Economic Development
Visioning Sessions Raw Data from Spring 2012

Twenty groups totaling more than seven hundred individuals gathered for focus group sessions over the Spring 2012 semester. Represented in these groups were faculty, academic professionals, civil service staff, graduate students, undergraduate students, alumni, community members and corporate leaders. In the sessions, the participants answered the question: What distinctive and signature role Illinois can play in addressing those issues in the next 20 to 50 years? In other words, what specific strengths do we currently have that we can build upon to tackle this issue? The following includes two sets of information: first, reports that have been completed in recent years on the topic and, second, the responses to the question that was collecting during the Visioning Excellence sessions and surveys. This is not a comprehensive list.

The subcategories for Economic Development:

- Economic outlook
- Distribution of wealth
- Poverty
- Global economy
- Job market
- Educational costs
- Governance
- Healthcare affordability
- Housing and homelessness
- Accountability
- Retirement
- Energy costs
- Wages

PART 1: RECENT REPORTS

PART 2: RESPONSES FROM VISIONING EXCELLENCE SESSIONS
Selected individual responses:

Research centers, institutes, programs, and labs:
- Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership
- Business Innovation Services (BIS)
- BIS as a provider of consulting & training to improve organizations to create and maintain jobs.
- Business Innovation Services (BIS) serves in providing job training and strengthening businesses.
- BIS presence in manufacturing to keep jobs in the state of Illinois
- BIS access to state grant funding to provide competitive rates for consulting & training
Career center
Center for Digital Inclusion
Configure extension/land grant mission to navigate info in to and out of university
Equity Poverty Center (EPOC)
Education Justice Project (EJP)
Enterprise Works
Institute for Government and Public Affairs (IGPA)
Illinois Ventures
Illinois water survey
Materials research lab
Odyssey project
Research Park
Regional Economics Applications Laboratory
University of Illinois Extension

Student Activities:
- Political Awareness - Student Senate
- RSOs
- Work-study

Attributes/Knowledge Areas:
- Accessible employment services
- ACES (alternative fuel options)
- Political Science
- Addressing animal production health - food, safety & public, health & economic stability
- Affordable education to prepare young people to join the middle class
- Agricultural research
- Agriculture policy
- Agriculture Development
- Aligning educational programs with needs of the social world
- Alternative energy
- Alumni spread across the world; in powerful positions at corporations and foreign countries
- Bioliteracy campus requirement
- Blue Water/ NCSA
- Brainstorming economic ideas with faculty and state officials
- Break down disciplinary boundaries for students
- Broad range of backgrounds of faculty
- Build a diverse campus community OEOA
- Builders association house/ divided
- College of ACES - Student run farms on campus providing food for cafeterias
- College of Business research on pension. Social security reform
- College of law
- College of media (Create a viable future for high-tech journalism)
- Communications research
- Community engagement
- Community training center: job skills, parenting skills, emotional, physical health skills
- Computer science and statistics to analyze income inequality and education links
• Corporate Partnership
• Creating new jobs
• Cross training jobs
• Cultivate the next generation of innovators and inventors through superior STEM education
• Cutting edge technology
• Develop more partnerships with organizations or corporations doing related work
• Disease resistant breeds plant and animal drought resistance
• Doctors w/o boarders
• ECE (everything)
• Economic public policy
• Economics
• Employment rates/ job placement through C.O. Business
• Employs a lot of people.
• Engagement projects (e.g., ESLARP/ARI; Prairienet/CII)
• Encourage multi-disciplinary efforts
• Encourage undergrad research, support it financially
• Faculty in many departments (e.g. EPS, ACE, SOCW, HCD, ANTH) already care about poverty.
• Finance Department
• Finance: Provide jobs & teach how to acquire jobs
• Financial aid
• Fiscal responsibility across curriculum
• Food production systems
• Fostering Entrepreneurship
• Global economic justice
• Global studies and area centers
• Grant writing support (needs to be more evenly distributed)
• History Dept.
• Human capital development
• Humanities
• Inc. efficiency w/ grants & contracts
• Increase applied programming so students have real experiences (speech clinic)
• Increase faculty & student relations through jobs
• Increasing fundraising for commercialization
• Information design
• Innovation: campus as alpha site, campus as beta site "test town"
• Increase access to underrepresented student groups
• Integrity in leadership (we need to work on this)
• Interdisciplinary collaboration (economics, business, political science, engineering)
• Interdisciplinary Education (engineering and economics)
• Interdisciplinary research and experimental learning
• Interdisciplinary research on employment Psych/LER/Econ
• Internal funding mechanisms/seed grants (more)
• International connections
• invention and technology for wealth creation
• ISTEM
• Job fairs/ career services
• Job search - finding jobs
• Labor economics LER/ Econ
• Labor in emerging markets LER
• LER has relationships with labor organizations, government and industry that can be leveraged.
• Land-grant institution
• Large living alumni base
• Law
• Liberal Arts breadth (gen eds)
• Library
• Local transportation networks
• Location (in terms of agriculture)
• Madhu v. (micro loam) economic intelligence
• Maintaining affordable education
• Make connections with local companies
• Management
• Mayo model for IP management
• Mentoring for all levels of Civil service employees
• Micro-urbanism (economic modeling)
• Modeling civil discourse daily
• More collaborative teaching
• More financial aid
• More funding to the arts - to teach creativity and innovation
• More NGO involvement/internships
• more resources into international research
• Multiple career fairs
• Nationally renowned Bus and Econ faculty
• New income models for social entrepreneurship
• New tech, entrepreneurship, opportunities
• Next generation digital network (respects privacy, resists censoring)
• Non-partisan policy analysis
• Nuclear energy
• Offer degrees in areas we know need employees
• Office of Technology
• Office for Equal Opportunity and Access (OEOA) Community Efforts
• Office of the Provost/ Board of Trustees
• Office of Public Engagement
• Public Engagement Portal
• Online courses (Increased access)
• Online learning modules
• Outputs financial leaders from C.O. Business
• Outreach to first and secondary education from colleges on campus
• Partnerships with businesses and corporations
• Political Science Department
• Resource: Deregulation of power systems
• Reward and value broad dissemination
• School of labor and employment relations
• Second Saturday Group Business Plan Analysis
• Service learning
• Simplify civil service application process
• Smaller than nanotube supercomputer
• School of Social Work's Diversity focus can assist with conflict resolution and inequality
• School of Social Works' focus on addressing policies and practices to address these issues
• Significant increase in student and staff diversity in the last 18 years I've worked here
• Society needs more jobs, U of I needs to train more in .Net, language of the web Socio-economic solutions for healthcare delivery
• Sociology-based solution to aging population
• Sophisticated and trusted job board. Simplicity
• Soybean press prairie papers
• Specific educational training re: economy
• Stable state and university leadership
• State surveys
• Strong alumni and donor base resources
• Strong engineering programs that can educate next gen of innovations
• Strong international studies
• Strong social science
• Students get jobs that help economy
• Students who want to participate in outreach activities
• Students willing to volunteer in society
• Study abroad (more resources and developing world opportunities)
• Subsistence Marketplace Initiative
• Super computing
• Teacher education programs
• Tech transfer OTM
• Technological advances
• Ties with industry
• Top tier school - name alone
• Traditional strategies in education, business & STEM
• Training area/center on how to hire
• Training of students; programs through the management training institute and political science departments
• Translational research
• U of I can easily keep promoting and educating students to help w/ economy
• Ubiquitous Learning (ed, cs, gislis etc)
• Undergraduate research
• Understanding socio-technical systems
• University offers a stabilizing influence on a large area of Central Illinois.
• Urban development for developing world
• Urban planning
• Urban planning
• Use faculty/students as cultural/intellectual ambassadors
• Valuing open access
• vastly better capabilities to do IP and start new companies
• volunteer services and the donation of food for food drives
• We are students Research university - humanizing constructivist education
• We provide resources for the working families in our communities.
• Welcoming institution to international students
• Welfare research - social sciences
• Workplace Research (LER)