

“A History of Partnership: IU and Ivy Tech”

Announcement of “Statement of Mutual Purpose”
by IU East and Ivy Tech Richmond

Remarks of Michael A. McRobbie

President

Indiana University

Indiana Statehouse

March 4, 2008

3:00 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTION

It is a great pleasure to be here this afternoon.

After decades of collaboration, university leaders are signing a Statement of Mutual Purpose to recognize our shared goals as Indiana’s leading providers of higher education to Hoosiers.

I am pleased to share the podium with Ivy Tech President Tom Snyder, who leads the nation’s largest state-wide community college with single accreditation. Would you please join me in welcoming him? Providing educational leadership in Richmond are Ivy Tech Richmond Chancellor and Vice Provost James Steck, and IU East Interim Chancellor Nasser Paydar. Would you also join me in welcoming them?

I am also pleased that a number of Indiana's elected officials could join us at today's signing ceremony. Please help me welcome Representative Phil Pflum, Representative Tom Knollman, Representative Tom Saunders, and Senator Allen Paul.

We thank you for your support of higher education in Indiana.

2. A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION

Indiana University and Ivy Tech Community College share a long and rich history of collaboration dating back many years. In recent years, we have worked together to make it easier for students to transfer credits between our campuses and have established formal articulation agreements to help Ivy Tech graduates earn a four-year degree from Indiana University.

The successful "Hoosier Link" program is just one example of our effective partnership. This residential-based transfer transition program offers an opportunity to 100 Ivy Tech students every academic year. They live on the IU Bloomington campus, enroll in general education courses at Ivy Tech, and take one course at IUB each semester. "Hoosier Link" draws upon, and was inspired by, the remarkable success of IUPUI's Passport Program.

Our institutional partnership in Richmond also has deep roots. It was almost a decade ago that the Trustees of Indiana University approved the sale of part of the IU East campus to accommodate Ivy Tech's proposed expansion in Richmond.

3. STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERSHIP

The partnership we are announcing today builds upon our history of cooperation in the interests of Hoosier higher education.

It includes a number of initiatives designed to efficiently expand educational opportunity by building upon IU's and Ivy Tech's distinctive educational missions. Chancellor Steck and Chancellor Paydar will provide more details about these initiatives in a few moments.

4. CONCLUSION

As I told an audience here at the Statehouse just a few weeks ago, this is a tremendously exciting time for IU and for the entire state of Indiana.

Time and again, we are reminded of how powerful our shared voices can be—whether we are preparing students for success within the health and life sciences industry, working closely with Ivy Tech, Purdue University and Notre Dame to expand educational opportunities throughout the state, or helping to create new community education initiatives.

Working together, we can change people's lives.

This is the power of higher education.

Thank you very much.

It is now my great pleasure to introduce Ivy Tech President Tom Snyder.