

2016 COLLEGE CHANGES EVERYTHING CONFERENCE

Morning Keynote Speakers

John Burnett and Jack Hess are business leaders who have translated their business acumen into strategic engagement on complex issues of education and workforce pipelines.



John M. Burnett serves as President and CEO of the Community Education Coalition (CEC), a nationally recognized not-for-profit organization committed to the development of an aligned, high quality community and regional learning system supporting learners of all ages.



Jack Hess serves as Executive Director of the Institute for Coalition Building. The Institute serves communities across the country, nurturing leaders collectively to solve their grand challenges.

John Burnett is a founder of EcO15 (Economic Opportunities through Education by 2015.) Funded by \$43 million in grants by Lilly Endowment Inc., and \$15 million by regional partners, EcO15 seeks to create a “regional lifelong learning system” for a ten-county area of Southeast Indiana by bringing together education, workforce development, economic growth, community foundation, government, and industry stakeholders.

The goal of EcO15 is to assist each person in Southeast Indiana to move up at least one level from an education and or career standpoint, particularly in the fields of advanced manufacturing and health care, as well as other technology-intense industries. Previously, John served as President of the Irwin Financial Foundation, and owned a successful Adecco Personnel Services business in Buffalo, New York. John also served as a human resource executive at Cummins Engine Company for twelve years, supporting manufacturing operations, research and development entities, and joint venture start-ups in China, the United Kingdom, India, and Japan.

Jack Hess serves as Executive Director of the Institute for Coalition Building. Led by a team of pragmatic practitioners, the Institute teaches and shares the lessons of community collaboration, creating a common language and a shared set of tools and frameworks that form the underlying foundation of the practice of stakeholder leadership.

Prior to his work with the Institute, Hess was the President of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce where he set in place an aggressive strategy of building on the power of place, increasing member engagement, and promoting the principles of entrepreneurship and innovation. Within two years of implementing its new strategic plan, the Columbus Chamber was named the Indiana Chamber of the Year in 2008. One year later, the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) presented the Columbus Chamber with the National Chamber of the Year Award.

While at the Chamber, he helped to champion a number of collaborative projects including the state-of-the-art Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence, the formation of a regional learning system through Economic Opportunities 2015, an online training academy for entrepreneurs called SmallBizU, and the Indiana University Center for Art+Design.

We are very excited to be joined by such experts and hope you are, too. We look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Don't forget to [REGISTER!](#)