

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**UPDATE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA/
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP**

Action Requested: Receive the update presented by University of Iowa Provost Barry Butler and Kirkwood Community College Vice President for Academic Affairs Bill Lamb.

Executive Summary: The Kirkwood Regional Center at the University of Iowa is a partnership among the University of Iowa, Kirkwood Community College, and six school districts in the region. The purpose of the Center is to strengthen Iowa K-12 science and math education, stimulate interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) and STEM careers, develop and assess new models for teaching and learning in the STEM fields, and prepare teachers in a unique setting.

The Regional Center will include a number of key offerings:

- ⇒ Innovative programming to provide high school students with hands-on technical experiences and college-level arts and science courses that local districts cannot provide individually.
- ⇒ The potential for high school students to earn valuable college credit at no cost to their families.
- ⇒ Certificate programs, continuing education, and all of the other programming offered through Kirkwood Community College's campus.
- ⇒ Targeted, field-specific training in the arts and sciences, automotive engineering, medicine, and other areas of high demand.
- ⇒ University of Iowa College of Education support for curriculum design, assessment, career counseling, faculty development, and student teaching.

Construction of the regional center will be funded by a regional bond issue by Kirkwood Community College; the University of Iowa will provide land in the Research Park. Preliminary design has been completed and the project is expected to be bid in Spring 2013 with completion set for Summer 2015.

This project underscores and supports Governor Branstad's emphasis on STEM education reform. The Southeast Regional STEM Hub will be jointly managed by the University of Iowa and Kirkwood Community College and will be co-located in the Regional Center.

Dr. Bill Lamb has held the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs at Kirkwood Community College since 2007. Prior to moving to Kirkwood, Dr. Lamb was the Dean of Liberal Arts and Distance Learning at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS. He received his Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from Kansas State University in 1984 with an emphasis in composition and rhetoric. Dr. Lamb has received numerous awards, including the Paul Elsner International Excellence in Leadership Award in 2011. He demonstrates his strong commitment to sustainable energy as a member of the Iowa Alliance for Wind Innovation and Novel Development executive board.