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The Great Lakes Regional Training Initiative is a collaboration spearheaded by the University Centers in the six-state area of the Chicago Economic Development Administration region.



This edition of the collaborative newsletter is filled with many ways to learn. Find Upcoming Events and Webinars as well as recordings of presentations you may have missed. Contact information for each of the University Centers can also be found below.

Announcing our Webinar Series

Past Webinars

Two webinars have been held as part of this collaborative training effort. Recordings or materials are available for each at the links indicated.

February - 2015

Tipping Points and Indicators, hosted by Purdue University, is a complete decision-making support system for watershed planning groups. It is designed to help develop sustainable, watershed-specific land use strategies, protect natural resources, enhance local economies. Tipping Points uses cutting-edge interactive maps and tools to encourage community participation. For more information, go to <http://tippingpointplanner.org/>.

March - 2015

Establishing an Entrepreneurial Friendly Region, hosted by Michigan State University Center for Regional Economic Innovation, was held on April 2.

Beginning with national and international frameworks for assessing entrepreneurial ecosystems, the presenters described the role of *scale* and *setting* in determining the infrastructure and service needs of entrepreneurial practitioners. They also shared some on-the-ground examples of innovative EDA funded work to help viewers facilitate and guide entrepreneurial growth in their regions. View the webinar [here](#). Visit the [REI website](#) for more information about upcoming events.

This webinar examined the elements of entrepreneurship ecosystems and provided insights into specific elements that are of interest to the Great Lakes region.

Future Webinars

Watch for these upcoming webinars - details are being finalized.

September 2015 - Boom/Bust Economies

Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs will conduct a webinar to focus on the economic impacts of extractive industries and discuss how communities can better manage the boom and mitigate the bust of these economic cycles. The focus will be both on local communities that are in the middle of the boom and those that are transitioning from coal or other resource dependent economies.

September 2015 - The Commons: Advancing Regional Entrepreneurship

The University of Wisconsin will host this webinar to share how The Commons has become an "entrepreneurial skills accelerator" for the students of Southeast Wisconsin's colleges and universities. The Commons is a widespread collaboration between the region's academic, entrepreneurial and business communities to attract, develop and retain the brightest minds in the region.

Upcoming Events

Illinois

Fifth Annual Midwest Engineering Entrepreneurship Network (MEEN)

July 22-23, 2015
Purdue University
[More information](#)

Indiana

Strategic Doing Certification/Practitioner training

August 11-13, 2015
West Lafayette, IN
For more information, contact
strategicdoing@purdue.edu

Michigan

Fourth Annual Innovate Michigan! Summit

September 10, 2015
Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

2015 EDA University Center Showcase - presentations now available

On April 21-22, the University Centers of Ohio, Bowling Green State University, Ohio University, and Cleveland State University, hosted the 2015 EDA University Center Showcase at Cleveland State's Levin College of Urban Affairs in Cleveland, Ohio.

Each of the University Centers presented on current projects. There were also panel discussions on the Role of Manufacturing in Local Economies, the Midwest Workforce, and Ten Fundamentals of Economic Development.

Presentations at the Showcase were videotaped and can be viewed [here](#).

Visit the Great Lakes Regional Training Initiative Website!

Be sure to check out the regional website:
edaucgreatlakes.org

[Register Here](#)

You will find information about the University Centers and gain access to a resource library of the programs and research being completed by the University Centers. **Visit us** and bookmark our page for future reference. Be sure to check out the resources tab.

What is the Role of University Centers?

The EDA-supported University Center (UC) program is specifically designed to marshal the colleges and universities' resources, such as specialized research, outreach, technology transfer, commercialization capabilities, as well as recognized faculty expertise and sophisticated laboratories, to support regional economic development strategies in regions of chronic and acute economic distress.

Most UCs focus their efforts on assisting units of local governments and nonprofit organizations in planning and implementing regional economic development strategies and projects. Typical actions provided by the UCs include targeted commercialization of research, workforce development, business counseling services, helping local organizations with conducting preliminary feasibility studies, supplying and analyzing data, and convening customized seminars and workshops.

Contact the University Centers

Illinois

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign
[Visit Our Website](#)

Indiana

Purdue Center for Regional Development
[Visit Our Website](#)

Michigan

Michigan State University's Center for Regional Economic Innovation
[Visit Our Website](#)

Minnesota

The EDA Center at the University of Minnesota, Crookston
[Visit Our Website](#)

Ohio

Center for Regional Development:
Bowling Green State University
[Visit Our Website](#)

Center for Economic Development: Cleveland State University
[Visit Our Website](#)

Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs: Ohio University
[Visit Our Website](#)

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Center for Commercialization Resources
[Visit Our Website](#)

Our goal is to identify the training needs of our communities and offer solutions
If there are any comments or suggestions, please let us know.

Contact Peggy Hosea at phosea@purdue.edu

(The Purdue Center for Regional Development acts as the coordinator for this multi-university EDA initiative)

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