

JOINT Urban Studies CENTER

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

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JUSC to change name to The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development

Joint Urban Studies Center (JUSC) is changing its name to The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development (The Institute). The JUSC is a four year old research based think tank formed by a consortium of higher education institutions, business, non-profit, and economic development providers to prepare research, policy, and strategies to government, economic and workforce development providers, business, and non-profits. JUSC is best known to have prepared the region's first annual indicators report and conducting regional planning and visioning session.

"Since its inception, JUSC has been called upon to provide research on public policy and issues that go beyond the urban core of a community, therefore a name and identity to reflect the expansion of its mission was in order," said Teri Ooms, Executive Director.

The Institute will continue its research on regional priorities and collaborative solutions. It will continue to prepare the regional indicators report, conduct the annual forum, and coordinate the regional task forces. While The Institute's work has expanded beyond the boundaries northeastern Pennsylvania, Lackawanna & Luzerne County will still be a research priority for The Institute.

"The organization has reached a level whereby it is recognized and respected for its work. It is now being called upon to address a broader range of issues from clients across the Commonwealth. It is a nice position to be in," said Board Chairman, Tim Gilmour, Ph.D., President of Wilkes University.

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