



# VOICES OF EMPLOYERS

Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber of Commerce

Brian McAllister, Roadtrip Nation



“Employers may have an expanded role in helping institutions train students for employment after college. That role depends, to some extent, on the ability of employers and colleges to form partnerships. The employers also have an advantage in such partnerships, as they may provide an opportunity for companies to identify and hire the highest-performing students.”



# Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber of Commerce

Kevin joined the Indiana Chamber's advocacy team in November 1992, became Senior Vice President of Government Affairs in 1997 and President and CEO in 2002. Previously, Kevin served nine years as a financial analyst for the Finance Committee of the Indiana Senate and three years as a management analyst for the Legislative Services Agency. Kevin is recognized as an expert in the areas of business taxation, property taxation, local government, state budget and school finance.



# Brian McAllister, Roadtrip Nation

Brian McAllister is a Co-founder and Outreach Director of Roadtrip Nation, a career exploration organization that empowers students to connect their passions to potential careers and educational goals. He leads all campus outreach and general grassroots marketing efforts for the organization, and has produced over 400 live Roadtrip Nation events over the past 10 years.



- What skills are most in-demand among employers hiring your students?
- Are there skills that are difficult to teach in a classroom setting? What are the best alternative approaches?
- How can employers cultivate closer relationships with colleges to get the skills they need? And, what can higher education do to work more closely with employers?



- Are the liberal arts valuable to employers? How could those disciplines make a stronger case for their relevancy in the work world?
- Communication, presentation, and writing skills are some of the hardest to find among prospective employees. What can colleges do to train these skills more thoroughly?



- Are employers offering training to close the gap between what colleges taught their students and what employers need? What changes are needed in this area?
- What is the future of the apprenticeship model in Indiana? Are employers willing to support apprenticeships outside of the traditional union trades?





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HIGHER EDUCATION