability is directly affected by a financing system that provides limited incentives for colleges and universities to take aggressive steps to improve efficiency and productivity.
 - Public concern about rising costs may ultimately contribute to the erosion of public confidence in higher education.

Affordability

- Commission Recommendations
 - To address the escalating cost of a college education and the fiscal realities affecting government's ability to finance higher education in the long run, we recommend that the entire student financial aid system be restructured and new incentives put in place to improve the measurement and management of costs and institutional productivity



Affordability in Indiana

- Decoding the Black Box for 21st Century Scholars
- Is your eye on simplifying aid for adult students?
Cost control?
- Do you know which programs are underperforming? Which processes have higher than average per student costs?
- Are there incentives for cost control?

Accountability

- Commission Findings
 - At a time when we need to be increasing the quality of learning outcomes and the economic value of a college education, there are disturbing signs that suggest we are moving in the opposite direction. As a result, the continued ability of American postsecondary institutions to produce informed and skilled citizens who are able to lead and compete in the 21st century global marketplace may soon be in question.



Accountability

- Commission Findings, Continued
 - There is inadequate transparency and accountability for measuring institutional performance, which is more and more necessary to maintaining public trust in higher education.



Accountability

- Commission Recommendations
 - We urge the creation of a robust culture of accountability and transparency throughout higher education. Every one of our goals, from improving access and affordability to enhancing quality and innovation, will be more easily achieved if higher education institutions embrace and implement serious accountability measures.

Accountability

- Commission Recommendations, Continued
 - *We recommend the creation of a consumer-friendly information database on higher education with useful, reliable information on institutions, coupled with a search engine to enable students, parents, policymakers and others to weigh and rank comparative institutional performance.*
 - *In addition to this new consumer-oriented database, more and better information on the quality and cost of higher education is needed by policymakers, researchers and the general public.*
 - *Postsecondary education institutions should measure and report meaningful student learning outcomes.*



Accountability in Indiana

- Is your eye on a few discrete goals? Do they reflect green to tee aspirations?
- How do you convey to the public what students have learned? How does this evidence impact decisions?
- Are there incentives for improved performance? Innovation?



Closing Thoughts

- Industry, cherished and unique, but one that must be focused on customers – students and the state of Indiana.
 - Elena and Gloria's story



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