Workforce Learning Summit Innovation or Best Practice

Randolph Community College

Adding Workforce Development Leadership Position and Revamping Corporate and Continuing Education

The College’s new focus on workforce development has the overall goal of “closing the skills gap” between job applicants and jobs available today.

DETAILS

Despite our best efforts in corporate and continuing education, a job-skills gap remains for many of our citizens, and we needed to better align our workforce development resources. This area was important enough to the College’s ongoing success and Randolph County’s success that it was time to add a position at the vice president level.

The new vice president for workforce development and continuing education will be responsible for the development and implementation of innovative workforce development, continuing education, and personal professional development programs that will meet the current and future needs of Randolph County’s economic development and corporate communities in fulfillment of the College mission, strategic priorities and goals.

Implementation began in late May 2014 with the hiring of Elbert J. Lassiter as the Vice President for Workforce Development and Continuing Education.

Lassiter spoke briefly at the announcement that was attended by numerous Randolph County community and industry leaders, as well as RCC faculty and staff members. “This is indeed an exciting opportunity for me,” he said. “I’m excited about the key focus on workforce development. I’m excited about collaborating with economic development, the chamber, and city and state officials. Mostly, I’m excited for what this means for the citizens of Randolph County.”

Partner Type(s):
- Business/Industry (direct involvement)
- Economic Development

Impact/Outcomes
The person hired for this position was introduced to the College and the public on May 22 and began work on May 27 – too early to provide impacts and outcomes.

Funding Source(s)
N/A
REFLECTIONS

Innovation or Best Practice
Addressing the skills gap and aligning workforce development resources was important enough to the College’s ongoing success and Randolph County’s success to justify adding a workforce development position at the vice president level. This change has been extremely well received by our local businesses and industries.

RESOURCES

Workforce Learning Summit Presenters
Robert S. Shackleford Jr., President, Randolph Community College
Elbert J. Lassiter, Vice President for Workforce Development and Continuing Education, Randolph Community College
Fred Richey, Vice-President, Technimark
Doug Kemp, Vice-President, Klaussner Furniture Industries

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