

## Unique Corporate Training Consortium Successfully Launched

Over 130 representatives from local business organizations attended the launch of the South Central Indiana Corporate Training Partnership (SCICTP) at Ivy Tech State College on Wednesday, January 28. Also present were community leaders including Doris Sims, Region 10 Director for the Indiana Department of Commerce; Linda Williamson, president of the BEDC; Steve Howard, President of the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, and Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan.

Six months earlier in July 2003, a number of local businesses were invited by Ivy Tech to an executive briefing to discuss the development of a corporate training consortium. Ivy Tech's goal was to facilitate a "training network" or consortium that will serve the diverse training and development needs of the varied employer population of south central Indiana. Since the initial briefing, three executive briefings have been held and 19 area organizations have joined the consortium. The consortium elected to name itself the South Central Indiana Corporate Training Partnership (SCICTP) and has been operated as a pilot program until its launch.

The consortium is designed as a network of employers with common training needs and goals in mind. Participation in the network will allow organizations to maximize their training budget by sharing training expenses across the consortium without sacrificing training quality. Training topics already identified by the consortium range from tactical subject areas such as computer and management/supervisory skills to more complex needs such as leadership development, organizational effectiveness, and advanced manufacturing topics.

Said Ivy Tech Chancellor John Whikehart: "One of the goals of our comprehensive community college mission is responsiveness to the workforce development needs of our local communities. The consortium concept is a creative and collaborative solution to the training issues our corporate partners face in a tighter economy."

Businesses committed to the consortium thus far include Baxter Pharmaceutical Solutions LLC, Boston Scientific, Carlisle, City Of Bloomington, Heitink Veneers, InterArt Distribution, IU Credit Union, Mirwec Film Company, Monroe Bank, Old National Bank, Otis Elevator Company, Pliant Corporation, Printpack, PTS



Chris Schrader, Vice President for Human Resources at InterArt Distribution, introduces the consortium concept to local business employers at the launch of the South Central Indiana Corporate Training Partnership on Wednesday, January 28 at Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington. Although in its infancy, this corporate training consortium already has 19 members.

Electronics, Sabin Corporation, Stone Belt, Tree of Life Midwest, TASUS Corporation, and Visteon Systems LLC. Companies from all industries, of any size, located in south central Indiana, are invited to join the consortium to consider this convenient and cost-effective training option.

Says Jim Heinzen, Executive Director for Ivy Tech's Corporate & Continuing Education Services (CCES) division: "The Corporate Training Consortium represents a departure from the traditional method of training that CCES offers local companies. Whereas in the past a training coordinator set up one class for one employer in hopes that it would make enrollment, the consortium virtually guarantees a full class that is economical for the participating companies as well as the College."

Doris Sims, Region 10 Director for the Indiana Department of Commerce and featured speaker at the consortium launch, praised the consortium idea. "The Indiana Department of Commerce recognizes how vital a trained workforce is to the efficient operation

of a business. The consortium will allow local businesses to maximize their resources to invest in their most important commodity, its workforce."

In addition, Linda Williamson, President of the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation stated: "Life long learning is such an important component of today's work environment and the opportunity for local companies to work jointly to provide training and learning opportunities for their employees is a tremendous asset for the Monroe County area and beyond. Ivy Tech State College provides affordable and accessible classes, timely assistance to companies, and excellent results for students."

Other benefits to the network training approach include: localized training, broad range of training options, providing employees opportunities to continually update their professional skills, flexibility of course scheduling, opportunities for greater goodwill between employers and the community, greater employer recognition, and advancement of the local community in delivering a highly skilled workforce. "This is a much needed training and development solution for this community. The ability to provide cost-effective, quality training for the incumbent workforce of south central Indiana is critical to the overall success of the economic development of the region we serve," said Whikehart.

Organizations wishing to find out more about the training consortium concept, or to join its membership, should contact Ryan Bass, Corporate Training Coordinator at Ivy Tech at (812) 330-6040 or email [rbass@ivytech.edu](mailto:rbass@ivytech.edu). More information about the consortium, including a presentation on the concept, operating guidelines, the spring class schedule, and pricing schedules, can be found by clicking the SCICTP icon on the Ivy Tech website home page ([www.ivytech.edu/Bloomington](http://www.ivytech.edu/Bloomington)).

## Current Consortium Membership



## Growth Continues

Enrollment at Ivy Tech-Bloomington continues to increase. Over 3,300 students enrolled for the Spring 2004 semester, which represents a 5.1% increase over last spring. Nine out of Ivy Tech's 14 academic programs showed increases and six of these showed record enrollments. The programs receiving record enrollments include relatively new programs such as Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, General Studies, and Paramedic Science.

The region expects increased enrollments in the future with the addition of new programs such as the two-year Biotechnology degree that was recently approved by the Commission of Higher Education. Funding for this program was received through the Lilly Endowment, which awarded Ivy Tech State College a \$2.5 million grant to start a new Biotechnology associate's degree program at six campuses this year, including Bloomington.

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held for Ivy Tech-Crestmont Outreach Program

The announcement of a new partnership between Ivy Tech and the Bloomington Housing Authority (BHA) Resident Council on November 12 last year marked the active strategy on Ivy Tech's part to deliver education directly to certain communities. This outreach project, named the "Fresh Start to College" program, will give the residents of Crestmont, a lower-income area, the chance to explore higher education opportunities.

A ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the project and the start of the first day of classes was held on Monday, January 12 at the Crestmont Community Center. Speakers included Congressman Baron Hill, Mayor Mark Kruzan, Ivy Tech Chancellor John Whikehart, and BHA Resident Council President Kevin White.

"Our regional mission is to be a comprehensive community college. As accessible as education is at Ivy Tech, we must recognize a need to reach out to our local community to make the dream of higher education a reality for all the constituencies we serve. Our goals - focus on the individual learner, responsiveness to workforce development, truly seamless educational opportunities, and community service - all converge in our partnership at Crestmont," said Whikehart.

The "Fresh Start to College" program offers a free introductory Ivy Tech class at the Crestmont Community Building from January 12 through March 5, 2004. Enrollment is on a first-come, first-served basis. Currently 12 students, the capacity to fill a class, signed up and are taking classes. The almost \$300 tuition cost of the course, as well as books and supplies, is being paid by the college through scholarships.

The course is described as introducing new college students to Ivy Tech and the partnership is a grassroots, community-based learning initiative to assist students in obtaining skills necessary to reach their educational, career and life objectives.

Classes will be offered on computer and study skills, community resources, library resources, learning strategies and financial management. Students will be taught how to navigate the college landscape and will visit the Ivy Tech building on State Road 48 West for a special tour of their local community college.

"I am encouraged as well as energized by this partnership. It represents the genesis of revitalization for the public housing community and the westside of Bloomington. We are honored to be the catalyst and advocates of change for our constituency," said Kevin White.

While other Crestmont classes may be offered in the future, the purpose of this class is to expose Crestmont residents to the benefits of education and encourage students to consider longer-term educational options. With an education to empower them, these Crestmont residents will be better equipped to improve their life circumstances.

"Ivy Tech and the Bloomington Housing Authority are building a stronger community," said Mayor Mark Kruzan. "The 'Fresh Start to College' program is not only an educational opportunity for an individual, it's an empowerment opportunity for the whole community."



Bloomington Mayor Mark Kruzan (extreme left), BHA Resident Council President Kevin White (second left) and Ivy Tech Chancellor John Whikehart (right) assist eighty-year old Mary F. Harris, a longtime resident council leader, cut the ribbon at the ceremony to officially open the training site.

### VITA at Crestmont

VITA is a program administered by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to give low to moderate-income taxpayers an opportunity to receive free tax information and assistance in filing their tax return. The Accounting Program at Ivy Tech-Bloomington is currently sponsoring a VITA center and will be expanding this service to Crestmont on February 21 and 28. Questions about the VITA program should be directed to Steve Englert at (812) 330-6108 (email [senglert@ivytech.edu](mailto:senglert@ivytech.edu)) or Roy Elkes at (812) 330-6246 (email [relkes@ivytech.edu](mailto:relkes@ivytech.edu)).

## 2004 Summer College for Kids Program Announced

For three weeks in June, the average age of students attending classes at Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington will drop dramatically! Through its office of Corporate and Continuing Education Services, Ivy Tech will bring three different one-week camps to area middle school students. The College for Kids program runs from June 14 through June 27 and course titles will include: Definitely Digital, Model Rocketry, Teen Cuisine, Design Fun with SolidWorks, Forensic Science, Website Savvy, Radical Robots, Certainly Ceramics, Bling! Bling! (jewelry-making), GigaGraphics, Cartooning, Chemistry Concoctions, Computer Software Games, and The Great Balloon Adventure. Campers will spend the morning at Ivy Tech and the afternoon participating in Monroe County YMCA activities.

Many sixth, seventh and eighth graders attend these classes because they are not typical school classes. Each course combines instruction with hands-on experience, and is designed to be fun! "The kids really liked being able to attend the classes at Ivy Tech in the morning and have some physical activity at the YMCA in the afternoon," says Shelley Sallee, the Youth Family Camp Director at the YMCA. "Our motto is to create programs that create a healthy mind, body and spirit, and College for Kids does just that."

For more information about the College for Kids program, call Janet Wingard at (812) 330-6004 or email [jwingard@ivytech.edu](mailto:jwingard@ivytech.edu) or click on the College for Kids icon on the Ivy Tech website home page ([www.ivytech.edu/Bloomington](http://www.ivytech.edu/Bloomington)).



In total, eighty-six students attended the 2003 summer session of College for Kids. The 2004 session also promises a broad range of classes that will suit the varied tastes of teenagers.

### Parents and Kids Workshops

On the afternoon of Saturday, January 24, parents and kids joined forces to cook a gourmet pasta meal or make jewelry together. This opportunity for parents and children to learn and spend quality time together is made possible through the Monroe County CAPE Kids Count Community Grant secured by Ivy Tech. More classes for parents and kids are scheduled for Saturday, February 28, (choose from Awesome Omelets and Forensic Science) and Saturday, April 17 (choose from Vegetable Sculptures or Chemistry Concoctions). Saturday classes take place from 1:00-3:00 p.m. and scholarships are available through the Kids Count grant. For more information, or to enroll in these upcoming classes, contact Janet Wingard at (812) 330-6004 or email [jwingard@ivytech.edu](mailto:jwingard@ivytech.edu).

**Left Photo:** (Left to right) Instructor Pat Knoff-Vincent and student John Waldon create pieces of jewelry in the "Just Jewelry" class. **Middle Photo:** (Left to right) Student Blake Hoff, Chef Matt O'Neill from the Bloomington Cooking School, and student (and sous-chef) Haley Deckard pause for the camera during their pasta making activity. **Right Photo:** (Left to right) Student Landon Hart, and mother and daughter team Lauren Bryant and Jessie, practice pasta making techniques.



## College Goal Sunday

Filling out financial aid paperwork can be complicated and time-consuming, but College Goal Sunday makes it easy. College Goal Sunday is a program that helps college-bound Indiana students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by providing on-site help from financial aid experts. Professional staff from Ivy Tech State College and Indiana University will be on hand to help families complete the application process. Most colleges, universities and vocational/technical schools in the nation require students seeking federal financial aid, including grants and loans, to complete the FAFSA. FAFSA forms must be received by the federal processor on or before March 10 to be considered for state aid. Twenty-first Century Scholars must complete and submit a FAFSA form to claim their Twenty-first Century Scholarships. College Goal Sunday will help all college-bound students, including Twenty-first Century Scholars, complete the FAFSA properly.

College Goal Sunday 2004 will take place at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 8, at Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington campus at 200 Daniels Way on the westside of Bloomington. The program will begin promptly at 2 p.m. and close by 4 p.m.

Students 23 years of age or younger are advised to attend with a parent or guardian and bring their completed IRS 2003 1040 tax return, W-2 Form, or other 2003 income and benefits information. Students who attend without a parent are requested to bring their parents' completed 1040 tax returns, W-2 Forms, or other 2003 income and benefits information.

Students who attend any of the College Goal Sunday sites and submit a completed evaluation form will automatically be entered in a drawing for an educational prize. Three educational prizes, worth \$300 each, will be awarded statewide - one for northern Indiana, one for central Indiana and one for southern Indiana. The winners will be notified in March; prizes will be sent directly to the higher education institutions selected by winning students.

To learn more about College Goal Sunday or for answers to your specific financial aid questions, call the Indiana Career and Postsecondary Advancement Center (ICPAC) Hotline toll-free at 1-800-992-2076. Families needing assistance from a Spanish interpreter, sign language interpreter, or who may have other special needs should call 1-800-992-2076 to report which site you will attend.

Now in its 15th year, College Goal Sunday is a charitable collaboration involving the Indiana Student Financial Aid Association (ISFAA), in cooperation with the Indiana Career and Postsecondary Advancement Center (ICPAC), the State Student Assistance Commission of Indiana (SSACI), and the Twenty-first Century Scholars program. College Goal Sunday is co-funded by Lilly Endowment Inc., Lumina Foundation for Education and USA Funds, three Indiana-based non-profit organizations with a particular interest in higher education.