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## **Advisory Board for Workforce Development**

## **Annual Report 2019-2020**

The Advisory Board for the Office of Workforce Development consists of representation from all of the colleges and includes key stakeholders from areas of the University such as Career Services, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and Institutional Advancement. The members serve as advisory to the Dean of University College. The Dean of University College has been charged by the Provost to coordinate workforce development activities across the University. Additionally, the Advisory Board provides updates on local, regional and state opportunities to advance the University’s workforce development initiatives.

For fall 2019, the Advisory Board addressed the following:

* Identifying opportunities to build collaboration across colleges and divisions of the University along with business and industry partners - College of Engineering, College of Business and Innovation and University College along with Career and Technical Education in the Judith Herb College of Education, Career Services, UT Family Business Center, Greater Northwest Ohio Career Tech Prep, the LaunchPad Incubation including its digital media creation, community relations, outreach, and event planning, Minority Business Development Center (MBDC) and the Minority Business Assistance Center (MBAC) Program - continue to offer initiatives designed to support the university’s mission to increase the educational attainment of the local workforce and to create opportunities to strengthen Northwest Ohio’s economy; and
* Jointly share information, resources, marketing and funding opportunities to widen involvement across the University.

With the opening of spring term 2020, and then the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic, Advisory members transitioned their efforts from the traditional face to face activities to remote meetings, trainings and conference-like activities. Although the initial transition to the remote work environment with the colleges was viewed as labor-intensive, the Advisor Board members agreed that the transition to remote access offered new opportunities to work and build partnerships in their respective areas. There was consensus agreement that the involvement with workforce partnerships remained strong during the transition to remote access.

Advisory Board members were introduced to the state of Ohio’s newly initiated [*TechCred Program*](https://techcred.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/techcred/home)  designed to support [Ohio’s Workforce Regions](https://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/pdf/pdf-forms/WIOAPL1603ATTACHA.PDF). Ohio's *TechCred* Program gives businesses the chance to upskill current and future employees to help them qualify for a better job in today’s tech-infused economy. Businesses who submit successful applications will be reimbursed, up to $2000 per credential, when current or prospective employees complete technology-focused credentials. The [*TechCred* Eligible Credential List](https://techcred.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/techcred/about/credential-list) includes certificates and certifications that are deemed technology-focused, industry-recognized, and short-term. *TechCred* gives individual colleges the opportunity to work with local industries and business to update skills of local employees.

*TechCred* is intended to help Ohio as it faces a workforce development imperative to address a widely reported mismatch between employer needs and job-seeker knowledge and skills. The state of Ohio has establi**shed a statewide goal of having 65 percent of Ohioans, ages 25-64, with a degree, certificate or other postsecondary workforce credential by 2025.** Dean Kopp Miller, continues to serve as the University representative to state-wide meetings on workforce development.

Members of the 2019-2020 Advisory Board for the Office of Workforce Development are as follows:

## Barbara Kopp Miller, Dean, University College, Chair of Advisory Board

## Deborah Andrews, Director, Graduate Enrollment Management, College of Graduate Studies

## Shelly Drouillard, Director, Career Services

## Brian Genide, Director, LaunchPad Incubator

## Carrie S. Herr, Director, Office of Quality and Continuous Learning

## Heather Huntley, Director, University Accreditation and Program Review

## Angie Jones, Director, UT Family Business Center, College of Business and Innovation

## Marcia King-Blandford, Associate Dean, University College

## Anand S. Kunnathur, Professor Emeritus, College of Business and Innovation

## Eric Landversicht, Career Tech Coordinator, Judith Herb College of Education

## John M. Laux, Associate Dean, College of Health and Human Service

* Lenora Mcintyre, Operations Manager, MBAC & MBDC

## Scott C. Molitor, Associate Dean, College of Engineering

## Shannon M. Neumann, Senior Director of Academic Affairs, University College

## Jordan C Valdiviez, Operations Manager, Incubation

## Kathy S. Wilson, Director, Greater Northwest Ohio Career Tech Prep

## Ray Witte, Dean, Judith Herb College of Education