

The INSTITUTE for

Public Policy & Economic Development

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Committed to
research
and analysis
leading to
economic
development in
Pennsylvania

From the Executive Director:

2012 Indicators Report and Forum

The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development is pleased to announce the release of the 2012 Lackawanna/Luzerne Counties Indicators Report. The report will be released at the annual Indicators Forum on Thursday, May 17th, at The Radisson Lackawanna Station. Event information is on page 2.

For seven years, the report serves to present a snapshot of key information about the region gathered from dozens of data sources. Its purpose is to stimulate dialogue and develop strategies to bring about action items to move the region forward through a comprehensive understanding of where the bi-county region has been, where it currently stands and where it is heading. This year's report contains new indicators and a special Marcellus supplement.

The Institute's Task Force Chairs will present the work achieved and planned from their respective groups.

Leadership Changes. 2012 marks a year of change for The Institute as Vice Chairman and founding member, William B. Sordoni III of Sordoni Construction, resigned his position at The Institute. Bill is assuming a role as Emeritus Board Member. Bill's contribution to The Institute, goes beyond that of fiscal support. Bill has been helping to drive the strategic growth of The Institute since its inception and has been a constant mentor to staff.

Frank Joanlanne, a three year veteran of The Institute's board and newly appointed President of Borton Lawson, has assumed the role of Vice Chairman with unanimous support from the board. Frank has served as Co-Chair of The Institute's marketing and product subcommittee as well as participated on the strategic plan committee.

Thank you Bill and we look forward to a bright future with Frank in a leadership position.

In the next issue, we will profile our Chairman Tim Gilmour and his contributions to the formation and operations of The Institute as we welcome new Wilkes President and Institute Chairman, Patrick Leahy.

A partnership among Keystone College, King's College, Luzerne County Community College, Marywood University, Misericordia University, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, The Commonwealth Medical College, University of Scranton, & Wilkes University

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012

2012 Lackawanna & Luzerne County Indicators Report & Regional Forum

Price: \$50 [On-site: \$55] **Time:** 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

(registration begins at 8:00 AM)

Location: The Scranton Radisson
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Indicator 2012 Sponsors to date:

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Submit Registration Forms By:

Phone: (570) 408-9850

Fax: (570) 408-9854

Mail: The Institute- 7 South Main St., Suite 201 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

NO REFUNDS AFTER May 7, 2012

The 2012 Interdisciplinary Research Symposium

On April 4, 2012, The Institute held its fifth annual Interdisciplinary Research Symposium. This year's Symposium was hosted by Marywood University. More than thirty faculty members and students from Marywood University, Misericordia University, The Commonwealth Medical College, The University of Scranton, and Wilkes University presented original research. Research topics included architecture, science, medicine, education, social work and healthcare.

The event's success was due in large part to Dr. Alexander Dawoody, Chairman of The Institute's Academic Advisory Committee and Professor of Public Administration at Marywood University. Special thanks to Hanouf Abozendah and Julanne Skinner for their time volunteering at the event.

The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Samuel E. Quainoo. Dr. Quainoo is a Professor of Political Science at East Stroudsburg University. He has published two books; *Transition and Consolidation of Democracy* and *Africa Through Ghanaian Lenses* and has a third book forthcoming.

The Award for Best Paper went to Dr. Jun Ling of The Commonwealth Medical College. Dr. Ling's work was entitled "Glucocorticoid promotes breast cancer cell survival via functional interaction with NFkB signaling pathway." Sarah Schmeyer, a student at Maryood University, received the Award for Best Student/Faculty Paper. Sarah's paper was entitled "Healthcare Information Technology: Its Effects on Patient Outcomes and Care Delivery."



Teri Ooms, Executive Director of The Institute (left) with Dr. Samuel Quainoo (center) and Dr. Alexander Dawoody. Dr. Quainoo was the keynote speaker at the Symposium.



Dr. Moses Prabu, The Commonwealth Medical College, presenting at the Symposium on April 4th.



Sarah Schmeyer, Marywood University receiving the Award for Best Student/Faculty Paper from Dr. Dawoody.

PPL Presents Donation Check to The Institute



On April 12, 2012, Rich Beasley of PPL presented The Institute with a check in the amount of \$5,000. We thank PPL for its generous donation and continued support of The Institute.

Pictured left to right are Frank Joannelanne, Institute Vice Chair and President Borton-Lawson; Rich Beasley, PPL; Teri Ooms and Sherry Tracewski, both from The Institute.

Operation GangUp

The Institute is proud to be a part of Operation GangUp. Operation GangUp is a regional initiative, created to address the ongoing gang activity in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The initiative combines the expertise of several key legislative, education, law enforcement, and community leaders throughout the Lackawanna and Luzerne County Region. The initiative was developed by Congressman Lou Barletta and State Senator John Yudichak and is being coordinated by The Institute.

On Thursday May 3rd from 6-8PM, Operation GangUp is holding an information session on Combating Gang Activity in Our Communities. The session will be held in the Educational Conference Center at Luzerne County Community College. For more information please go to www.operationgangup.com.

Intern Update

The Institute is currently recruiting interns for the fall semester. Internships are available to students of any of our nine member institutions, who are in or entering their Senior year. Students of any academic major, with a 3.2 GPA or higher may apply to work in either our Wilkes-Barre or Scranton offices.

For more information on our internship program, please contact Kate Wassel at 570-408-9850 or Wassel@institute.org.

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The Institute provides research, technical assistance, and facilitation and convening services to:

- analyze components for regional prosperity
- create state and local government development strategies
- market studies
- feasibility studies
- impact reports

Research areas include:

- demographics
- economic development projects and planning
- community development
- education
- workforce development
- health and healthcare
- best practices
- innovation indicators
- economic indicators
- tourism and arts & culture

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