

The Passage of HB1209

By John Whikehart,
Chancellor, Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington

At the time of this writing, House Bill 1209 is on its way to the Senate for consideration after passing the House by a vote of 90-0. Sponsored by State Representative Ron Herrell and State Senator John Nugent, the bill will require Indiana's institutions of higher education, working through a statewide transfer and articulation committee created in March of 2000, to develop a list of undergraduate courses and two-year associate degrees for transfer to the four-year institutions. It requires the completion of this work by August 2005 under the direction of the state's commission for higher education. The bill also requires progress reports from the commission to the legislature in August 2003 and 2004.

If the bill passes the senate and is signed into law by the governor, it represents a significant step forward in the statewide development of Ivy Tech State College as Indiana's community college.

More significantly for the 3,146 students of Monroe, Morgan, Martin, Greene, Lawrence, and Owen counties enrolled at Ivy Tech-Bloomington, it marks the first step toward their opportunity to earn an associate degree and transfer it to a related degree at Indiana University Bloomington. That is an opportunity their student counterparts at other Ivy Tech campuses in communities with IU regional campuses have benefited from for years.

I have made no secret of my advocacy for Ivy Tech-Bloomington students.

I advocate for them because I firmly believe that all state supported institutions of higher education have a responsibility for the economic and workforce development of the state that pays their freight.

I advocate for them because I know for a fact that Ivy Tech students perform well academically when they transfer to four-year institutions. Ivy Tech transfer student successes at Ball State, Indiana State, and IU regional campuses attest to that fact.

I advocate for them because I know that our Ivy Tech students stay, work, and contribute to their home communities as workers and taxpayers when they graduate. Our placement surveys attest to the fact that over 90% of them do just that.

And I advocate for them because, as an IU Bloomington graduate, I respect the vision of Herman B Wells who so eloquently described equal educational opportunity for Indiana's students at Indiana's university.

But make no mistake, the vehicle for educational opportunities for Ivy Tech-Bloomington students is **a strong educational partnership** with Indiana University Bloomington. We cannot accomplish the goal of seamless education implicit in the proposed legislation in an adversarial environment.

If House Bill 1209 becomes law, I want to help find the common ground necessary to successfully identify, develop, and implement course and degree transfer relationships with the IU Bloomington campus. I want the annual progress reports to the legislature to reflect a positive, full partnership with Indiana University to the mutual credit of both institutions.

And I am equally committed to that goal while respecting the distinct yet complementary missions of our new community college and my alma mater.

Student and Alumni Meetings

- The Bloomington chapter of the Alumni Association will be meeting on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 pm in Alumni Hall on the Ivy Tech Bloomington campus. You can look forward to a special presentation in addition to the planned agenda items!
- Students are welcome to attend the next **Student Government Association** meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 19 from 12 noon - 1:00 pm in Room C140.
- This is a reminder that all students are invited to **join the Chancellor for breakfast and informal conversation** on Wednesday, March 26 at 9 am in the Executive Board Room/A110.

Ivy Tech and PTS Electronics Partnership Achieves Business Success

Tough economic times have forced many companies to lay off employees, but thanks to a smart business decision to focus on integrity, high quality service and employee technical training, PTS Electronics has expanded enough to hire over 180 new employees during the past few months.

PTS Electronics contracts with manufacturers to repair flat screen and projection televisions, high-end telecommunications products and a variety of other CATV and automotive electronic products. Two years ago many of the clients they were hoping to attract chose to use low-bid vendors who did not have the highly trained employees needed to repair expensive and complicated electronic components. Rather than lowering prices and decreasing the quality of services offered, PTS Electronics stayed focused on their goal of using well-trained employees to provide outstanding service. Their focus on quality and integrity paid off. One by one, manufacturers who had become disillusioned by the poor service provided by low-bid vendors turned instead to PTS Electronics. PTS Electronics added 180 employees to meet increasing demands and hopes to have almost 900 employees by summer 2003.

"Technical training of employees, consistent quality and a decision to emphasize integrity are the primary reasons behind our business success," stated Human Resources Director Ron Simmonds. "Ivy Tech State College Bloomington played a key role in helping us achieve our success by providing grant-funded IPC repair/rework soldering certification training and the academic portion of our electronics apprenticeship program." Ivy Tech educators worked with PTS leaders to identify training needs, obtain a state grant to underwrite related costs and to deliver the apprenticeship and certification training programs.

The PTS Electronics/Ivy Tech State College partnership has benefited many other entities in the community, thanks to the grant obtained by PTS which allowed Ivy Tech to become a licensed soldering certification center. The first semester-length IPC 7711/7721 certification course is in progress at the Bloomington campus and Ivy Tech will begin to deliver soldering certification for NSWC Crane in April 2003.

"Soldering certification benefits everyone involved," stated Oscar Rodriguez, one of Ivy Tech's certified Master Instructors. "Students receive a certification that makes them attractive to prospective employers, the high-quality work achieved by certified soldering operators generates satisfied customers and increased contracts for local businesses, and Ivy Tech fulfills its goal of enhancing the economic vitality of the region it serves."

Over 35 PTS Electronics employees have completed the soldering certification and the first group of eight apprentices has one more semester to go before they complete the program. Next year, PTS plans to certify 110 employees and to have over 60 apprentices.

Quality Employer Award

Below is the resolution that was adopted by the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors in recognition of PTS Electronics as a "Quality Employer". Ivy Tech's partnership with PTS Electronics is named as a factor in their receiving this award.

Whereas, PTS Electronics has been in the electronics service industry and located in Bloomington/Monroe County for over thirty years, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics is one of the nation's largest independent service companies and the largest cell phone rebuilder in the United States, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics employs nearly 700 technical and support staff in Monroe County, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics serves over 20,000 customers nationwide, including independent service dealers, national retail chains, general line distributors, third party maintenance companies and major corporations, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics is locally owned and operated and provides an innovative, team-oriented workplace that favors promotions from within, offers incentives for employee continuing education, and provides excellent employee benefits, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics has partnered with Ivy Tech State College in Bloomington to develop an apprenticeship program for students to develop technical expertise as electronic technicians, and

Whereas, PTS Electronics has expanded in Bloomington and Monroe County with facilities on Old State Road 37 South, on Profile Parkway and soon at the Indiana Enterprise Center, and

Whereas, the owners and employees of PTS Electronics have invested in Monroe County and are most generous with their time, talent and resources supporting a variety of community agencies and initiatives,

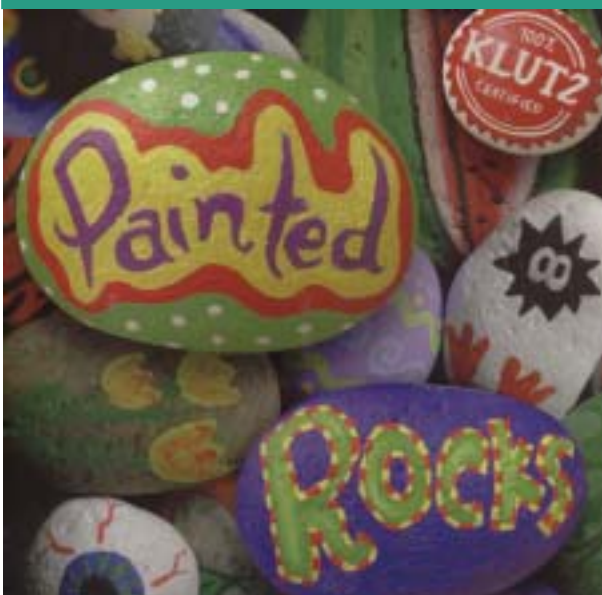
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Directors of the Bloomington Economic Development Corporation hereby recognizes PTS Electronics with the BEDC Quality Employer Award.

Presented on February 19, 2003.

Cullen McCarty, Chair

Bloomington Economic Development Corporation

"Science Rocks!" at Ivy Tech



Children are invited to join the Science Fair rock painting activity on Saturday. Ivy Tech's Student Government Association will be overseeing the activity and will be using the Klutz © "Painted Rocks" book as its guide.

Each year Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington hosts the South Central Indiana Regional Science and Engineering Fair. On Saturday, March 8, students in grades 6-12 from schools located in South Central Indiana will compete for category titles, great prizes and the chance to participate in the state fair and the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair. While the judges are deliberating, there are a host of activities for family, friends and members of the public to do. The contest day will start at 8:15 am. Professor Larry Smith from Ivy Tech State College will present "How Technology and Engineering Has Changed and Rocked our World" at 8:30 am followed by Dr. James Brophy from Indiana University who will present "The Ocean Sea Floor: How its Study Has Changed and Rocked Our World". After these presentations, visitors will be invited to take the "Science Rocks!" Tour (10:15 am-12:15 pm), watch a film (12:15 pm - 2:00 pm), and join in the rock painting activity. On the "Science Rocks!" Tour, you will see a Chemistry Magic Show, visit with Boston Scientific, have "Fun with Digital Electronics", "Experience Amateur Radio", visit the "Mad Scientist", watch a Computer Aided Design Software Demonstration, and witness "Robot Rampage"! Visitors can view the contests project entries from 1:00-2:00 pm. The awards ceremony will take place at 2:00 pm in Alumni Hall.

Ivy Tech Offers IPC Certification



Oscar Rodriguez, a citizen of Honduras, was the Founder and Director of Instituto de Tecnologías Aplicadas (Institute of Technology Applications) in Honduras prior to relocating to Bloomington, Indiana. Rodriguez participated in an Academic Visitation and Mentoring program with Ivy Tech State College-Bloomington during the Fall 2000 semester.

Rodriguez joined the Electronics Technology department at Ivy Tech as a full-time faculty member and program advisor in the summer of 2001. He has proven to be a dedicated faculty member, caring instructor, and a tremendous asset to the Electronics Technology program. His commitment to continuous learning and improvement in the area of technology has played a significant role in Ivy Tech State College - Bloomington becoming an IPC Registered Certification Center. IPC is a 45-year-old International Professional Association that connects electronics industries. Its main objective is to develop and maintain the standards for the electronics industry. IPC currently has only 19 IPC 7711/7721 approved certification centers worldwide, of which Ivy Tech State College Bloomington is one. Of the 19 centers, Ivy Tech's is the only one at a college or university! Rodriguez is a certified Master Instructor for the IPC 7711/7721 Printed Circuit Board Rework & Repair standards. Rodriguez comments, "I look at my time here at Ivy Tech as a great learning opportunity. I take nothing for granted. It is my dream to one day go back to my country and help to train my people in technology."

The IPC 7711/7721 training facility is located on the Bloomington campus in one of the new state-of-the-art electronic labs. Ivy Tech is also running certification labs for PTS Electronics, an industry partner. Electronics Technology program chair, Larry Smith says, "In addition, we are working with NSWC Crane to train some of their employees in this area. Many of our electronics students are involved in co-operative education programs with Crane. After one semester of successful coursework, our students can work part-time or full-time at Crane, while they continue their studies. Most of these students have been offered full-time employment after graduation. Ivy Tech and its students are indeed fortunate to have a specialist of the Oscar's caliber on our faculty."

Student Wins "All Expenses Paid" Weekend in Indy!



And the winner is Garrett Middleton! Garrett, who is a student in the Business Administration program and a work study student for the Technology Division, has won an all expenses paid weekend for two to Ivy Tech's 40th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion which will take place March 14-16 in Indianapolis. Garrett's prize includes FREE tickets to both the Pacers and Indianapolis Ice games, and a FREE room at the Radisson Hotel. Garrett will also be able to attend informative breakout sessions, a special lunch, a costume dance, and a breakfast commemorating President Gerald Lamkin's 20th year as head of the College. Congratulations Garrett!

Women's History Month

March is Women's History Month! Ivy Tech's celebration of diversity continues with a series of planned activities to champion the spirit of women. The first activity is a film called "The Other Side of the Mountain" and this is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5. Four more activities follow later in the month and include a domestic violence presentation, a stress management seminar (which should get you laughing again if you aren't!), a panel discussion on women who have taken a nontraditional career path, and a breast cancer awareness presentation. The dates and times for these activities are detailed in purple in the "Events Calendar" alongside this column. For more information, contact Pat Dolly at (812) 330-6062 or email her at pdolly@ivytech.edu or Christie Gordon at (812) 330-6001 or email her at cgordon@ivytech.edu.



Plan on Joining Us!



Knowledge Tank!

facilities maintenance), and nursing. At Career Expo 2003, which will take place on Thursday, April 3 from 1-4 pm in the Student Commons, representatives from healthcare, technology and service industries throughout South Central Indiana will be available to speak with Ivy Tech students and alumni about career opportunities! Students and alumni are encouraged to bring their résumés and meet area employers! As always, employers are invited to represent their organizations at Career Expo 2003. Career Expo 2003 is a one stop shop to meet with job applicants who have "gold collar" skills!

In preparation for Career Expo 2003, free résumé writing and interviewing skills workshops are being offered to help students and alumni present themselves professionally. Workshops, to be held in Room B124, are scheduled for:

- Tuesday, March 4, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 13, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 25, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 1, (No joke!), 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

For more information about Career Expo 2003, the résumé writing and interviewing skills workshops, or to book booth space, contact Katie Anderson at (812) 330-6018 or email kanderso@ivytech.edu or check out the web site at www.ivytech.edu/Bloomington. Click on "Special Events" and then click on "Career Expo".

They Say It's Your Birthday!

Ben Ackerman	March 1
Nona Melton	March 7
Fred Jones	March 8
Bonnie Overton	March 9
Oscar Rodriguez	March 18
Cindy Webster	March 26
Carol Simmons	March 28



"Hatched and Matched"

Congratulations to:

David Cochran and wife, Julie, a son named Caleb Joel Cochran, born on Monday, December 23, 2002, at 4:24 pm. He weighed in at 8 lbs, 3 oz, and measured 19-1/2 inches long.

Kim Gantt and husband, Ranji Abraham, a son named Keeran Rokwan Abraham, born on Sunday, February 23, 2003, at 1:03 pm. Keeran weighed in at 6 lbs, 8 oz.

Christie Gordon on her engagement to Jake French.

Events Calendar

Women's History Month Activity:

The film: "The Other Side of the Mountain"

Wednesday, March 5, 2003, 4:00 - 6:00 pm, Room C126
Starring Marilyn Hassett and Beau Bridges.

Science and Engineering Fair

Saturday, March 8, 2003, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Ivy Tech.
A science fair competition designed to engage the active minds of students in grades 6 - 12 from area schools.

Women's History Month Activity:

Domestic Violence Presentation

Monday, March 10, 2003, 4:30 - 5:30 pm, Alumni Hall
Presented by Toby Strout, Ph.D., Executive Director of Middle Way House.

Women's History Month Activity:

Stress Management/To Laugh Again!

Tuesday, March 11, 2003, 12 noon - 1:30 pm, Alumni Hall
Presented by Cindy Webster, Apprenticeship Coordinator, Ivy Tech State College.

40th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Reunion

Friday, March 14 - Sunday, March 16, 2003, Radisson Hotel City Center, Indianapolis. Make plans to join us and your fellow alums for this very special weekend.

Women's History Month Activity:

Panel Discussion: Women in Non-Traditional Careers

March 24, 2003, 12 noon - 1:30 pm, Room C126
Moderated by Lou Pierro, Ph.D., Computer Information Systems Program Chair, Ivy Tech State College.

Women's History Month Activity:

Breast Cancer Awareness Presentation

March 24, 2003, 4:30 - 5:30 pm, Room C126
Presented by Vera Cline, Associate of Science in Nursing Program Chair, Ivy Tech State College.

Campus Pride Awareness Week

Week of March 31. Plan to participate in activities that will make all of us proud of Ivy Tech Bloomington!

Career Expo

Thursday, April 3, 2003, 1 - 4 p.m., Ivy Tech.
A perfect place for employers and job seekers to connect!

Business Expo

Thursday, April 17, 2003, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Bloomington Convention Center. A great way to meet students and partners!

Transfer Fair

Tuesday, April 22, 2003, 4 - 6:30 p.m., Ivy Tech.
An annual opportunity to find out how Ivy Tech credits transfer to other educational institutions.

Early Childhood Education Panel Discussion and SCAEYC Early Childhood Recognition Banquet

Wednesday, April 23, 2003, Alumni Hall. The Panel Discussion on health and safety issues for young children and child care providers begins at 5:50 pm and is followed by the SCAEYC Banquet at 6:45 pm, and includes a CDA Pinning Ceremony.

High School CAD Competition/TeenTech Day

Friday, April 25, 2003, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.
A chance for high school students to show off their drafting skills and win lots of prizes at the same time!!

CO₂ Dragster Contest/TeenTech Day

Friday, April 25, 2003, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.
See area middle and high school students give it a go!

Honors Day Ceremony

Friday, May 9, 2003, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., Ivy Tech.
A celebration of academic excellence!

Senior Expo 2003

Friday, May 16, 2003, 12 Noon - 4 p.m., Bloomington Convention Center. The theme is "So Very Vaudeville!"

Associate of Science in Nursing Pinning Ceremony

Friday, May 16, 2003, 5 p.m., Indiana University Auditorium.
A tradition for nursing students and faculty!

Commencement Ceremony and Reception

Friday, May 16, 2003, 7 p.m., Indiana University Auditorium.
Celebrate the achievements of our new graduates!

Faculty "Flip-Side"

On Tuesday, April 15, we hope the faculty will display their "flip-side." We would like to showcase the "personal" side of both full-time and adjunct faculty, making use of talents, hobbies, interests, travels, etc. All are encouraged to participate! We are seeking volunteers to help organize, coordinate and promote this event. Please contact Karen Carter to join the committee.