The Role of Community Colleges in Auto Worker Adjustment

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Provost & Vice President
for the Learning Unit
Macomb Community College Profile

- Largest grantor of associate’s degrees in Michigan
- Consistently ranks in the top 2% among more than 1,195 two-year colleges nationwide
- 200 degree and certificate fields,
- 24,000 degree-credit students each semester
- 12,000 students each year in workforce development and customized training programs, continuing professional education, and emergency services academies
“Reality” for Workers

Small automotive suppliers are liquidating, even as the bankruptcies of larger suppliers such as Lear Corp. and Visteon Corp. grab the headlines.

Ryan Beene
Automotive News | September 28, 2009 - 12:01 am EST

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Role of Community Colleges in Transformation

➢ Prepare workers for “other” employment
  ▪ Short term - Training programs
  ▪ Long term - Associate degrees & beyond

➢ Work with other agencies
  ▪ NWLB – No Worker Left Behind

➢ Provide student support services
  ▪ Counseling
  ▪ Remediation
Role of Community Colleges in Transformation

- Educate the workforce of the future
  - Feedback from employers
  - Attention to employment trends

- Continuously work to identify emerging education needs
  - Focus on transferable skills
Challenges for “Returning” Students

- “I had a good job and a plan for my life.”
- What should I study? Where are the jobs?
- Underpreparedness
- Balancing Life, School, Family
Retraining Options for Consideration

- Renewable Energy
- Health
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Pipe Design
Renewable Energy Subject Areas Being Developed @ Macomb

- **“Green” Construction**
  - Includes weatherization, energy efficiency, energy auditing

- **Advanced Battery**
  - Transportation
  - Electrical Storage

- **Fuel Cell**
  - Transportation
  - Stationary

- **Smart Grid & Infrastructure**
MACOMB RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM INITIATIVES

- 2002: Grant for Hybrid Electric Vehicle Training (HEV)
- 2005:
- 2006: HEV Training 1775 people
- 2007:
- 2008:
Submit grant application for Center for Advanced Automotive Technology

2009

MACOMB INITIATIVES

Renewable Energy Certificate Created

Advanced Battery / Multi-Skill Tech Training

Earmark
- Conservation
- Sustainability
- Construction

Earmark
- Integrate Academic Programs
- Expand Offerings

Earmark
- Equipment
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Advanced Manufacturing

- Manufacturing is not dead
- Need up to date skills
- Traditional lines are blurred
  - Example: Mechatronics
- Companies willing to diversify (i.e. Defense, Medical, etc.)
Pipe Design

- New Opportunity
- Joint project with employer, MiWorks, Macomb CC
- Builds on design & engineering expertise
- Opportunity to bring jobs TO Michigan
Municipalities and community colleges throughout Midwest have similar challenges

- Successful transition of laid off auto workers to employment
- Effective & efficient processes to deal with unemployed / new “reluctant” students
- Promoting economic growth
Auto Communities Conference Proposal

- Conference would convene different stakeholders

- Potential topics
  - Keynote addresses
  - Best practices
  - Regional collaborative opportunities

- Conference location and date to be determined
Partnerships
Questions ?