Greenforce INITIATIVE

Advancing Greener Careers and Campuses

Texas Greenforce Summit 2010

"Preparing the Texas Workforce for the New Green Economy"

South Texas College, Technology Campus

3700 W. Military Hwy., McAllen, Texas.

Auditorium (Room # B-193) located in Building B

Thursday, October 28, 2010

Goals of Meeting

- Explore the growth of the new green economy in southern Texas and opportunities to expand that growth.
- Examine ways that community colleges and other key stakeholders are working to prepare the workforce in this region for the green economy, including key strategies to facilitate access and success for lower-skilled adults.
- Identify opportunities for ongoing collaboration to align economic development and economic opportunity in the green economy.

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **Welcome and Introductions**

- Dr. Shirley A. Reed, President, South Texas College (STC)

8:45 a.m. **Overview of Greenforce Initiative and Texas Greenforce Summit**

- Gloria Mwase, Program Director, Jobs for the Future
- Julian Keniry, Senior Director, National Wildlife Federation's Campus Ecology Program

9:00 a.m. **Opening Discussion: Where are the green jobs in southern Texas?** What are green jobs? How do opportunities differ by sector (wind, solar, sustainable farming, energy efficiency, water conservation, transportation, environmental health, power management, construction, HVAC, etc)? Where are the opportunities to "green" existing jobs versus creating new green jobs?

- Praveen Dayananda, Texas Campus Field Coordinator, National Wildlife Federation
- Gloria Mwase, Program Director, Jobs for the Future

9:30 a.m. **Employer Engagement and Local Economic Development:** Beyond labor market projections, what are employers saying about current and future green jobs in southern Texas? What green jobs skills are most needed? What are some challenges/ways to work together to create green jobs opportunities?

- Angelo Kuo, Sales/Marketing Director, King's Prosperity Industries
- George Cavazos, Owner, Wall Street Homes
- Ken Whiteside, Director of Educational Development, Ontility
- Larry Peterson, Executive Director, Texas Foundation for Innovative Communities/ I-35 Green Corridor Initiative
- Facilitator: Gretchen Wells, Director for Talent Services and Development, Workforce Solutions

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Creating Greener Careers and Greener Campuses: What's Happening in Our Region?

- South Texas College: Juan Carlos Aguirre, Director, Continuing Education
- St. Phillips College: Dennis McDonaugh, Chair, Electronics and IT Department
- Palo Alto College: Stephen Colley, Program Manager, Green Initiatives
- Texas State Technical College: Charles Smith, Director of Engineering
- Lone Star Colleges: Jo Fey, Instructional Dean, Advanced Technology and Social Sciences or Richard Gilbert, Director of Advanced Technology

11:45 p.m. Luncheon Plenary: Our Urgent Need to Prepare for the New Green Economy

- Susan San-Martin, CSR Central Region Market Manager, Bank of America
- Mike Perez, City Manager, McAllen, Texas
- Mario Reyna, Dean, Applied Technologies, South Texas College
- Anson Green, Director, Mission Verde Center/Mayor's Green Jobs Task Force, San Antonio

1:15 p.m. Concurrent Discussions:

- **Green Career Pathways:** What are green career pathways? What are some best practices/challenges/opportunities to engaging 'lower-skilled' and non-traditional students in green education and workforce programs? What type of professional development is needed for faculty and other college staff to develop these programs and better support these students?
    - Facilitator: Gloria Mwase, Program Director, Jobs for the Future
- **Connecting Campus Sustainability to Green Career Pathways:** How can we utilize campus sustainability or "greening" efforts as a "learning laboratory" for green education and workforce training activities?
    - Facilitator: Lisa Madry, Campus Ecology Field Director, National Wildlife Federation
- **Green Economic Development:** What are some challenges/opportunities to attracting green investors and companies to our region?
    - Facilitator: Anson Green, Director, Mission Verde Center, San Antonio

2:45 p.m. Sustaining the Momentum: Next Steps for the Texas Greenforce Initiative

3:30 p.m. Summit ends

Bank of America NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION JOBS FOR THE FUTURE STC South Texas College