



**IIN Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28, 2020**

Zoom Meeting Attendees: (34 participants)

Jerry Blazey	John Baur	Jennifer Creasey
Ed Seidel	Joe Rives	Marissa Brewer
Jay Walsh	Kip McCoy	Melanie Loots
Kyle Harfst	Leslie Roundtree	Nikolas Pfanner
Kandace Turner	Matt McCarroll	Angelica Alfaro
Ben Taylor	Matt Bell	Rex Schaeffer
Lori Pflugmacher	Annabelle Clarke	Kristy Kuzmuk
Beth Cada	Bill Jackson	Lynn Anderson Lindberg
Bruce Sommer	Michael Bedell	Robert Patino
Alex Stagnaro-Green	Ryan Hendrickson	Teresa Johnston
Denise Cobb	Susan Martinis	
Gary Kinsel	TJ Augustine	

Welcome and Introductions

Jerry Blazey, IIN Council Chair called the meeting to order and presented Ed Seidel with a departing gift.

Ed Seidel, departing Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation – made departing comments to the IIN Council. Ed introduced incoming interim Vice President Jay Walsh.

Jay Walsh, incoming Interim Vice President for Economic Development & Innovation, University of Illinois System office presented his introductory comments.

Updates from Hubs

Distillery Labs – Kip McCoy from OSF presented from slide deck and provided a summary on visioning and name change. Jerry: Online webinars, what does the participation look like? Launch successful with 100 participants.

Northern Illinois University – Jerry Blazey from NIU provided summary on their hub planning activities. Presented slide deck: NICCS, food systems, water management, climate change adaptation. Engage in basic and applied research in these three areas.

Concept design group meeting since December with group members from across the campus. Discussed plans for construction of a newbuilding for the center. Bringing DPI and IIN together.

Discovery Partners Institute – Matthew Bell presented on Tech Ready Illinois. Discussed tech labor development in IL. 60-70% of tech students leave the state after they finish their education. Training of the existing workforce, AI applications, transition into data. Making entry stage courses available. Potential to lead into a degree or advanced certification. Discussion of how to keep current workforce in the state. Developing the website www.techreadyillinois.com which was launched on day of meeting.

Bruce Sommer – UIS, Currently active in: social research technology, public policy research center, education workforce development, and a business incubator. Partnering with SIU Medicine. Looking for additional funding.

Matt McCarroll – SIU Carbondale. Currently active in setting up a brewing system, building a production facility to be used for brewing training and workforce development.

Susan Martinis: UIUC, Ramping up research for SIP. Increasing testing on campus up to 10,000 a day. Developing in-house antibody testing. Helped Carle Hospital in Urbana ramp up and become accredited. Testing and tracing has taken a huge amount of time and ready to ramp it up over the summer.

Working Committee Updates

Kyle Harfst updated that on May 18 a meeting of Working Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs and IIN staff was held. It was agreed to have monthly working committees and bi-monthly working group chairs meetings moving forward. Updates from the individual working committees are provided below.

Education and Workforce Development (Beth Cada, Kandace Turner) Established a monthly meeting. Focused in apprenticeship programs and webinars. Looking into apprenticeships as a possible replacement or alternative to internships. Other focus on how the hubs can develop pathways for students from high school to university and into the workforce.

Entrepreneurship & Corporate Engagement (Bruce Sommer, Kyle Harfst) Best practices in entrepreneurship education and corporate engagement. Requested council members to connect them with corporate engagement/entrepreneurship offices at their respective hub/university. Illinois Innovation voucher program on hold. Early stage investor program updates forthcoming. Using primarily local venture capital. Engaging students across Illinois and internationally for a bootcamp/hackathon for fall.

Public Policy (Ben Taylor) Scheduling conflicts, they haven't been able to meet recently. Exploring any different types of policy that has been put out recently. Looking to meet in the next couple of weeks.

Research & Collaboration (Ryan Hendrickson) Met on Tuesday May 26, Upcoming conference on sustainability. Will evaluate on July 1 to see if it still can be hosted due to COVID. If it cannot be organized this fall, planning will start for the spring. Grants that are in motion that will be coming to Kyle's office. June 30 is the 1st deadline for submissions \$100K and \$20K from NIU. Kyle recently contacted from Argonne and FermiLab to support IIN and the hubs within the hubs. Planning more webinars and luncheons. Interested in further partnerships. Last week in June. No date confirmed yet.

Capital Programs Update

Jennifer Creasey from U of I Government Relations to discussed reauthorization of DPI/IIN Capital funding. FY21 Budget passed which included all capital appropriations. All monies for DPI/IIN Hubs. They did break out the ISU Hub and Peoria Hub. Everything else is considered in the \$477M that went directly to DPI. Update on the budget, saw a flat budget. No budget cuts.

Jerry Blazey – Generating talking points for funding advocacy. Creating IIN newsletter.

Open Discussion

Sustaining Illinois Seed Funding

Seed funding program to the group and reminder that the deadline for proposal submissions will be June 30. \$120K, max is \$30K. At least 2 hubs must participate. Second round will be this fall.

Higher Education Post COVID-19

Bill Jackson updated on coordinating resources and workforce across the state for COVID-19 response. Increasing testing capacity from currently 23,400 to 150,000 tests a day. Looking into surveillance based tracing and the trend of very high percentage of COVID-19 deaths in long term care facilities.

Susan Martinis: What do we do to increase communication and cohesion throughout Illinois and between the hubs in the future.

Edward Seidel: Finding new areas of research that cross the IIN working groups. Creating a sustainable Illinois. What are the state's grand challenges?

Meeting Adjourned – Next Scheduled Zoom Meeting will be July 23 1:00 PM.