Meet Ivy Tech’s Director of Civic Engagement

Earlier this year, John Zody became Ivy Tech’s Director of Civic Engagement. This is a new position for Bloomington and the only position of its type throughout the Ivy Tech system.

In his new role, Zody is responsible for the college’s Center for Civic Engagement. He works with the community to develop service learning and volunteer programs that can be incorporated into Ivy Tech’s academic programs.

Zody brings a wealth of experience to the newly created position, including several years of public service. Prior to his employment at Ivy Tech, he served as Deputy Communications Director for Governors Frank O’Bannon and Joe Kernan. He also served as a Community Development Program Manager with the Indiana Department of Commerce.

Zody currently serves on the City of Bloomington Board of Zoning Appeals, the Community Development Block Grant social services advisory committee and the Indiana YMCA Youth & Government Advisory Board. He is also a member of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and a Leadership Bloomington/Monroe County graduate. Zody graduated from Indiana University-Bloomington with a bachelor’s degree in Public Affairs.

Ivy Tech’s Center for Civic Engagement was developed to meet the college’s goal to model a service oriented learning environment. The Center for Civic Engagement promotes facilitation of community involvement, volunteerism and service learning among its students, faculty and staff. To learn more about the Center for Civic Engagement, please visit http://thecenter.ivytech.edu/.
From the image, here is a possible representation of the content as text:

**LOCAL CANDIDATE FORUMS**

Judge, Sheriff & Prosecutor
Thursday, October 5, 2006
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
County Commissioner, County Council, County Recorder & State Representative
Wednesday, October 18, 2006
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
MCCSC School Board
Tuesday, October 24, 2006
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

**Remnant Trust Symposium**


Symposium attendees included students, staff and members of the public. Those in attendance were able to actually touch a piece of history as well as attend the presentations and panel discussions.

The next presenter was Dr. Oyadabe Oyerinde, former adjunct instructor at Ivy Tech and a native of Nigeria. He discussed the importance of understanding De Tocqueville’s work as it relates to the early national period of the United States.

Reverend Hardin addressed the abolitionist movement in America. During his presentation, Reverend Hardin took on the role of Frederick Douglass, as an interactive way to introduce attendees to the slave who escaped to freedom and joined the abolitionist movement.

The “Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass” is currently on display as part of the Remnant Trust exhibit featuring original and 1st edition works.

Remnant Trust exhibit is on display through December at the Ivy Tech-Bloomington campus. The exhibit is open during normal business hours.

**The Center for Civic Engagement Launches New Website**

Ivy Tech’s Center for Civic Engagement launched its new website, a resource for individuals looking to volunteer, for nonprofit organizations looking for volunteers and for information about service learning projects at Ivy Tech.

Chancellor John Whikehart made the announcement about the new website during the Center for Civic Engagement’s Community Connections event.

The website, thecenter@ivytech.edu was designed by Ivy Tech’s Webmaster Daniel McDeavitt with support from the Director of Civic Engagement.

“The first place many people turn now for information is the internet,” said Director of Civic Engagement John Zody. “We wanted to provide more information about our civic engagement efforts to our students, faculty and the community.”

The website includes links to other resources like the City of Bloomington’s Volunteer Network, Indiana Campus Compact and the Corporation for National and Community Service. The site also provides the following:

- information about the center
- news (media releases/articles)
- an events calendar
- “The Rally Call” (Ivy Tech’s monthly e-newsletter)
- service opportunities

This website will help the Center for Civic Engagement become a central hub regarding community service and volunteering.

**Community Connections**

More than 150 students attended the Fourth Annual Community Connections sponsored by Ivy Tech’s Center for Civic Engagement on Thursday, September 21. More than 40 local nonprofit agencies and group representatives set up booths and distributed information during the event held in the Hoosier-Times Student Commons.

The goal of the Community Connections event is to expose Ivy Tech students to the wealth of services and volunteer opportunities available through the regional nonprofit community in South Central Indiana.

“With the help of dozens of community partner agencies, our nearly 4,600 students on the Bloomington campus learn how to access services and opportunities,” said Chancellor John Whikehart. "Hosting an event such as Community Connections works toward meeting our campus civic engagement goal by giving something back.”

Beverly Calendar-Anderson, City of Bloomington’s Safe and Civil City Director spoke about organizing a grassroots group or community campaign during the event’s first breakout session. During the second breakout session returned Peace Corps Volunteers, Brett Kuhnert and David Mitchell, spoke about their experiences in the North-African nation of Morocco and the Central Asian country of Kyrgyzstan.

**In the News**

Ivy Tech - Bloomington was recognized last year as the 17th fastest growing campus of community colleges our size in the nation. By visiting this page, you will learn more about the mission of the Center for Civic Engagement.

**Students learn about community resources at Community Connections.**