**Networking Lunch Questions**

BENEFITS OF INTEGRATED CAREER EXPERIENCE

What are the main benefits of employer-educator partnerships for…

* Students?
* Employers?
* Colleges and Universities?

CHALLENGES WITH INTEGRATING CAREER EXPERIENCE

What are the challenges with forming these partnerships? Are they related to…

* Difficulty Finding Partners?
* Need to Change Status Quo (curriculum, org chart, etc.)?
* Existing Law or Policy?

NEXT STEPS

Identify three concrete steps that each of you at the table can take to help ensure that every student has a career experience before graduation.

**Reflection Questions with Gerry Dick**

1. I am a(n):
   1. College/university leader
   2. Faculty member
   3. Employer
   4. Community partner
   5. Policy maker
   6. Other
2. Every student should have a career-based experience before graduating.
   1. Agree
   2. Disagree
3. Only vote if you are NOT from a college or university: Recent college graduates are ready for the workforce.
   1. Yes
   2. No
   3. It Depends
4. Follow-up for the same group: When choosing whom to interview and/or hire, I give preference to candidates with relevant experience.
   1. Yes
   2. No
5. One more for this group: Project-based learning on campus and career experiences on-site with an employer are equally effective at getting graduates workforce-ready.
   1. Yes
   2. No
6. Now some questions for educators in the room: Students who have a career experience gain skills and/or knowledge that can’t be taught in a classroom.
   1. Yes
   2. No
7. Another for the educators: Whose responsibility is it to ensure that students have career experiences?
   1. The college/university
   2. The student
   3. The employer
   4. Other
8. Another for educators: Is it possible to change curriculum to embed career experience without extending time-to-degree?
   1. Yes
   2. No
9. What are the most critical “soft skills?” (*open-ended question*)
10. What is the best environment for students to gain soft skills?
    1. Classroom
    2. Workplace
    3. Home
    4. Other
11. I am willing to do something new/different to enable more students to have a career experience in college.
    1. Yes
    2. No
12. For those who said “yes” to the last question, what barriers do you face? (*open-ended question*)