

Maximizing Business Engagement to Support Your Students: Why a Regional BILT Makes Sense

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FACT

- Educators believe their graduates are prepared for work
- Businesses do not agree
- Depending on the study, percentages vary
- Percentages on each “side” are not always the same, but the trends match

EDUCATION/BUSINESS MISMATCH

96 percent

of college and university chief academic officers said they are very or somewhat confident in their institution's ability to prepare students for success in the workforce

<https://news.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/173249/higher-education-work-preparation-paradox.aspx>

11 percent

of business leaders strongly agree today's college graduates have the skills and competencies that their business needs

MAJOR GOAL for All Technical Programs

- **STUDENTS** completing certificates and degrees are well-qualified for ready employment
- **BUSINESSES** are highly engaged

Business and Industry Leadership Team

- Developed/refined by National Convergence Technology Center National Science Foundation (NSF) Advanced Technological Education (ATE) Center led by Collin College
- The BILT model ensures... college curricula align with what businesses want to hire 12-36 months into the future (NOTE: NOT WHAT THEY WANT TO HIRE NOW)
- Business Advisory Council “on steroids”
- BILT works for any Career/Tech Education discipline or grant

BILT Panel

- Matt Glover, CTO, LeVel Brands, LLC, Dallas, TX
- Kim Yohannan, Palo Alto Cybersecurity Academy, Santa Clara, CA
- Aaron Burciaga, Analytics2Go, Sarasota, FL
- Glenn Wintrich, North Texas InterLink, Irving, TX
- Tu Huynh, VP, Comerica Bank, Dallas, TX
- Susan Coefield, VMware Academy, CA

Essential BILT Elements

I. Why do we focus on a single sub-discipline and recruit BILT members who are SMEs in that sub-discipline?



Essential BILT Elements

2. Why do we use a structured voting process (not open discussion) once a year to evaluate the program KSAs?



Essential BILT Elements

3. Why do faculty cross-reference the BILT's prioritized KSAs to existing curriculum to identify gaps?



Essential BILT Elements

4. Why is it important for faculty to provide specific feedback to the BILT on how they implemented BILT recommendations and feedback.?



Essential BILT Elements

5. Why is it important for the BILT to meet more than once or twice a year?



Essential BILT Elements

6. Why is it important for BILT members to discuss their perspective on industry trends at each meeting?



Essential BILT Elements

7. Why is it important to invite faculty to attend the BILT meetings?

What Have You Done As Part of the BILT?



What Can You Do?

- Schedule quarterly meetings (web meetings are okay)
- Invite faculty to attend your meetings
- Allow the BILT members to regularly share their perspective on future trends
- Conduct annual job skills validation – vote in real-time (avoid email and surveys without discussion)
- Assist faculty to crosswalk the revised job skills to curriculum and make adjustments to fill gaps
- Report back to the BILT; make them feel valued

Resources

- BILT Resources from the Convergence Technology Center
 - www.connectedtech.org
 - bit.ly/BILTbasic (webinar)
 - bit.ly/BILTtoolkit (12 page toolkit)
- Webinars on employer engagement from the Centers Collaborative for Technical Assistance:
 - www.ATEcenters.org/ccta

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