



IIN All Hands Meeting Notes
April 17, 2019
11:00-3:00 p.m.
Illinois State University
Hancock Stadium Club

President Dietz of Illinois State University along with City of Normal, Mayor Koos, opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone.

Ed Seidel presented the State of the IIN with a PowerPoint presentation (attached as separate document)

Advocacy Planning Discussion – Jennifer Creasey

- Higher Education lacks a collective voice
 - Could lead to better state support and recognition
- Workforce development conference
 - Invite the state stakeholders
 - Make some decisions about organizing
- Illinois Prosper legislation
 - Attract new businesses and startups, partner with universities, internships for students at all universities
 - Could help entice students to stay in Illinois following graduation
- Capital conversation
 - There has been a lot of talk about a capital bill for the first time in 10 years
 - Vertical capital (buildings) that higher ed needs is being drowned out by the horizontal conversation about horizontal capital (roads/bridges)
 - Each university should have an advocacy game plan and strategy for reaching out to local legislators – Jennifer Creasey will work with schools to coordinate plans as related to IIN
- It was through local legislators that the initial appropriation occurred
- Legislators are starting to see the value of higher education working together
- This work can bleed into a bigger plan of letters to editors and calls to action

Suggestions from the attendees:

- It would be helpful to provide talking points so everyone says the same thing
 - Could create a shared resource where everyone can access them
 - Could we compile each university's economic impact for the state

- It would be helpful for everyone to know everyone else's economic impact so they can include those into talking points
 - Include local and statewide impact
 - the IIN website could link to half page description of each Hub that included this information
- Board of higher education did a report that \$2.8 billion economic impact
 - Per Jen the U of I contributes \$17B
 - Difficult to combine numbers because each study has different factors
- What is the additional amount we need to support all of the hub projects
 - \$35M was designated for the hubs
 - \$50M short
- First we need to make sure the \$500M is re-appropriated and distributed
- Second we can point out that this has been wildly successful and exceeded our expectations – and request additional funds
 - Highlight the ability of higher education to spur growth of the local economy
- Crain's reported that in order for DPI to get their money, U of I had to come up with their half
 - This is actually IIN funding
 - Are we all waiting for DPI to come up with their portion of the money?
 - U of I has made progress in matching
 - We will work with IIN Hubs to point out IIN progress and advocate to release funds
- Shovel ready projects – shouldn't lose sight of the fact that funding was already available for buildings
- Making sure legislators know what community partners support the local hubs have already secured is a critical talking point
- Part of the confusion between DPI and the IIN is in part due to DPI being the first one out of the gate. As other announcements are made, we hope people will start to understand the different hubs.
 - Need consistency about telling the difference between IIN/DPI
 - IIN has all the capacity – hubs are ready to go now – when we tell the story, we shouldn't leave the DPI out. DPI is the home base to work together in Chicago.
- Illinois Prosper update
 - Tax incentive program to attract new businesses and startups to partner with Illinois universities and community colleges
 - Waiting to get feedback from DCEO to see how this program overlays with existing programs and also feedback from the Governor's office
 - Illinois Prosper Coalition (Jen is forming this)
 - Illinois Chamber
 - Illinois Manufacturers Association
 - Local EDC groups
 - Hotel and hospitality associations
 - Illustrate how higher education can partner with businesses to drive economic development and workforce development
 - Want to position as the jobs bill that Illinois needs

ACTION: Jennifer will lead a group in creating a plan with talking points for May to get through the end of session

- Then work on a longer term advocacy plan in June after the budget session ends

Forefront – Sarah Tapscott

- How Forefront can partner with IIN
 - Collaboration, system, policy, workforce development
 - Philanthropy to the state government and how can Forefront be the liaison between nonprofits, universities, government
 - Collaboration with universities, faculty, and students and how this can help nonprofit sector

ACTION: Meeting in Springfield in May to continue discussions

ENGAGE – Maxine Brown

- Technology to link up classrooms throughout the IIN Hubs
- We have a plan in place to prototype this out
- Eventually open an RFP for vendors
- Deploy over time

ACTION: For those interested, we can organize another event to talk more about this. See link here for more information: <https://uofi.box.com/s/cw5ni5y7j0tm7tunsxyjq0y71mg31ac8>

Hub Introductions

- DPI (slides attached)
 - A common home to do things together; have an event; use it for collaboration
 - U of C and Northwestern are DPI partners but not members of the IIN, but we all come together at the DPI
 - We can think through what we would like to have in the DPI
 - Once the working group reports are in, we figure out how to incorporate the DPI
- Chicago State
 - Develop a center for new solutions for urban populations
 - Topic area is health and wellness
 - Sit on the far south side of the city
 - Use the center to bring together unique talents for research, training, and community and economic development
 - Collaborate in research and workforce development especially healthcare
 - Activities – coordination within institution; working groups across colleges to provide their expertise – looking for physicians to assist
 - Violence and trauma, urban agriculture and food deserts
 - Workforce development in healthcare
 - Partnerships that will enable them to leverage more resources into the south side of the city.

- Creating a position: Associate Provost of Innovation and Strategic Initiatives and the IIN will be one of their primary duties
- Activities:
 - Right now working on the initiatives and would like to partner with others
 - Sponsoring a conference this fall on addressing trauma and healing (focused on solutions)
- Eastern Illinois (slides attached)
 - East Central Illinois Hub
 - Partnered with Lake Land College
 - Hub centered around community sustainability
 - Four areas of concentration
 - Environment
 - Water quality, ecotourism, biological sciences and GIS
 - Creating a new Graduate program in sustainability
 - Economic development & entrepreneurship
 - Lakeland has an entrepreneurship program
 - Visualization of community
 - Broadband access
 - Healthcare access
 - Aging in place
 - Health and human services
 - Rural social systems
 - Long history of providing teacher education
 - Recently started a rural teacher development plan
 - New infrastructure
 - 12 innovation centers w/ 15 person conference room
 - Semi-immersive visualization wall
 - Home of their hub to generate partnerships once we have funding with the project
- Governors State
 - Establish a supply chain innovation center and business incubator to businesses in supply chain and logistics
 - This is a focus of their MBA program
 - Build out capacity and connecting with their community
 - Want stateside partners for expansion of programs
 - Prairie State Community College
 - Have strong ongoing partnerships with logistics companies – Canadian Rail for example
 - Provide employee training, testing, and managerial training
 - Business incubator for start-up in this sector and related industries
 - Interested in collaborating with UIUC for computing and data
- Illinois State University
 - Defining areas of specialization – community college, workforce development, and entrepreneurship in K-12
 - B-N has active innovation program in K-12
 - Interest in working with community college

- Create a makerspace and educational center that would be a path in for high school students and allow them to graduate into a start-up incubator
- Want to focus on capturing students early and helping them to see that Illinois is a place for collaboration
- Willing to host events and collaborate with others
- Another area they are looking at is a SMART city initiative
 - Conference of CIOs and were told they put the “no” in innovation but there are some trying to change that
 - Reach out to central IT and talk to them
 - Reaching out to Dell, CISCO, etc. – they are doing SMART City initiatives in big cities but not smaller cities
 - The hub would support the SMART City initiatives because the hubs have experience with things like managing grants that companies don’t
 - Crafting a data privacy policy – no outside private agency comes in at this point and in about six months get the Dells, Ciscos, etc into the conversation
 - Bloomberg ranked Illinois as #18 as one of the most innovative states
 - Emphasized that universities play a key role in the innovation
- University of Illinois Chicago
 - Handful of areas for their focus:
 - Health and wellness – Development of novel therapeutics
 - Data analytics and cybersecurity
 - Autonomous vehicles in urban area
 - Interested in working with everyone
 - One initiative that is ripe for collaboration (DIA)
 - Illinois Defense Network
 - Grant to better understand the state’s defense supply chain so manufactures can diversify revenue streams
 - Specific initiatives
 - University funded grant to seed projects in these areas
 - Investment firm (Deerfield) creating a company to commercialize UIC therapeutics
 - Capital projects –
 - Drug Discovery Pavilion
 - New innovation and engineering building
 - Expand Innovation Center
 - At innovation center, interdisciplinary projects would open up to students from other institutions
- University of Illinois Springfield
 - Innovate Springfield
 - Lack a lot of first generation entrepreneurs so this was a focus of Innovate Springfield
 - General entrepreneurship
 - Have a robust entrepreneur high school program
 - Helping their entrepreneurs; they need help and hope; there are mentoring opportunities across the network
 - Scale current partnership with Forefront across the network
 - Helping to build capacity of nonprofits in all of our communities
 - Using these hubs in a variety of ways to reach the nonprofits

- Faculty, research
 - Ex. Through innovate Springfield, an organization was about to close their doors and Forefront was able to pull together nonprofits and others to fund the organization
 - Ex. Workforce Development: Daycare centers are nonprofits and if they can't operate, the parents can't work
 - High school program that meets for an hour and a half
 - End of year, they have their own Shark Tank for students to pitch their efforts
 - Went from 20 applicants a year to 100
 - Will offer entrepreneurship programs in the high schools
 - Workshops over the summer for teachers to teach them how to teach entrepreneurship in their classes
 - Privately funded by businesses – providing seed money for students to create
 - 14 high schools
 - 50 mentors
 - They have a space to showcase the IIN and being close to the Capitol this could be beneficial
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
 - At Illinois we are broadly interested in collaboration, especially entrepreneurship
 - Collaborative opportunity through Experts database. Experts tool can be used to find experts at UIUC to collaborate with
 - As a specific project we are eager to collaborate on:
 - Computer Science and k-12 education in schools
 - Licensure program for undergrads who want to become a computer science teachers
 - We think CS education is integral to the IIN and many of the themes throughout the network
 - If CS students are prepared in k-12, they are more likely to get into colleges in Illinois and then stay in Illinois
 - Hosting statewide summit in Fall at UIUC; create a state plan for all kids to get CS training (don't want Illinois to continue to fall behind in this area)
 - Educational Psychology
 - Developing skills and competencies for students to be successful in college and career
- Northeastern Illinois University
 - Health and wellness
 - Grant from NSF – Northwestern & UIC - Chicago Cancer
 - Help folks in these areas in terms of equity and cancer education
 - Entrepreneurship and workforce development strengths (AARP is a partner)
 - Their twist is about people over 50 in their communities
 - Work for yourself over 50
 - Monthly seminars
 - 15-40 people
 - In neighborhoods that need the tax base to grow
 - After this, it's time to build this business and launch in 12 weeks

- Over summer will launch another cohort in Bronzeville
 - Existing neighborhood business
 - Students are the kids of these business
 - High growth cohorts for Mom and Pop businesses
- Peoria
 - Healthcare system leading the effort there
 - Engaged in a DPI project
 - Pilot program in downtown for autonomous vehicles
 - A group working with Extension on food and farming
 - OSF is engaged
 - Identified a building
 - Interested in a makerspace (could have discussions with ISU)
 - Tried to do a lot of community engagement
 - Had 50 people in the community trying to do a little visioning from the community for what they want to see in this hub and how to build these partnerships.....
 - Lessons learned from the former director of 1871
 - Happy to host at OSF, especially events around health care
- Rockford
 - In the realm of health and wellness
 - Developed to increase the number of physicians in downstate Illinois
 - Premier world health education program
 - 70% go back to rural Illinois and practice there
 - Expansion of rural health impact
 - Bring other health science programs to Rockford
 - Dentistry, OT, PT, MHA
 - Make it the premier teaching spot in rural health teaching
 - Increase impact in workforce development
 - Research in vaccine development and cancer, Shingrix vaccine and currently working on developing two vaccines, including a heartworm treatment for dogs
 - Improve the health and wellbeing of the community
- Southern Illinois University Carbondale
 - Illinois Food Entrepreneurship (IFRM)
 - Provide infrastructure for added food, Illinois fisheries on campus
 - Regional communities will be impacted
 - Increase public health
 - Provide training for new and emerging workforce
 - Collaboration:
 - Center for Innovation as a conduit and have local advisory council
 - Open to having conference activities and other events
- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
 - Serve southwest Illinois and 25 minutes from St. Louis
 - Wide diversity of communities that SIUE is an anchor for
 - Recognize there are missed opportunities
 - Growing entrepreneurship environment in St. Louis and start-ups

- Heard from stakeholders that they wanted partners in Illinois and not just STL
 - Center for Sustainable communities and entrepreneurship
 - Bring the assets of Illinois across the river
 - Bring to bear the talents of students, faculty, and staff
 - Strengths in food and water; some ag and computing in GIS
 - How do we create a home and a set of relationships that would allow these groups to collaborate differently – provides workforce training as well as research opportunities
 - One of the assets are their facilities and they have longstanding relationships with community college partners
 - Models they can build on with community colleges to serve the needs of the regions
 - Activities haven't been formal, the good news is that creating these initial conversations lead to research opportunities
 - New grant going to NSF that brought new players together and leveraged talents and build on community and corporate partnerships
 - Happy to host
 - Building apprenticeships programs and community college pathways
 - Have a successful community's model – corporate and community partners and students help solve challenges and would welcome partners here.
- Western Illinois University
 - Internally created an IIN steering committee
 - Center for Manufacturing and Entrepreneurial Excellence
 - Partnered with community colleges, US Army, Community College of Air Force
 - Advanced manufacturing
 - Illinois Institute of Rural Affairs won the Google impact award – bringing grocery stores to small communities
 - Would love to have the ability to connect with people doing work in related areas
 - Community and economic development 2.0 to these small towns
 - Many city governments and small businesses
 - Some don't have access to the internet
 - NSF grant to bring more broadband to universities and rural areas
 - Will provide training on how to use software and technology
 - PhD program in and is very interested in work in water and opportunities for students.
 - Partnership – environmental science - NIU
 - Northern Illinois University
 - Hub is the Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability
 - Community research
 - Food systems innovation
 - Environmental sciences and policy
 - Collaboration with UIC
 - Water resources management – looking to leverage their expertise
 - Climate change
 - Talking a lot with external partners
 - Started some conversations with local USGS site with 15 hydrologists
 - ComEd and American Water
 - These linkages will be important as we start to think about long term sustainability
 - Lined up firms to start working with one funding is available

- Development of a statewide agenda around water and policy development
 - IIN could support that agenda through research and innovation
 - Need a state or municipality opinion on the prediction on extreme weather events

IIN Research and Collaboration – Jerry Blazey (attached)

- Secured EDA grant – model of collaborating with research. Hired a director to develop a strategic plan. Believes there is a fit with IIN – currently developing a portal. Aligns with what NIUIs trying to do. Has spent time with University of Missouri system to develop this. University would like to be more involved for solutions to research challenges.
 - Pick one or two main research focuses that IIN can undertake together that focus on solving state-wide issues or addressing state-wide initiatives

Wrap up

- Thanks to all, especially ISU!!

ACTIONS

- Preparing talking points and an initial strategy plan for advocacy
 - Include economic impact numbers for all hubs
- For those interested, organize another event to talk more about ENGAGE and collaborative environments
- Finalize charges for working groups
- Explore potential partnership with Forefront
- Develop recommendations/strategies for promoting and supporting research collaboration
- Develop one or two topics for IIN wide research

Will see many of you at upcoming IIN Press Event and Council Meeting.

The IIN Team