Indiana University Kokomo

- One of eight campuses in the Indiana University System
- Student enrollment: 3300
- 100 full-time faculty members
- Serve a region of fourteen counties in North Central Indiana

Leadership Institute

- 2007 the campus received a WIRED sub-grant to develop a regional leadership institute
- The goal of the Institute was to identify a network of engaged regional leaders who would begin to think and act regionally
- The University would play the role of facilitator and educator
Leadership Institute

• The leaders were selected through listening sessions held in each of 14 counties. These sessions were conducted by senior communication students.
• The goals of the listening sessions were to seek names of potential institute participants, discuss regional stewardship, and gather information about strengths and challenges facing the region.

Regional Leadership Institute

• The first meeting was held in 2008, the group continues to meet.
• Book discussions were designed to maintain momentum in between meetings. IUK faculty facilitated small group discussions in each of the counties.
• *Caught in the Middle and MEGACOMMUNITIES*

Regional Leadership Institute

• The group of 70 regional leaders travelled to three best practice regions: West Michigan Strategic Alliance, Piedmont Triad in North Carolina, and Vision 2015 in Northern Kentucky.
• Faculty accompanied the group to facilitate discussions and debrief what it meant to think and act regionally.

Final Products

• Creation of the Hoosier Heartland Alliance
• Strategic Plan
• Asset Map
Beyond the Institute

- Chancellor Michael Harris, leading the transformation of the region
- The role of the regional comprehensive campus
- “Universities are being transformed as well. We are taking on a new role – building coalitions, transforming our regions, and embarking on a new way of thinking about leadership”
- “The future economic well being in the state of Indiana lies largely in the success of regional campuses making a difference within the communities they serve”

Beyond the Institute

- Triple Helix Model: education, government, business
- Installation – a gathering of regional leaders
- Mayor’s Summit
- Benchmarking Study
- GKEDA – local gathering of business leaders

Challenges

- System of governments – lack of regional focus
- Lack of clarity about who is responsible for economic development – so many different entities
- Lack of understanding of what it means to think and act regionally, don’t believe in regionalism, don’t see rewards for partnerships
- Coordinating student and faculty engagement – time to be bold
- Resources