



IIN Council Meeting
Thursday, January 23, 2020
1:00 – 3:00 PM

OSF Healthcare
Jump Trading, Simulation, and Education Center
1306 North Berkeley Avenue
Peoria, Illinois

Attendees:

Jerry Blazey, Ed Seidel, Kyle Harfst, Kandace Turner, Ben Taylor, Lori Pflugmacher, Bob Flider, Kristy Kuzmuk, TJ Augustine, Jennifer Creasey, Marissa Brewer, Teresa Johnston, Hanna Hinkle, Ryan Hendrickson, Leslie Roundtree, Mary Daniels, Mike Bedell, Kip McCoy, Joe Rives, Becky Paulsen, John Bauer, Rex Schaeffer, Chris Setti, Bruce Sommer, Laura Frerichs, John Vozenilek

Attendees on the phone:

Beth Cada, Denise Cobb, Lynn Andersen Lindberg, Jill Joe, Ryan Spain, Matt Bell, Matt McCarroll, Gary Kinsel, Jun Zhao

Welcome and Introductions

Ed Seidel, Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation from the University of Illinois welcomed the IIN Council and guests.

Gerald (Jerry) Blazey, Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships from Northern Illinois, and IIN Council Board Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Undergraduate Research Day at the State Capitol – Ben Taylor

IIN Undergraduate Research Day is scheduled for May 6, 2020. There will be three shifts scheduled during this time for the 12 hubs having undergraduate programs. Jennifer Creasey explained the draft resolution will contain a description of the IIN as part of the research day. A contact person for each school along with preferred time slot should be forwarded to Ben when scheduling the day.

Updates from Hubs

Illinois State University – John Bauer provided a summary of their university’s hub plans.

Ryan Spain of the Peoria Innovation Hub (host) also provided an overview of their hub plans. He offered an optional tour to those who attended at the end of the meeting.

Working Committee Updates

Jerry Blazey discussed the need for each committee to have a vice chair. After general discussion it was determined that each committee would appoint their own vice-chairs. This appointment will not require a council vote or change in bylaws. A summary of the working committees' activities and input is provided below.

Education and Workforce Development – Beth Cada, Chair (Kandace Turner, staff liaison)

- Currently working to schedule the next committee meeting. Kandace will forward dates to insure the most participation.
- Currently working on RFP for the future of work in Illinois report. This report will be made available to all Hubs. Following the RFP process and a firm is under contract they will work with each of the Hubs. Kandace will forward the “Future of Work” report from McKinsey
- Hubs were reminded to each nominate a community college partner as this will work well in future discussions. As Hubs located in the Chicago area interact with multiple community colleges, it was discussed to map the relationships with each Hub. Suggestions were made for a possible community college representative on the council or ask them to the committees and as a co-chair.

Entrepreneurship and Corporate Engagement – Bruce Sommer, Chair (Kyle Harfst, staff liaison)

- Best practices for Entrepreneurship Education – looking what everyone has and at what level. Working towards suggestions as to what we should have.
- Best practices for corporate engagement (Jisu Hong)
- High school entrepreneurship was one of the subcommittees mentioned
- Capital will always be an obstacle in early stage. What opportunities exist for a more formal network? Currently 97% of all investors are in Chicago, connecting early state groups more into the rural area, with a little more organization. Matt Bell offered his assistance.
- Ed Seidel offered that Illinois VENTURES is very interested in this activity. Looking to build more international venture capital opportunities. Some suggestions included creating a digital portal for opportunities and starting boot camps that bring IIN students from across the state to Chicago.

Public Policy – Ryan Spain, Chair (Ben Taylor, staff liaison)

- They have conducted their 2nd meeting.
- Currently identifying goals and tactics
- Joe Rives suggested creating a simple tag line or elevator speech for the IIN

Research and Collaboration – Ryan Hendrickson, Chair (Ed Seidel, Jerry Blazey liaisons)

- Class has been a success. It included 2 students from NIU, 4 from ISU, and 18 from EIU
- IIN now has a model for how to go about this.
- Supplemental funding guidelines were discussed
- There is a need for seed grant money
- Sustainability conference fall of 2020. Research conference in the afternoon. Working group focused on sustainability in the morning.

Financial Update

Advocacy Plan – Jennifer Creasey, Office of Governmental Relations, University of Illinois System

- Letters of support from each University President and/or Chancellor forwarded to the Governor.
- One letter signed by all the legislators of the Hub. Letter would be needed by March to have it mid-session.
- UI Advocacy Day is February 26. Suggested that for each university's lobby-day to have them work the IIN into their day.
- Possibility for Advocacy Committee in addition to Policy committee. Could take an afternoon to figure out actual next steps.
- Kyle Harfst will follow up to coordinate a single letter from ALL Hub Presidents.

Open Discussion

IIN Supplemental/Seed Funding – Kyle Harfst

- The University of Illinois System is contributing \$100,000 to this funding.
- Northern Illinois University will add an additional \$20,000. Bringing the total to \$120,000.
- The funding is not for capital but for operations.
- Proposals will be accepted between February 1 and April 1.
- Must include a minimum of two Hubs.
- Proposals will need to include a scope of work and budget.
- Matching funds are encouraged but are not required.

Scope of Work revisions, MOUs – Kyle Harfst and Kandace Turner

- Some Hub's scopes have changed
- Review of the original scopes and update the website to insure current information.
- Confirm all revised MOUs have necessary signatures

Illinois Science and Technology Coalition Voucher Program – Laura Frerichs and Jerry Blazey

- Discussed a proposed program encouraging collaboration between industry and higher education.

Frequency of IIN Council meetings

- Consensus of the group that the meetings continue on a bi-monthly schedule.
- Dates for the following year will be forwarded.
- Council/All Hands will continue with current pattern of occurrence.

Adjournment -

Ryan Hendrickson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Leslie Roundtree. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

Next Meeting: IIN All-Hands, March 26th Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Cobb,
IIN Secretary